

Jennifer Vanderpool
ringaroundtherosie
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jody zellan
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Jennifer Vanderpool is a multi-media artist who often uses everyday materials to create site specific installations. For past installations, Vanderpool has turned shopping into an art outing, often buying in bulk, and astonishing cashiers with the quantities she brings to the check-out counters. In "ringaroundtherosie" rather than fill the exhibition space with the aroma of sugar and the delicate shapes of store-bought candy, she instead has transformed the gallery into a rock garden. Filling the entire space with white marble rock fragments (objects often found as ground covering in gardens), the viewer is invited to walk on the work and to examine the undulating landscape that Vanderpool has created. The sound of rocks being poured, sifted through and juggled permeates the gallery. As viewers walk over the rocks, they become aware of the sound of their movements and question whether the sound they are hearing is their own or the tape loop embedded within the space. Vanderpool recorded the process of emptying the bags of rocks into the gallery and loops the sound from speakers hidden below the rock flooring of the installation.

At first glance it appears as though the gallery is empty and still. As there is nothing on the walls, the patterns of rock become the focal point. One immediately becomes aware of the shimmering whiteness of the environment. Can one enter? Can one touch? The work begs to be walked on and that is Vanderpool's intention. This is an experiential work. As one wanders through the hills and valleys Vanderpool has woven into the space, the textures and differences between the individual rocks and relationship between the hard edge of the rock and the smooth white of the wall becomes apparent. A displacement occurs as viewers walk through the installation, pathways become evident, and the vibrant white of the rocks begins to diminish. Vanderpool builds this into her process.

Taking cues both from minimal and land art, Vanderpool brings non-traditional materials into the gallery space. Rather than arrange them into discrete objects/sculptures she creates an all over arrangement of found forms. She is interested in how things change over time and how a careful arrangement can disintegrate into chaos. Hidden among the rocks, Vanderpool has placed decorative circular objects cast from wax. These pieces function like treasures in the landscape, something to happen upon, an archaeological find in the

land of rock.

One must experience Vanderpool's work by entering into the space and walking through the installation. It can not be experienced from the edge. Her aim is to engage the senses; to allow viewers to see, to touch, and to listen and then to extract and interpret their experience of the whiteness and what that might mean to them.

Jennifer Vanderpool is a Los Angeles based artist who received her MFA from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has been exhibiting her video and installation based works since 2000.

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jennifervanderpool.com