

SCULPTURE ONE W18

Ella Dawn McGeough

ASSIGNMENT FOUR: SOFT SCULPTURE

Small Group Mid-Project Crit March 28th - Final Crit April 4th

Project:

Create a sculpture using soft materials; a sculpture whose structural integrity is challenged by the pliable nature of its constituent parts; a sculpture that lacks the solidity associated with conventional sculptural materials like metal or stone or wood. Let's look at the universe of the heap, the limp, the floppy, the liquid, the saggy, the draped and droopy. A sculpture that gives gravity a voice. Think form as formlessness.

Questions:

What values do we attribute to the pliable, the supple, the squishy? What sculptural possibilities are there in a pile, a blob, a lump, a spill, a leak, an accumulation, a hoard? What happens when we take the spine out of sculpture? What sort of space/time/body relationships are specific to soft sculpture?

Materials:

Used clothing, soft toys, string, rope, all kinds of fabric, paper, foam, stuffing materials, dust, goo, socks, mud, oatmeal, air, etc.

Means/Methods:

- Hand sewing, machine sewing, hot glue, white glue, duct tape, packing tape, pins, etc.
- Piling, hanging, heaping, layering, mounding, accumulating, spilling, stacking, scattering, etc.

Research:

For the final critique you will present your finished work alongside your image research.

Choose one of the artists from the list below and do some research in the library and online. Prior to the critique, prepare a blog post that discusses the artist's ideas and/or the influence/inspiration that the artist/ your research has had on your project. You may also wish to bring in books/magazine articles to supplement your post. Art21 is a particularly great resource for artist's videos.

Confirm your choice of artist with the instructor.

Eva Hesse, Louise Bourgeois, Yayoi Kusama, Claes Oldenburg, Robert Smithson, Christo and Jeanne Claude, Robert Morris, Annette Messager, Sarah Sze, Polly Apfelbaum, Max Streicher, Liz Magor, Louanne Martineau, Ernesto Neto, Mike Kelley, Bless (Berlin), Issey Miyake, Rei Kawakubo (Comme des Garçons), Aiko Hachisuka,

Helen Barff, Ivana Bašić, Christian Boltanski, Iris Haussler, Shinique Smith, Lynda Benglis, Allyson Mitchell, Katharina Grosse, Wolfgang Laib

Getting started:

This project could start with an idea or it could start with some materials that are of particular interest to you. This is a more self defined project than what we have done so far. It's time to feel out your working preferences. Are you interested in planning or process, or perhaps somewhere in between? Will you incorporate your new illustrator planning skills and the plotter? In all cases, you need to gather working materials *immediately*. These can be sourced from anywhere you like. Len's Mill is (always) worth a visit.

Getting it done:

There is a fair bit of time available for this final project. Normal class times during these last few weeks are to be used for working, consultation and class discussion. Students will be in charge of budgeting their time and consulting with the instructor on work in progress. While the project is more self directed than previous assignments, consultation with the instructor is compulsory. Students should take advantage of input from their classmates as well. Students should NOT show up at crit with works that have not been reviewed by the instructor while in progress.