

In Practice: Jordan Loepky- Kolesnik

May 11–Jun 19, 2023

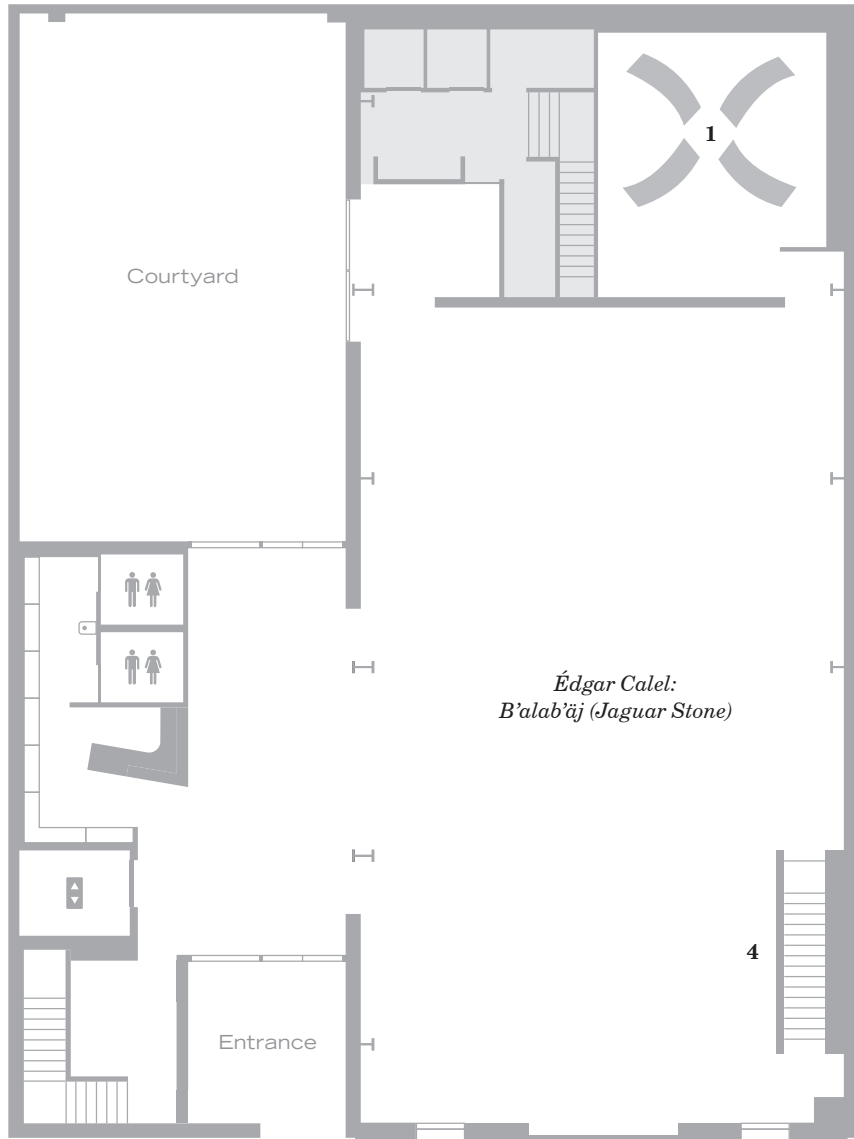
SculptureCenter

44-19 Purves Street
Long Island City, NY 11101
+1 718 361 1750
sculpture-center.org

Jordan Loepky-Kolesnik works in sculpture, public art, architecture, video, and installation. *Parasympathetic Fever Dream*, their new work for SculptureCenter, intervenes in the circadian rhythm of plants, expanding the artist's sculptural engagement with eco-science fiction. In dim gallery lighting simulating twilight, visitors navigate four arborvitae hedges arranged in an X-shaped formation. The plants have been trained to "sleep" during daylight hours while the work is on public view, and to "wake" at sunset, when full-spectrum LED grow lights simulate daylight. Four blue, 450 nanometer-spectrum lasers create subtle guideposts or barriers, suggesting a psychic or erotic projection from the plants. Together these environmental and physiological alterations constitute a speculative gesture within an incubator-like installation that signals both body hacking and anthropogenic environmental change.

Parasympathetic Fever Dream heightens the sense that humans and plants might be intelligible to each other through the lens of the parasympathetic nervous system, the term for systems of bodily maintenance (like breathing, sexual arousal, crying, and digesting) that link the exterior world and environmental factors to us through the unconscious. If altered metabolic processes are the parasympathetic part of Loepky-Kolesnik's work, a faux-evening encounter with other visitors traversing the hedgerows provides the fever dream. Contriving to turn the hedges "off" makes the viewer a witness to the resting plants and their silent cycles of growth, while swapping day for night evokes a paradox of privacy and voyeurism familiar to queer cruising, as well as to the history of growing these plants as concealers of private property. Situating the potential for a psychosexual episode within the realm of modified nature, Loepky-Kolesnik's work generates a new means of sensing unconscious analogs for the fragility of our own bodies, and for how technologies of cultivation both create and prepare us for unknown environmental and biological futures.

Works in the Exhibition



Ground Floor Plan

Ground Floor

- 1 Jordan Loeppky-Kolesnik**
Parasympathetic Fever Dream, 2023
Thuja standishii x plicata arborvitae
hybrid plants, soil, stainless steel,
humidity monitors, full-spectrum
LED lights, 450 nanometer spectrum
lasers
13.5 x 13.5 x 7.5 feet
(4.1 x 4.1 x 2.25 m)
Courtesy the artist

On View Concurrently

Édgar Cael: B'alab'äj (Jaguar Stone)
May 11–Aug 7, 2023

About In Practice

In Practice 2023 marks the twentieth anniversary of SculptureCenter's signature open call program for artists, and the first year of a new format for the program. Our new format generates a year-long series of solo presentations and provides more substantial financial and production support to artists who have not yet had an institutional exhibition in New York City.

SculptureCenter is a not-for-profit arts institution that takes the history and legacy of sculpture as a framework from which to consider the diverse activity taking place in the field of contemporary art. SculptureCenter's program encourages artists and audiences to explore the possibilities of sculpture and the multifarious ways in which sculpture is developing and connecting to other forms of expression, including installation, video, performance, architecture, and other media.

Since 2003, SculptureCenter's In Practice open call program has supported the production of new work by 250 artists.

Board of Trustees

Carol Bove
Chair

Sanford Biggers
President

Eleanor Heyman Propp
Vice Chair

Andreas Waldburg-Wolfegg
Treasurer

Libby Ellis
Secretary

Nairy Baghramian
Candy Barasch
Eleanor Cayre
Richard Chang
Barbara Gundlach
Leslie Hewitt
Sean Lyons
Adam McEwen
Fred Wilson

Robert K. Elliott
In memoriam

Staff

Sohrab Mohebbi
Director

Kyle Dancewicz
Deputy Director

Zina Reed
Director of Development

Cheryl Chan
Institutional Giving and
Board Relations Manager

Christopher Aque
Exhibition and Program Manager

Kamal Nassif
Head Installer

Danny Crump
Facilities and Office Manager

Olivia Harrison
Visitor Services Coordinator

Tucker Claxton
Visitor Engagement Representative

Drew Hannaoui
Visitor Engagement Representative

James Gibbel, Val Karuskevich, Katie Logan, Sara Sciabbarrasi, Andrew Zinicola
Art Installers

In Practice 2023 is organized by the SculptureCenter curatorial team.

In Practice: Jordan Loepky-Kolesnik is curated by Christopher Aque, Exhibition and Program Manager and Kyle Dancewicz, Deputy Director.

Sponsors

In Practice 2023 is made possible by the generosity of the Elaine Graham Weitzen Foundation for Fine Arts. The Foundation's support for SculptureCenter's annual open call exhibition reflects Elaine Graham Weitzen's (1920-2017) lifelong commitment to emerging artists and her exuberant support of new ideas in art. Weitzen served as a devoted Trustee of SculptureCenter from 1987 to 2017.

Major support for the In Practice program is provided by the Pollock-Krasner Foundation. In Practice is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

In-kind support for *In Practice: Jordan Loepky-Kolesnik* is provided by Conifer Kingdom, Silverton, OR.