

Matthis Grunsky holds an MFA from Emily Carr University and a BFA from NSCAD University. His work has been exhibited across Canada, including at Hermes Gallery (Halifax) and Charles H. Scott Gallery (Vancouver). He was recently an artist in residence at Arteles Creative Centre (Finland) and will be artist in residence at the Bonnie McComb Kreye Residency (Victoria) during the fall of 2018.
www.matthisgrunsky.ca / @grunskm

M.E. Sparks received her MFA from Emily Carr University and BFA from NSCAD University. She was a finalist in both the 2016 and 2017 Annual RBC Painting Competitions and the 2016 recipient of the Nancy Petry Award. Recent exhibitions include *Mother Tongue* at Dynamo Arts Association (Vancouver) and *A Terrible Signal* at Access Gallery (Vancouver).
www.mesparks.com / @msprks

Sparks and Grunsky have collaborated in the past, including the exhibition *LINEUP* at the student-run Helen For Now Gallery (ECU, Vancouver). Both maintain individual practices and have shared studio space for over five years.

SiteFactory is an artist-run exhibition and performance space created by Vancouver-based artist Leah Weinstein.
Text by Joe O'Brien, Vancouver-based artist and instructor.

This project is made possible by the generous support of a Vancouver Foundation Neighborhood Small Grant.

Inside Out

M.E. Sparks + Matthis Grunsky

June 16, 2018

SiteFactory
1600 Block, Franklin St, Vancouver

Inside Out is a collaborative artwork by M.E. Sparks and Matthis Grunsky that considers the trope of the artist's studio, its depiction throughout art history, and its relevance amidst a "post-studio" condition currently dictated by prohibitive rental costs. Working in response to the mobile workspace of SiteFactory, Sparks and Grunsky approach their shared experience of the studio as an unfixed, tenuous site of productivity and inactivity, creation and destruction, isolation and connection.

Engaging with the contents of the studio as subject matter, the artists reconstruct functional objects found within their own shared studio space, as well as forms taken from historical, often mythologized, representations of the artist's studio. This assembly of objects performs as a fractured screen for a shifting projection of pattern and colour. Chairs, blank canvases, ladders, bricks, scraps and sticks occupy the space as awkwardly staged replicas, evoking a stilled, self-aware simulacrum of the studio.