

# UNTITLED

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**Ry Rocklen**

**April 27 - June 15, 2014**

UNTITLED is floored to announce a presentation of new works by Ry Rocklen.

Ry Rocklen's second solo exhibition with the gallery is as much a personal narrative as an encapsulation of the shared terrain of human experience. Through the preservation of familiar personal objects the artist simultaneously aggrandizes the banal appointments of his daily life while indexing and archiving the uniform touchstones of our shared material presence.

Through the poetic, universally intimate, pieces Rocklen touches on one of the most pressing realities of our contemporary moment-- the fixation on self recognition and individuality through gesture or presentation of taste. These self-affixed realities are immediately sublimated into a cacophony of voices in search of the same individuality. What results is a shared banality. Both intimate and universal, the exhibition isolates this moment.

Constant in Rocklen's practice is the paradoxical relationship between the familiar objects he selects and their distinguished treatments. Their subsequent ascension to dignity through porcelain casting, bronze plating, hand tiling and other mediums prive to timelessness most often transform easily destructed objects into durable monuments. In doing so, the treatments elevate the objects on display as well as evade particular, personal, distinctions. In casting the entirety of his own wardrobe, Rocklen has altered what was once his favorite collared shirt into the archetype of every three buttoned polo. What remains is the personal referent without the personal affect.

Consistently personal to Rocklen, the objects selected remain universal vehicles incapable of being defined as simply the artist's mementos. Instead they operate as touchstones indexing our shared ubiquity in search of personal narrative. Lost in a sea of individuality all signs of the individual are awash in a monument to our shared banality.

**Ry Rocklen** was born in 1978 in Los Angeles, where he lives and works. His recent solo exhibitions include *A Living* at Praz Delavallade, Paris, France (2014), *Believe You Me* at UNTITLED, New York, NY (2011), *ZZZ* at the Visual Arts Center, The University of Texas at Austin, TX (2010), *House of Return* at Parker Jones, Los Angeles, CA (2009), *Good Grief* at Bernier/Eliades, Athens, Greece (2009) and *Time After Time* at Baronian Francey, Brussels, Belgium (2009). His work has been included in group exhibitions in institutions that include the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, MoMA PS1 in New York and the Whitney Museum (for the 2008 Whitney Biennial) in New York.