

# SGORBATI PROJECTS

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## MAYBE I'M JUST A REVISIONIST

Pooneh Maghazehe

Stephanie Powell

Bill Santen

**27 February - 29 March 2014**

**Opening Reception 27 February 6-8pm**

Sgorbati Projects is pleased to present *Maybe I'm Just a Revisionist* featuring sculpture, photography, and film by Pooneh Maghazehe, Stephanie Powell, and Bill Santen.

The revisionist reinterprets facts long understood. Evaluating an antecedent past, information and remembrances are reorganized. Critical distances are traveled to produce narratives more true, or, not more true. History becomes increasingly up for grabs and connected to a current, yet equally fluid understanding of presumed clarity. Works in this exhibition circuitously re-examine the movement of objects through time, geography, and memory.

Pooneh Maghazehe exhibits two works that navigate the interdependent and fluctuating values of the familiar and its abstraction. A fragmented decorative plate, glass table, poured rubber, and limestone are symbols specific to the lexicon of design, and subject to preconceptions of taste, class, and history. These objects act as anchors between tangible experience and the recollections of those experiences.

Stephanie Powell examines the relationship of objects and materials corresponding to familial and cultural histories. Black lacquer—associated with both traditional Japanese lacquerware and the faux-Oriental sexiness of popular 1980's American furniture—covers military and rescue blankets. In one work, it is paired with materials referential to classic Hollywood Western films: tumbleweed and fool's gold. A photograph depicts personal daily self-help pronouncements realized only by the artist's skill at throwing Ninja stars.

For two separate short films, visual artist and musician Bill Santen takes as starting points Vito Aconcci's performance *Pryings* (1971) and a recording by his grandmother, recounting the lives and deaths of family pets over the course of 91 years. Each work employs a nostalgia that is as equally designed as it is authentic.

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**Pooneh Maghazehe** (b. Brooklyn, New York 1979) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. She received her MFA from Columbia University in 2011, and her MS, Interior Architecture from Pratt Institute in 2005. Her works and collaborative performances have been exhibited at ZKM Center for Art and Media, Beijing 798 Biennale, Newark Penn Station, DePaul University Museum in Chicago, ICA Philadelphia, 247365, and ICA Portland. Select publications include *Flaunt Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Art Asia Pacific Magazine*, *Art Map Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, *1 Magazine*, and *Contemporary Practices*.

**Stephanie Powell** (b. Yokusoka, Japan 1972) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. She obtained her BFA from the University of Oregon, Eugene and her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Stephanie is currently a visiting professor at Pratt Institute. She has exhibited with Mills Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts; Primo Piano LivinGallery, Lecce, Italy; Daniel Cooney Fine Art Auctions, New York; Artists Space, New York; and the Contemporary Arts Workshop, Chicago, Illinois. Her residencies have been sponsored by Apexart and Aljira Contemporary Art Center, and she has received grants from the Jerome Foundation and the Illinois Arts Council. She has an upcoming solo exhibition in April 2014 at Mallorca Landings, Palma de Mallorca, Spain.

**Bill Santen** (b. Lexington, Kentucky 1975) lives and works in Bronx, New York. He earned his MFA from Columbia University in 2011 and his BA from the University of Kentucky, College of Fine Arts, 2009. His art practice is divided between songwriting and filmmaking. Santen's projects have been screened, performed, or exhibited in New York at MOMA Learning Center, Queens Museum of Art, Thomas Erben Gallery, and Nicole Klagsbrun Gallery. Abroad, his work has been presented at the Masc Foundation, Vienna, Austria; Wschodnia Gallery, Lodz Poland; and the Overgaden Museum of Contemporary Art, Copenhagen, Denmark. Santen recently collaborated on the music soundtrack for the film *Double Agency*, (Jordan Rathus and Nick Paparone) to be screened in February at Lincoln Center in New York.

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**Sgorbati Projects** was founded in 2013 by Seth Sgorbati. Working with artists, curators and others, Sgorbati Projects presents works of varied practice, and is actively involved in the sale of contemporary artworks on both the primary and secondary markets. Sgorbati Projects shares its exhibition space with Salomon Contemporary, alternating exhibitions.

Sgorbati Projects is located at 525-531 West 26th Street on the fourth floor.

For further information, please contact the gallery, or visit the gallery website, [www.sgorbatiprojects.com](http://www.sgorbatiprojects.com)

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