



DIRTY LITTLE SECRET
IRENA JUREK

September 10 - October 15, 2017
OPENING September 10, 2-6 PM
RIDGEWOOD, NY

Catbox Contemporary is pleased to present, "Dirty Little Secret", a show of recent works by Irena Jurek. For this showing, Jurek forgoes her usual lexicon of fantastic-scenes populated by scandalous humanoid-animals for a series of intricate assemblages, drawings, and free-standing sculpture. Her usual sly sense of humor runs steadily through the work, diagnosing the affect of our collective fetishization of image and materiality.

Jurek's deceptively refined hand and understanding of formalism allows her to create an absurdist spectacle, ripe with maximalism and sexuality. An examination of class and taste arise as Jurek lampoons traditional forms with a fiendish humor. A buxom cat-woman, sitting centrally on the gallery floor, sits splayed and on her knees, defying her classically sculpted roots with a pinup's pose. The self-aware figure sits in front of the bright assemblages which adorn the gallery walls. Through Jurek's intense materiality (think Party City on a bender) her works assess our nostalgia for assemblage, driving the point home with loud passages of painted faux flora, studio detritus, and Egyptian figurines.

Jurek questions the motives of our taste, and asks the viewer to re-examine their pre-conceived boundaries through her own exuberant indulgences. By maintaining her over the top sensibilities, Jurek reflects on cultural and visual hang-ups to invigorate her imaginative process.

Irena Jurek was born in Krakow, Poland in 1982. She has had recent solo shows with David Shelton Gallery, Houston, TX, Romeo Gallery, NYC, Jeff Bailey Gallery in Hudson, New York, and with Zurcher Gallery, Paris. Her work has



been included in group exhibitions at The Breeder, MASS Gallery, Know More Games, 247365, Denny Gallery, Left Field, and others. She received her BFA in 2004 from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and her MFA in 2008 from the Cranbrook Academy of Art, Michigan. She lives and works in New York.

"Dirty Little Secret" runs from September 10th through October 15th. An opening will be held on **September 10th from 2-6PM**. The show will be available to view by appointment through the duration. For exact address and more information, email catboxcontemporary@gmail.com