



Denver + Marfa rulegallery.com
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The Unusual Suspects Joe Clower & Amber Cobb

April 10 – June 15, 2024

Public Reception on Friday, April 12, 6 – 8 pm

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(Marfa, TX) RULE Gallery is delighted to present a two-person exhibition, *The Unusual Suspects*, featuring paintings on paper by Joe Clower and small-scale sculptures by Amber Cobb after a well-received run in our Denver location. The exhibition will open in Marfa on Friday, April 10, and will be on view through June 15, 2024. The gallery will host a public reception on Friday, April 12, from 6 – 8 pm.

Though distinctly individual in their approach to material, both artists are tied together by their interest in biomorphic, hybrid forms whose appearance can be understood as futuristic, otherworldly, playful, or even scheming.

While Clower's stark, hard-edged mechanistic forms reveal enigmatic narratives of a modern industrialized and depersonalized world, Cobb's intimately scaled works are faintly discernable as once functional objects melded into one another, playfully reemerging with protrusions, a bit more swollen and stretched. Both artists draw us into a peculiar physical and psychological reality, leaving us to decode the hidden messages amongst rich hues, wry humor, and strangely elusive forms. The exhibition acts as an invitation to examine the complexity that materializes when the bizarrely outlandish and the strangely mundane collide with the human psyche's awkward yet often beautiful depths.

Joe Clower, (b. 1937 Norfolk, VA - d. 2024, Denver, CO) received his BFA in 1963 from the University of Georgia, Athens, GA, and his MFA in 1967 from the University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. While at CU Boulder, he became connected with many of Colorado's new wave of artists as a member of Boulder's Armory Group and later the Criss-Cross artist co-operative. Clower has exhibited his work nationally since 1964, including exhibitions in New York City, NY; Los Angeles, CA; San Diego, CA; Chicago, IL; Seattle, WA; and throughout Colorado. His museum exhibitions include the Denver Art Museum, MCA/Denver, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Kansas City Art Institute, Whitney Museum of American Art, Center on Contemporary Art Seattle, The Harwood Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, Alaska State Museum, in addition to numerous University institutions around the country. His work is in the public collection of The Art Institute of Chicago, The Eli and Edythe Broad Collection, the National Gallery of Australia, Security Pacific Bank, and Warner Brothers Records along with many private collections.

Amber Cobb (b. 1980, St. Louis, MO) is an American artist living and working in Denver, CO. Her practice explores the physical and psychological response to conflicts and contradictions. Starting with the body as a point of departure her work blurs the boundaries between abjection, attraction, and humor. Cobb received her M.F.A. in Sculpture from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2011. Since then, her work has been exhibited in institutions both nationally and internationally and featured in the Cambridge Scholars Publishing, The New York Times, Frieze, and Sculpture Magazine. Selected exhibitions include *Palatable Relations* at Hilario Galgura, Mexico City, MX, *The Dreamers Dilemma* at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art Boulder, CO, *Turn the Page* at Daniela Elbahara Galeria, Mexico City, MX, *Negotiating Spaces* at David B. Smith Gallery, Denver, CO and *Breakthroughs* at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Denver, CO. Cobb is represented by Daniela Elbahara Galeria in Mexico City.

RULE Gallery, founded in 1991, has locations in Denver, CO, and Marfa, TX. RULE represents emerging and mid-career contemporary artists and artist estates, with a focus on fostering investigative art practices while developing artists' long-term careers. Outside their robust in-house exhibition schedule, RULE coordinates programming in prominent institutions and non-traditional settings, expanding community engagement with the work. In addition, the gallery actively endeavors to bring greater recognition of the region's historic art movements to a broader audience. For more information, visit <http://www.rulegallery.com/>

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