



Western
Front

303 East 8th Avenue
Vancouver, British Columbia
V5T 1S1 Canada

Tuesday to Saturday
Noon to 5:00 pm PST

September 13th - October 26th 2013

Continuum Model

Sylvain Saily

Continuum Model

Western Front Exhibitions and Western Front Media Arts are pleased to present *Continuum Model*, a solo exhibition by Vancouver-based artist Sylvain Saily. Saily's practice explores contemporary information systems through the intersections of technology and sculpture, exploring industrial modes of production to inform otherwise intangible socio-economic realities.

Continuum Model features new digitally animated works, in concert with sculptural objects, sound works and architectural interventions. This body of work is based around the diagrams and schematics often employed by technology and resource-based industries. Working with local artists Barry Doupé, Julian Hou, and Pietro Sammarco, Saily represents abstracted images of industrial processes through a range of technologies, creating textures both virtual and concrete.

This exhibition came out of intensive research into the way in which technical and environmental processes are made visible and accessible by governments, educational institutions and corporations. These images

are both idealized and simplified, seductive and reductive, and point to complex slippages in representation between the virtual and the actual.

Saily has taken diagrammatic images of two technical systems that are ubiquitous yet abstract — global navigation satellite systems and hydraulic fracturing— as source material. *Orbit (GNSS)* depicts the twenty-four satellites needed to orient objects moving across the planet's surface for both military and civilian purposes, while *Fracture (DFN)* illustrates the waves of hydraulic liquid that permeate the earth's crust, to extract natural gas. Saily's luminous animations and surrounding sculptures evoke industrial promotional materials, implicating viewers in an intimate vision that ultimately do not provide a deeper understanding of these powerful systems.

Biography

Sylvain Saily is a French artist currently residing in Vancouver. He has been exhibiting his animations, drawings, and installations recently at Mains d'Œuvres, Paris; Today Art Museum, Beijing; the Jakarta Biennale; Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver; and the Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver. Saily's practice poetically explores contemporary information systems through the intersection of technology and sculpture. His work investigates industrial modes of production, bringing form to otherwise intangible socio-economic realities.

Thank you

Special thanks to Barry Doupé, Julian Hou, Pietro Sammarco, Casey Wei, Brian Messina, Adrian McInnes, Stuart Hughes, Joji Fukushima, Post Projects, Alex Muir, Steven Shearer, Jeremy Hof, Jesse McKee, Gareth Moore and Ron Tran.

Forthcoming

Continuum Model will be accompanied by an online publication featuring essays by Jesse Birch and Sarah Todd.

Alongside the exhibition Sylvain Saily and Sarah Todd have programmed "Calculated Movements" a screening at Pacific Cinematheque as part of DIM Cinema on Monday September 23rd at 7:30pm.

List of Works

1. *Wavy Curtains*, vinyl
2. *Fracture (DFN) - video 2*, digital animation, 4min 5sec
3. *Fracture (DFN) - standee 2*, digital print on aluminum
4. *Column*, aluminum pipe
5. *Fracture (DFN) - standee 1*, digital print on aluminum
6. *Fracture (DFN) - video 1*, digital animation, 4min 5sec
7. *Orbit (GNSS) - standee 1*, digital print on aluminum
8. *Orbit (GNSS) - video 1*, digital animation, 4min 5sec
9. *Orbit (GNSS) - standee 2*, digital print on aluminum

All works created in 2013

