

COMA

MASON KIMBER

Slanted Mansions

21 September, 2018 - 13 October, 2018

Mason Kimber is anchored by the inbetweenness of architecture and memory: places that serve as timestamps, surfaces that form sentiment, and colours that trigger. Kimber's painting practice deals with the collision of experienced places — interiors and exteriors that have become sanctuaries for the artist.

For his exhibition with COMA, Kimber has collected silicone impressions of built surfaces from both his Sydney studio environment and from a recent trip to the Philippines to gain an understanding of the fading personal histories of his Filipina partner, who spent her early childhood in the country.

The moulds he chose to make were of the skins of buildings that contained traces of her past - sentimental objects and sites that he felt had a sense of architectural knackeredness - buildings rich with history that are slowly fading away through decay, in the process of being lost forever. There was a sense that in a few years time, they would no longer be standing. These moulds all contain the residue of a human touch, hand-crafted surfaces where the scars of time were clearly seen and felt.

The intention was not to replicate the exactness of a bedroom, window or family heirloom, but rather to capture its memory and tangible quality. In a way, these fragments became a monument to the stories that are worth preserving.

The moulds were cast, broken and re-assembled excavation-style on the ground, then enshrined as islands of form and texture through a process of sculpting, pouring, marking, and setting.

What arises is a new dialect of relics. Multi-layered slabs that rupture, swell, and splinter like maps of a re-envisioned city or a memory puzzle that minces before with now. Presented as wall-based reliefs and made from resin a variety of casting materials, they clasp you into gaze with their skatey gestures, boney curves, and chromatic grouping; they allude to Kimber's surrounding architecture of historic buildings and the weathered textures of Manila.

For additional information, interview requests, a show essay or artwork images, please email COMA at info@comagallery.com