Jack Fischer Gallery is pleased to present *paper & bronze*

January 9th, 2021- February 13th, 2021

This will be the first solo in our gallery for the collage work of Maritta Tapanainen and the second solo for Byron Ryono’s sculptures. Maritta Tapanainen is known for her intricate, subtly shaded multi-layered collages. Tapanainen hunts for paper treasures in flea markets, used bookshops, and junk shops. This search for collage material brings fruit in the form of all kinds of outdated textbooks, encyclopedias, tomes on the natural sciences, medical instruction and technical manuals, which are then sliced, cut, and reconfigured in a way that evokes riffing by a jazz musician. In fact, there is a musical rhythmic quality to the work as our eyes travel over the collages’ surfaces.

The ephemera become fodder for the pieces she builds, as they are in fact built in what seems layers. These meticulous re-imaginings might be construed as the micro-workings of our cell structures. The collages begin to take on the appearance of detailed drawings or stop-motion fragments of energetic cells undergoing a coalescing into newer and even more complex organisms.

left: Maritta Tapanainen, “mustasaari (black isle)”, collage, 9” x 12.5”, 2016  
right: Byron Ryono, untitled, unique bronze, 9”x9”x8.5”, 2020

Byron Ryono’s work, in contrast to Tapanainen’s work, rings like an echo. His unique one of a kind bronze sculptures appear to take one of Tapanainen’s elaborate visions and transform them into a distilled 3 dimensional object. Ryono’s organic sculptural shapes seem familiar to us but the closer we examine them the less familiar they become. We are beguiled into perceiving them as if they were well known but soon see something brand new and almost alien.
Ryono gives us a micro view where natural objects are concentrated into their absolute essence. Tapanainen meanwhile explores the macro, as if her eye is hovering drone-like over a full world.

Maritta Tapanainen has twice been the recipient of Pollock-Krasner Foundation grants. Her work is in the collection of The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, in many private collections, and has been presented at numerous events: ADAA Art Show, Palm Springs Fine Art Fair, Houston Fine Art Fair, and The Park Avenue Armory.

2020  Insignificance  ·  Stewart Gallery, Boise, ID  
2015  Resonance (with Alison Keogh)  ·  Couturier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2014  Turangalila  ·  Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY  
2013  Affinitities (with Olga Seem)  ·  Couturier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2011  The Milky Way  ·  Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY  
2008  Introspective Accretions  ·  Fresno Art Museum, Fresno, CA  
2007  Maritta Tapanainen (with Patrick Percy)  ·  Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA  
2005  From There to Here 1992-2007  ·  Couturier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2002  Natural Connection  ·  Couturier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2002  Maritta Tapanainen  ·  Gallery Miyabi, Nagoya, Japan  
2002  Maritta Tapanainen  ·  Gallery Naufu, Gifu City, Japan  
2000  Collages  ·  Couturier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
1995  Subtle Differences  ·  Couturier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

Byron Ryono’s work is held in a number of public and private collections.

Solo Exhibitions

2019: San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, Byron Ryono: Polybelisks

2018: Chandra Cerrito Contemporary, Oakland, Byron Ryono, mini series series: finding my way

2017: Jack Fischer Gallery, San Francisco, Byron Ryono: mini series series

2016: San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, Byron Ryono: Casting for the Future

Please note that the gallery is open by appointment.  
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