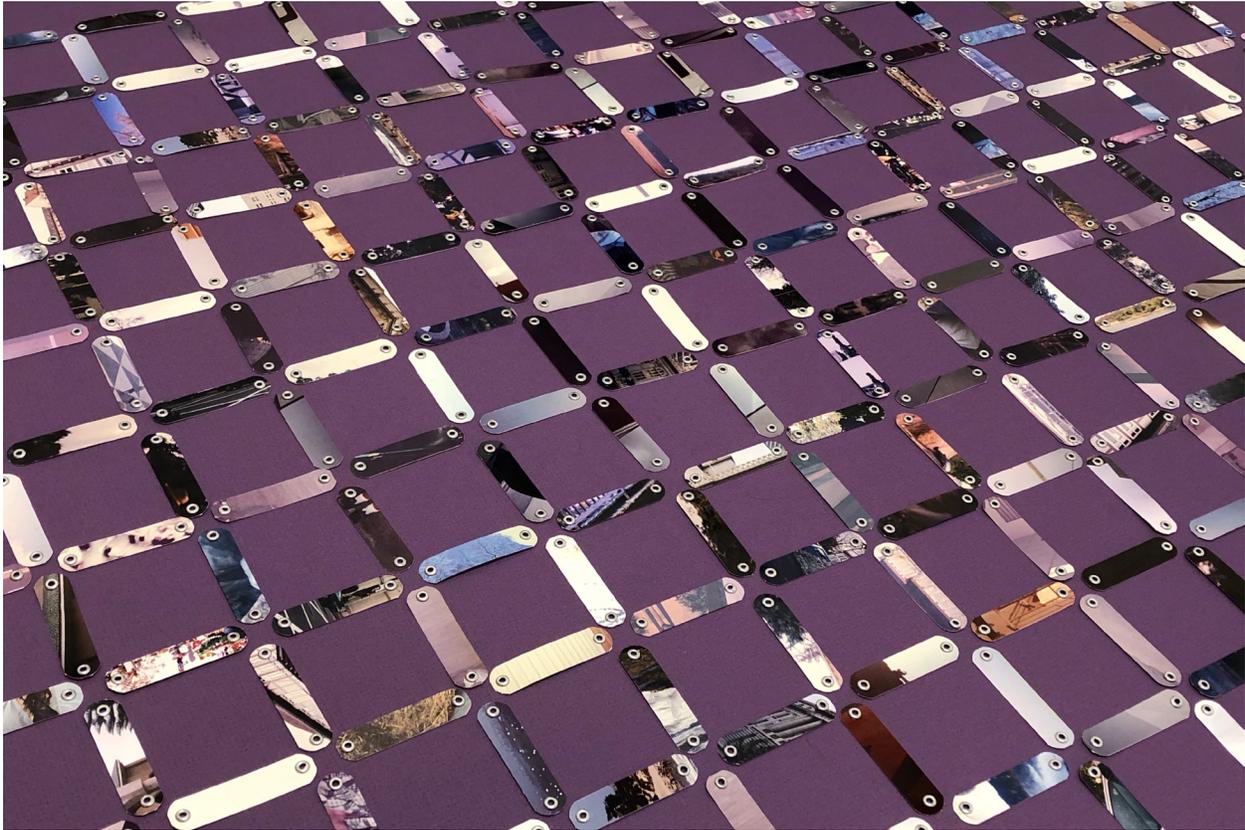


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Courtesy of the artist

Project Announcement: *Verseplot*

J Rivera Pansa presents newly commissioned work in the Southern Exposure entrance gallery

February 5, 2021, San Francisco, CA – February 10 through March 13, 2021, Southern Exposure will present new work by J Rivera Pansa in the entrance gallery, safely viewable outdoors from Alabama Street. *Verseplot* is a sculptural installation that incorporates poetic texts, found photographs, and modular, ready-made components. This newly commissioned project draws on modalities from minimalism and textile traditions to playfully evoke a queering of the white cube space.

A mesh of metal rods and text fragments printed on faded lavender photographs is gracefully suspended in the window, reflecting sunlight. The pattern plays with the modernist trope of the grid as a diagram of power, as represented in technologies of infrastructure and control; but here the axes are flexed, queered, and draped, conjuring the body, chainmail, and bondage. The durability and flexibility of textiles

is used as a metaphor to describe how networks and connection points can be models for thinking about communities and support systems. Malleable mesh structures can be understood as ways of enacting a type of resilience, acknowledging that components linked together are often stronger as a whole. A community is made strong both by connection – “hand in hand” – and by fluidity, eluding the grasp of those who might control with categorization and hegemonic modalities of conformity and order.

This entrance-gallery project is the second of three solo installations by local artists emerging from the challenges of the past year to focus on relationships of care and honoring the beauty in our encounters with strangers.

PROJECT INFORMATION

What: *Verseplot*
A sculptural installation of newly commissioned work by Bay Area artist J Rivera Pansa that draws on modalities from minimalism and textile traditions along with poetic texts, found photographs, and modular, ready-made components to playfully evoke a queering of the white cube space.

When: February 10 through March 13, 2021
Wednesday – Saturday, 1:00PM – 6:00PM

Location: Southern Exposure, 3030 20th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110
Viewable from the sidewalk outside Southern Exposure on Alabama Street

ABOUT J RIVERA PANSA

J Rivera Pansa works in occupied Chochenyo Ohlone Land (Oakland, CA). Currently, Rivera Pansa incorporates the “grid” as an expansive field tethering association involving connectivity and physical structural systems. They produce responsive works reflecting upon humanistic systems in regards to seriality stemming from contemporary capital structures such as digital networks, electrical grid, graphic data, and cartographic mapping. These systems serve as a foil in their navigation into self-determinative networks of kinship – of QTPOC chosen family and diasporic community, presented as installation/ sculptural platforms of forum and gathering to convey larger connectivity. Rivera Pansa was born in Olongapo, Philippines and completed their BA in Art Practice from University of California, Berkeley in 2017.

—end—

ABOUT SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

Southern Exposure (SoEx) is an artist-centered non-profit organization committed to supporting visual artists. Through our extensive and innovative programming, SoEx strives to experiment, collaborate and further educate while providing an extraordinary resource center and forum for Bay Area and national artists in our Mission District space and off-site, in the public realm.

An active presence in the Bay Area since 1974, SoEx is continually evolving in response to the needs of artists and the community while engaging the public in artists’ work. Central to our mission is to remain the most accessible space for visual artists to produce and present new work, learn, and connect. SoEx provides visual artists with the tools and resources they need to experiment in an open and supportive environment. We also work to advocate to new, diverse audiences and build an ever-growing community of enthusiasts and supporters of the visual arts.

For more information and images, contact Stevie Sokolouski at (415) 863-2141 x102 or stephen@soex.org.

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Southern Exposure is located at 3030 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA 94110. Office hours are Wednesday through Friday, 12:00PM to 5:00PM. *Please note that our office hours are limited and our main gallery is currently closed in accordance with San Francisco's shelter-in-place restrictions.*

Website: soex.org.

Southern Exposure is generously supported by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Bill Graham Supporting Foundation, California Arts Council, The Fleishhacker Foundation, The Gelfand Family Foundation, The Mel and Leta Ramos Family Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, The Nicholson Family Foundation, The pH Foundation, The Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco Arts & Artists Relief Fund, San Francisco Grants for the Arts, The Violet World Foundation, Walter & Elise Haas Fund and The Zellerbach Family Foundation.