

OPEN MIND ART SPACE

TRACING TRAILS

CARL BARATTA

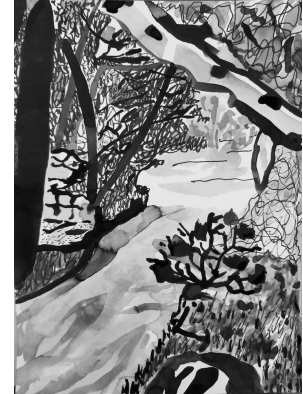
SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 2, 2020

ONLINE EXHIBITION LAUNCH:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 12 PM



Carl Baratta, *Bronson Picnic Area*, 2018
Sumi ink on paper
9 x 12 in. (22.9 x 30.5 cm)



Carl Baratta, *Fern Dell Trail*, 2020
Sumi ink on paper
12 x 9 in. (30.5 x 22.9 cm)

Open Mind Art Space is pleased to announce an exclusive online exhibition, *Tracing Trails*, featuring works on paper by Los Angeles-based artist **Carl Baratta**. The online viewing room will open on Artsy on **Thursday, September 17th at 12:00pm P.S.T.**, and will be on view **online only through October 2, 2020**, at the following URLs:

<http://bit.ly/viewing-room-tracing-trails>

<http://bit.ly/artsy-tracing-trails>

20% of all proceeds from the exhibition will be donated to the **California Community Foundation's LA Arts COVID-19 Relief Fund**, supporting Los Angeles-based non-profit museums and visual arts organizations impacted by the economic effects of the coronavirus crisis.

Tracing Trails is a selection of ink drawings on paper by **Carl Baratta**, documenting his solitary explorations of hiking trails throughout the vast area of the Hollywood Hills, from 2017 to the present. His gestural drawings are *plein air* inspired abstractions of the scenery he observes on each outing into the hills. "During a hike I try to find interesting areas which are neither picturesque nor unique. Instead, as I roam around I try to look for areas that would yield the greatest chances for interesting formal investigations to make dynamic spatial illusions," says Baratta.

By immersing himself in the less pretentious landscapes of the Hollywood Hills, Baratta presents an intimate view of the minimal nature found amidst the neighborhoods of celebrity mansions and the city's car congested roads. His contemplative process and impressionistic mark making contribute to the meditative and energetic quality of his drawings. While tracing trails, Baratta captures the subtle movement of trees and the rugged textures of the terrain, archiving the indelible moments along the paths of his wanderings.

Carl Baratta (b. 1975, Boston, MA) is primarily a painter, who constantly investigates different ways of compressing multiple moments into a single scene. The imagery in his paintings is driven by mythology, poetry, songs, abstract doodles, visual puns, paint mistakes, and observation. In addition to being an artist, Carl is a co-director and an actively curating member of the artist run space, Tiger Strikes Asteroid in Los Angeles (TSA LA). He is also co-chair of TSA's international committee and a co-organizer of B-/LA Connect, a 50 gallery exchange between alternative galleries in LA and Berlin. He is a member of the collective Gallery ALSO and one of the organizers for a newly formed group, High Beams, who puts on one-night-only art events, like their most recent drive through exhibition.

The California Community Foundation (CCF)'s LA Arts COVID-19 Relief Fund provides emergency operating support and recovery grants to small and mid-size museums and nonprofit arts organizations that contribute so significantly to the region's cultural and artistic diversity and are struggling with the economic effects of the coronavirus crisis. Open Mind Art Space will be donating 20% of the proceeds from its upcoming online exhibition to help CCF save jobs, keep arts education accessible, and preserve community arts institutions throughout Los Angeles. For more information, visit <https://www.calfund.org/la-arts-covid19-relief-recovery-fund/>