

## OPEN MIND ART SPACE

### **PROCEDURAL MEMORY**

JUAN MANUEL ESCALANTE  
PETER SOWINSKI  
WESTON URAM

# TRYST

ALTERNATIVE ART FAIR

**OCTOBER 27-29, 2023**

**Friday, October 27th: 4-6 PM (VIP preview)**

**Saturday, October 28th: 12-6 PM**

**Sunday, October 29th: 12-6 PM**

### **TRYST Alternative Art Fair**

Del Amo Crossing  
21535 Hawthorne Blvd, 3rd Floor, #43  
Torrance, CA 90503



Preview of *Procedural Memory* at TRYST (from left to right):  
*NATO APP-6, Seed 348 and 368* by Juan Manuel Escalante  
*Untitled (Artist Frame, Grid Version)* by Peter Sowinski  
*Forest* by Weston Uram

(TORRANCE, CA) - **Open Mind Art Space** is pleased to announce its participation in **TRYST Alternative Art Fair**, Torrance Art Museum's first international alternative art fair. TRYST will run from **October 27-29, 2023** at **Del Amo Crossing** (21535 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrance, CA 90503). **Open Mind Art Space** will be located on the **3rd floor** in **Space #43**. There will be a **VIP Preview on Friday, October 27th** from **4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**. The fair will be open to the public (**FREE ADMISSION**) on **Saturday and Sunday, October 28 & 29** from **12:00 PM - 6:00 PM** each day.

Open Mind Art Space will be presenting a group exhibition at TRYST, titled *Procedural Memory*, featuring works by **Juan Manuel Escalante, Peter Sowinski** and **Weston Uram**.

For about a century artistic production has been only nebulously connected to the hand of the maker. At this point, it's not particularly controversial to observe that industrial fabrication and advanced computer technology have penetrated nearly every aspect of the making and viewing of art.

With that in mind, perhaps it's not surprising that the three artists in this exhibition all employ some technologically-enhanced methodology. What is more unusual is their shared interest in foregrounding that fact and exploring its potential as subject matter. Whether it's a shared ownership of mark-making between hand and machine, the use of generative software, or modern fabrication techniques -- the work in this show revels in the collaboration between artist and machine. These artists embrace the logic of creative and perceptual systems and lean into their gray areas, hunting for new ideas at the margins.

*Juan Manuel Escalante's work relies on diagrams to parse the inner and outside world (if there is such a distinction). These maps become machines of abstraction. They enable the translation of one medium, domain, or dataset into another. Escalante uses sound, drawings, and code to complete a process where computer programming occupies a central role, serving as an orchestration mechanism. Throughout most of his practice, source material, both empirical and speculative, is reinterpreted through a process of stochastic computation. As a result, the work manifests through a wide range of outputs, such as performances, audiovisual work, graphic notation, print, and screen-based media. Over time, all of these forms rescript one another and keep the process in a state of flux. His work today is a consequence of these transformative mechanisms with all their chaos, dynamics, and poetics.*

*Juan Manuel Escalante (b. Mexico City) is a Southern California-based artist and educator working with computer code, modular synthesizers, and analog drawings. His work has been shown in major festivals and exhibitions worldwide. He was a member of the National System of Art Creators (2017-2019 National Endowment for the Arts, MWX) and received the Corwin Award (1st prize) for Electronic-Acoustic Composition in 2016. Escalante holds an MFA in Architecture Design (UNAM) and a Ph.D. in Media Arts & Technology (University of California, Santa Barbara). He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art at the California State University, Fullerton.*

*Peter Sowinski works with a variety of materials and forms, spanning from the construction industry to mass market domestic objects. His background working in workshops of various kinds, currently as co-owner of a custom canvas and panel fabrication studio in Los Angeles, has given him a wealth of manual skills to manipulate within a sculptural context. His current work is interested in systems of perception, particularly those around aesthetic experience. Frames, both literal and metaphorical, are crucial to how artwork is viewed and understood. Investigating the crevices of these systems reveals humorous, poignant, and unexpected results.*

*Peter Sowinski is a Los Angeles-based sculptor, exploring the intersection of craft and fine art. His work has been exhibited nationally and he is the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including a 2018 Artist in Residence at the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, Nebraska City, NE; a 2015-16 University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) Regent's Fellowship; and a 2014 Art(ist) on the Verge Fellowship from the Northern Lights Foundation in St. Paul, MN. He received a B.A. in Studio Art from Carleton College in 2005, and his M.F.A. in Visual Art from UCSB in 2017. He is the co-owner of Custom Art Surfaces, an art fabrication studio located in Los Angeles, which provides the highest quality painting substrates to Southern California's premier artists.*

*Weston Uram makes work with a machine, to dissect technology and the way it seeps into our lives. The art should reveal the hand of the machine, its motions, while also showing a partnership with the human hand, a joint creation. Translating images with a computer into vectorized shapes produces the first revision or metamorphosis. Then those shapes are drawn out by a carving machine (CNC), baking in more digital modifications, scars, and evidence of the technology. This buildup of translations resembles the way information is communicated digitally in our current time, the break away from the origin and the static that accrues while ideas hop from platform to platform. The machine also abstracts the art itself, creating both a legible image from afar and a non-figurative pool of digital patterns upon closer inspection.*

*Weston Uram (b. New Mexico) is a Los Angeles based artist working in tandem with machines to create large scale drawings that reveal the motion of the robotic tools. The work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, most recently at WOAHA gallery in Hong Kong. Weston received a BA in Studio Art and Art History from Middlebury College, Vermont.*

***TRYST Alternative Art Fair** is a new international art fair for artist-run-spaces and collectives, and will be the world's largest international art fair for artist-run spaces. It will also serve as an international conference addressing the needs and future of global exchange for artist-run spaces, collectives and organizations. The fair is made possible thanks to the support of QIPO art fair, Supermarket Independent Art Fair, Torrance Art Museum Advocates, Del Amo Crossing, Discover Torrance, and the City of Torrance.*

***Open Mind Art Space** showcases contemporary art from a diverse blend of talented emerging artists, and facilitates a curatorial process that allows its artists to create impactful work. Its mission is to inspire and challenge the local Los Angeles community and beyond by encouraging open dialogue about conceptual art.*