

ALTMAN SIEGEL

49 GEARY ST, *ste.* 416 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108

tel: 415.576.9300 / *fax:* 415.373.4471

www.altmansiegel.com

San Francisco Chronicle

Time is of the essence to eclectic Albany artist Will Rogan

by Kenneth Baker
April 9, 2014

Much of Albany artist Will Rogan's work concerns time.

His 2013 exhibition at San Francisco's Altman Siegel Gallery included an accordion-fold procession of photo portraits of artists once prominent on the Northern California art scene whose work had too little influence to mark their places in art history.

The same show had small sculptures with "melting" brass clocks, openly derived from Salvador Dali, draping over them. The soft clocks - clock faces, really - will make another appearance in Rogan's solo show opening Friday at the Berkeley Art Museum, No. 253 in its long-running Matrix Program.

As in the past, Rogan moves freely in this cluster of new work among sculpture, photography and video. He spoke about the show by phone.

Q: Is there a thread connecting the disparate works you're showing?

A: It started with the idea to make a film - "Erase" - from this hearse. I bought a hearse and blew it up and had someone shoot the explosion with a Phantom Flex camera. It shoots 6,900 frames per second and takes a five-second explosion and turns it into an eight-minute event.

Q: Will we see a sequence in the show?

A: It's not likely. The first thing I made is the staircase with the clocks. It's a ceramic sculpture I fired in my backyard with seven brass clocks melting over it. It's called "Seven." Another piece is called "Twenty Four." I want people to be thinking about time.

Q: Do you consider your photographs documentation or something more?

A: I'm very interested in photographs as objects and as representations of objects. ... There are two black-and-white photographs, one 16 by 20, the other 20 by 24. Each shows a ruler my daughter made at engineering camp. She's dyslexic, so the numbers go in reverse. ... I just love the way she just naturally made this antimeasurement thing.

Q: Has aging intensified your interest in time?

A: All the works are about pushing back against notions of time. A lot of it is acknowledging my own aging. I'm about to turn 40, and I have a 15-year-old daughter.

Matrix 253: Will Rogan: Opens Friday. Through June 29. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. \$7-\$10. Berkeley Art Museum, 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (510) 642-0808. www.bampfa.berkeley.edu.

Last accessed: 4/10/2014

<http://www.sfgate.com/art/article/Time-is-of-the-essence-to-eclectic-Albany-artist-5390182.php>