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Lynda Benglis,
Foam Painting III, 2009
polyurethane foam,
phosphorescence and acrylic
over chicken wire
21 3/4 x 14 x 11 3/4 inches

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Lynda Benglis *Over Air*

May 3 - June 29, 2019

Opening Reception: Friday, May 3 from 5:30 - 7:30pm

Locks Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of works by Lynda Benglis which will mark the artist's seventh solo show with the gallery. The exhibition will open Friday, May 3 with an opening reception with the artist from 5:30-7:30pm and will run through June 29th.

Throughout her career Lynda Benglis has often taken a serial approach to her work, replicating a process to push her materials to the extremes of their formal potential. Her comfort in unexplored territory has led to an abandonment of traditional media and aesthetics, with the work often occupying an uncanny space between the grotesque and beautiful, between material and flesh. Celebrated for her ability to bring painterly fluidity

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to sculptural forms, this exhibition showcases three of Benglis' sculptural styles: ceramic, paper and polyurethane.

The most recent works—the paper sculptures—are composed of a chicken wire armature that is twisted and formed into a rough shape, covered with damp handmade paper and allowed to dry, forming a delicate skin that Benglis adorns with acrylic, glitter, gold leaf, and charcoal. Similarly, the small ceramic forms seem to be flesh frozen in the act of folding and curving around itself, the loose glaze brushwork enhancing their bodily properties. While the otherworldly presence of Benglis' bubbling fountains and polyurethane wall sculptures undulate with restless energy across their coiled and twisting surfaces. For all their eccentricity, these works are beautiful in their delicacy owing to Benglis' application of air as a compositional force. By allowing the lack of material to form dimensional negative space, Benglis' works seem to float across the wall or slither over pedestals.

This exhibition offers an opportunity to experience the dynamic range of Benglis' sculptural works from the last decade.

Lynda Benglis was born in Lake Charles, LA and graduated from Newcomb College with a BFA in 1964. Currently she lives and works between New York, Santa Fe, Greece, and India. The 2009–2011 traveling retrospective Lynda Benglis toured six venues in Europe and the United States, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles and the New Museum, New York. Benglis' work is in numerous public collections including the Dallas Museum of Art; the Guggenheim Museum of Art, NY; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art; Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Museum of Modern Art, NY; the National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.; the Philadelphia Museum of Art; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Tate Modern, London; the Walker Art Center, MN; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.