

*Counsel*

Maren Karlson & Kira Scerbin

Exhibition text by Nicolette Polek

March 13 - April 17, 2021

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*She spends her savings on a house in a mountainous region near the opal mines. There she sits on a balcony completing her crossword. No one around, as she wishes, except for her grey windhound at the gate. Spring in solitude arrives and she wakes every sunrise to a thick mist which refuses to lift. Sound travels quick and far through fog as the particles are closer together. Unlocatable voices gather in the yard, whispering about directions, politics, auto repair. A cloud perpetually rests upon the house. Nothing visible past the driveway, though somewhere the cliff must end. The windows stay shut so that the chatter doesn't get pulled in. Inside, everything smells like damp soil. Puddles form as she walks across the shag carpet, leaving behind a slugs trail of dew. She pleads to me on the phone, trying to tell me her house is stuck in some terrible climate, but all I can make out are futile sounds, a heavy wet mass like an overripe tomato dropping onto cold concrete.*

- Nicolette Polek

**Maren Karlson** is an artist working in drawing and painting. She lives in Berlin, Germany. She has shown her work at in lieu (Los Angeles), Intersticio (Madrid), Real Pain Fine Arts (Los Angeles), Interstate Projects (Brooklyn), Futura (Prague), 427 Gallery (Riga), Mélange Gallery (Cologne), American Medium (Brooklyn) and Jessica Silverman Gallery (San Francisco) among others.

**Kira Scerbin** (b. 1991, Cleveland, OH) received a BFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2014. She lives and works in Chicago. Exhibitions include *Radiator* at Catbox Contemporary (Ridgewood, NY), *Pot of Snot* at Prairie (Chicago), and *When They Pet Brain* at King's Leap (Brooklyn), *Bar Art* at Interstate Projects curated by Sinkhole Project (Brooklyn), and *Give Plaza* at in lieu (Los Angeles) among others.