

IT'S MAGIC!

December 10 – January 10, 2015
Reception: December 13, 4 – 7PM



Forrest Bess, *Burning Bush*, 1953, Oil on canvas, 8 x 10in.

Betty Cuningham Gallery is pleased to open, *It's Magic!* a group exhibition of works by **William Bailey, Jake Berthot, Forrest Bess, Alfonso Fratteggiani Bianchi, Rackstraw Downes, John Elderfield, Andrew Forge, Alison Wilding, and Christopher Wilmarth**, December 10 – January 10, 2015 with an opening reception on **Saturday, December 13th from 4 -7 pm.**

The exhibition takes its title from Christopher Wilmarth: “If it’s not magic, it’s merchandise!” and raises the question of what it is we feel when we see a work of art.¹

From Forrest Bess’ head size, interior vision, in its rough hewn frame to Rackstraw Downes’ vast unframed view, unfettered by assumption or nostalgia; or from the glass and steel sculptures of Christopher Wilmarth to the stone and pure pigment paintings of Bianchi, the experience of viewing goes beyond the sum of the materials or methods employed. Something happens that draws us in.

Continuing downstairs at the Gallery are the quiet, contemplative paintings of Andrew Forge, John Elderfield, Jake Berthot and William Bailey; these paintings somehow beg to be experienced by an empathetic viewer. Finally, the single sculpture by Alison Wilding, titled *Core*, serves as a metaphor for loosing oneself into a work of art as a conical brass vessel resting on a thin surface of rubber draws us into its core or soul.



Alison Wilding, *Core II*, 1985, Rubber, brass and lead, 7 1/2 x 156 x 82 in.

The exhibition will remain on view through Saturday, January 10, 2015.

¹Christopher Wilmarth, aka. Celadon, *Delancey Backs*, Hirschl & Adler Modern, 1986.

For further information, artist biography and/or images, please contact the gallery.

Listing Information: Betty Cuningham Gallery is located at 15 Rivington Street, b/t Bowery and Chrystie Street, New York, NY 10002
T: 212-242-2772 **E:** info@bettycuninghamgallery.com **W:** www.bettycuninghamgallery.com

Public Transportation: F train to Second Ave, 6 Train to Spring Street

Gallery Hours: Tues – Sat, 10am – 6pm. **Closed for the Holidays: December 21, 2014- January 1, 2015**

Next Exhibition: Charles Garabedian, *New Work*, January 14 – February 21, 2015 hours