

Melissa Stern: The Talking Cure / Smart Clothes Gallery, New York



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Opening Reception: November 8, 6-9 PM.

Smart Clothes Gallery and its founder Paul Bridgewater are pleased to present "The Talking Cure," by Melissa Stern, a multi-media art exhibition integrating sculpture, original contemporary literature, and audio technology.

The Talking Cure, takes its name from Sigmund Freud's original description of psychoanalysis. The exhibition consists of twelve mixed material sculptures by Melissa Stern, each accompanied by an interactive audio track created by a literary collaborator. Stern asked twelve writers- poets, novelists, screenwriters, and playwrights- to each chose a sculpture to which they relate most intimately. Each has written his or her imagined monologue of the goings on in the sculpture's mind. The written work was then transformed into audio recordings by actors. A QR tag accompanies each sculpture. When the viewer points a Smartphone, Blackberry or iPhone reading device at the QR tag it triggers audio to hear the inner voice of the sculpture.

"I have long been fascinated by what goes on in people's minds when they look at art," said Stern. "What stories do they tell themselves? What emotions and memories are triggered?" In this project we will have a chance to hear what others think goes on in the minds of these sculptural people. Viewers will also have the opportunity to record their own imagined interior monologue for each sculpture.

The exhibition will also feature twelve drawings to accompany the sculptures. These pieces address psychological states and experiences in a non- narrative, image based way. They are the dreams that accompany the sculptures.

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Melissa Stern, Tongue Tied, 2012, Clay, paint, steel, lead, 31 x 7 x 36 in.

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