

## ESSEX STREET

*Cold Flow Creep* continues Jason Loeb's artistic treatment of heat and mineral as a means to analyze the ways in which natural resources are transformed by social organization into instruments of human control and value production.

The exhibition introduces a new series of thermal grease paintings made with a non-drying, graphite compound (an allotrope of carbon) commonly used to transfer energy from a heat source (high power LED lights, CPUs, graphics cards) to a heat sink. Thermal grease is designed to aid the distribution of excess heat. In these works the material is piled into a planar mound that is unable to coagulate into solid graphic form. As entropic leeches, these paintings actively parasitize heat from the viewing bodies circulating around their surface and give form to the non-visible entanglement of subjects in this entropic system.

Displayed alongside the paintings are a group of mineral ore commonly found in microprocessors. The artist has lightly coated this mineral with a color shifting ink used in the US dollar bill as a security feature to prevent forgery, tampering and counterfeiting. These works negotiate the contingencies of social objectification of natural resources. They ask us to think the gap between natural resources and their use in technologies of security and surveillance of their users.

A series of readymade sculptures fashioned from industrial heating films are also on display. These mats are used primarily for floor heating. They contain the same elemental carbon compound on the paintings which heats when electrified. These works shape heat as a phenomenological object. The layering and overlapping of the mats repeat and double the production of heat, folding heat back into itself.

The exhibition consolidates a series of objects and gestures that mine earthen matter to bring forward nature's imprint upon our reigning digital economy.

Jason Loeb was born in 1980 in New Jersey. He attended the Whitney Independent Study Program in 2011, received an MFA from the Art Institute of Chicago in 2007, and attended the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia and Yale Norfolk. He recently had a solo exhibition, *Title stack sink release* at the Kunsthalle Freiburg in Switzerland, where his first monograph was published on the occasion. He has previously had solo or two person exhibitions at Green Tea Gallery in Tokyo, Campoli Presti in London, Audio Visual Art in New York. This is his second solo exhibition with ESSEX STREET. He has been in group exhibitions at the Swiss Institute in New York, Carriage Trade in New York, Massimo De Carlo in Milan, Bortolami Gallery in New York, Galerie Perrotin in Paris, Artists Space in New York and elsewhere.

Loeb will be in an upcoming group exhibition at the Fridericianum in Kassel this summer, a group exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw, and the Bucharest Biennial.