

KATE WERBLE

CHRISTOPHER CHIAPPA
A ROOM WITH A VIEW
SEPTEMBER 7 – OCTOBER 12, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

Christopher Chiappa's *A Room With A View* is presented at Kate Werble Gallery for the first time as a single sculptural installation, exhibited alone in the gallery. This work is about looking; it is as much a performance of viewing as it is a sculptural object, where the main feature is a large, white wall with a single black circle appearing at eye level. Upon closer inspection, the circle is revealed to be a cylindrical hole staring out from the wall, an invitation to further discover the sculpture itself.

Chiappa focuses on projects that are often repeated over and over as a way to extend larger metaphors for creating energy, mining a darkly humorous vein where perfection and failure meet. With past projects such the series of nearly 100 painted stools and a production line of 7,000 handmade sculptures of fried eggs, a performative core lurks beneath these carefully made sculptures; it is harder to locate due to its elision with the event of production itself.

Thinking of Chiappa's labor as performance dissipates the aura of each individual object and reveals his work, as evidenced in the fried eggs, as part of an extended Oedipal assault on the discreet minimalist artwork and the artist position it implies: omniscient, stable, and rational. He self-consciously harkens back to the strategies of conceptual performance artists of the 1960's and 70's, while upping the level of self-deprecating humor. *A Room With A View* combines the informed elegance of his hand with his labor, bringing to light the varying emotions that are revealed by experiencing this work.

Christopher Chiappa (USA, born 1970 in West Chester, PA) attended the Rhode Island School of Design (Providence, RI) in 1989 before receiving a BA from Middlebury College, (Middlebury, VT), in 1993. Chiappa has held numerous solo exhibitions at venues such as TOPS (2021, Memphis, TN); Kate Werble Gallery, New York, NY (2018); SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, GA (2018); the Art-in-Buildings Program, Time Equities, Inc., New York, NY (2017-2018); Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, MA (2014- 2016); Fredericks & Freiser, New York, NY (2003, 2000); and Jessica Fredericks Gallery, New York, NY (1998). He currently lives and works in Long Island City, NY.