GALLERY AFERRO

On Belonging and the Void Between

Suzie Tuchman

On Belonging and the Void Between
Curated by Asha Ganpat

This exhibition is a selection of works about the nature of belonging and a look to the vacuous and vulnerable experience of being out of place. Without a sense of belonging, we are adrift in a sea of otherness. Of the ways we may untether from familiarity, the shift in becoming an outsider can shake the foundation of our very sense of self.
In her artwork, Suzie Tuchman celebrates the beauty and complexity of domesticity and explores both the inherent difficulties and inevitable humor of being a woman and mother in a more traditional gender role. Domestic work is not only seen as the physical act of housework, such as cleaning and childcare, but also involves a process of transformation – creating order where there was none. The importance of a sense of humor and playfulness when approaching domestic work is conveyed through the use of materials with unusual or even incongruous properties and textures. By transforming materials normally used for cleaning into art, the mundane is elevated to a higher level, which is a central concept in Judaism. The level of detail needed to properly run a household is great; there are many responsibilities involved in caring for a home and family. Tuchman sees her role as a woman and artist as taking such tasks as laundry, cleaning, cooking, maintenance, and shopping and helping others see the beauty that she sees in these acts of the mundane.

Suzie Tuchman grew up in Buffalo, NY and currently lives in Passaic, NJ. She is a second year MFA student at Montclair State University. She has a BFA from Montclair State University, with a concentration in Printmaking and Papermaking, and a BA in Biology from Yeshiva University. She has exhibited her work in several galleries and art institutions in New Jersey, most notably with the NJ Book Arts Roundtable, and her work is held in private collections.