



THE
CENTER
FOR ART
IN WOOD®



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SMOOTH

Mangle Boards of Northern Europe & Contemporary Concepts

April 21 – July 22, 2017

Philadelphia, PA: The Center for Art in Wood located at 141 N 3rd Street, Philadelphia PA, 19106 is pleased to present *SMOOTH: Mangle Boards of Northern Europe & Contemporary Concepts*. Join us in the Gerry Lenfest Gallery for an exhibition of mangle boards, highly-ornamented planks of wood used to smooth wrinkles from linen in the 16th to 19th century. The thirty-seven handcrafted mangle boards on view come from seven northern European countries.

Guest curator Jay Raymond studied four private and eighteen museum collections, in total more than 7,000 mangle boards, and authored a massive reference, *Mangle Boards of Northern Europe* (2015).

The Center gratefully acknowledges the following lenders of historic mangle boards: Marty and Buck Carson, Jacqueline Lind, and the American Swedish Historical Museum.

In conjunction with this exhibition, the Center invited twelve artists to produce new mangle boards. The project elicited a range of responses—from works that reflected the traditional motifs seen in this art form, to meditations on women's work and the current political upheaval.



The exhibition opens April 21st with a gallery talk and reception Saturday, April 22nd. The talk features guest curator Jay Raymond including artists Amy Forsyth and Michael Scarborough, in the Gerry Lenfest Gallery from 2 – 4pm followed by a reception from 4 – 6pm. A second gallery talk will take place on Tuesday, June 6, from 6 – 8pm with Jay Raymond and artist Beth Ireland.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS: Melissa Engler & Graeme Priddle, Ashley Eriksmoen, Amy Forsyth, Michael Hosaluk, Katie Hudnall, Beth Ireland, Hilary Pfeifer, Merryll Saylan, Michael Scarborough, Betty Scarpino, and Kimberly Winkle

Exhibitions at the Center are generously supported by the Cambium Circle members of The Center for Art in Wood, The Bresler Family Foundation, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Philadelphia Cultural Fund, and Windgate Charitable Foundation. Corporate support is provided by Boomerang, Inc., Penn State Industries and Signarama Center City.

For questions please contact Katie Sorenson, at katie@centerforartinwood.org or call 215-923-8000.

Left to Right: Hilary Pfeifer, *Pussy Grabs Back*, Photo by Dan Kvitka | Untitled, Germany, n.d. Collection of Marty and Buck Carson, Photo by James B. Abbott and Jay Texter

