

For immediate release

## **Richard T. Walker: Contingency of an Afterthought**

June 3 – July 16, 2016

**FraenkelLAB**  
1632 Market Street

Opening reception:  
Friday, June 3, 5pm – 9pm



FraenkelLAB is pleased to present new work by the San Francisco-based British artist **Richard T. Walker**, from June 3 through July 16, 2016. Walker employs a variety of media, including video, music, photography, and performance to explore and question the experience of the individual within the natural landscape. Featured at FraenkelLAB will be a series of new works, including neon sculptures, light box installations, photographic collages, and a single-channel video projection.

Solitude, human nature, and dialogue are the subjects of Richard T. Walker's work. In the video *an is that isn't always* (2015), the artist lies alone in the white sands of the New Mexico desert, recording his thoughts about how to begin to comprehend the expansive space of his surroundings. As the tableau changes, a mountain peak is replaced by a black-and-white image of a different summit. The focus moves from vast expanses of natural beauty to close-ups of unassuming rocks with simulated mountain peaks. An acoustic and electronic accompaniment is synchronized to the shifting views, creating a choreography of music and images. Ultimately, the artist seems to abandon a search for meaning that can be articulated through thoughts, sounds, or words.

Also featured in the exhibition are sculptures in which angular neon tubes pierce and wrap around rocks and branches, creating lines of bright light that envelope rough natural forms. Several other works incorporate sound elements, in the form of keyboards, guitars, microphones and amplifiers that appear to be capturing the frequency of stones and mountains.

Walker's work has been exhibited at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts; The Contemporary Austin; The Times Museum, Guangzhou, China; The Museum of Modern Art, Rio de Janeiro; and Witte De With Center for Contemporary Art in Rotterdam, among other venues. Walker has been an Irvine Fellow at the Montalvo Art Center and a resident at The Headlands Center for the Arts and Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture; he also received an Artadia Award in 2009.

**FraenkelLAB**, spearheaded by Frish Brandt and Jeffrey Fraenkel, is Fraenkel Gallery's new venue for adventurous artwork in any medium.

Gallery hours are: Wednesday – Friday 5pm – 9pm; Saturday 12pm – 9pm; and by appointment.

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For press inquiries, please contact Rebecca Herman at 415.981.2661 or [rherman@fraenkelgallery.com](mailto:rherman@fraenkelgallery.com)

IMAGE: Richard T. Walker, *an is that isn't always*, 2015 (video still). Video projection, 9 min., 16 sec. Courtesy of the artist.