ALBERT SAMRETH & GOR SOUDAN

AT

YAMAMOTO GENDAI

12 - 26 JULY, 2014
New works from Albert Samreth (USA) and Gor Soudan (Kenya)

The BAR Vol.7 (The Backers Foundation and AIT Residence Programme)

Saturday, July 12 - Saturday, July 26, 2014
YAMAMOTO GENDAI
3F, 3-1-15, Shirokane, Minato-ku, Tokyo TEL: 03-6383-0626
Time: 11:00 - 19:00
Closed on Sunday, Monday and National holidays
*Free Admission

Organized by: Arts Initiative Tokyo [AIT]
Co-organized by: The Backers Foundation
Supported by: YAMAMOTO GENDAI, YOKUMOKU

Opening Reception: Saturday, July 12 18:00 - 20:00

For further exhibition information:
YAMAMOTO GENDAI TEL: 03-6383-0626
For Artist-in-Residence program information:
Arts Initiative Tokyo [AIT] TEL: 03-5489-7277

The exhibition will present works inspired by the experiences and discoveries of the artists’ three month residency in Tokyo, supported by the Backers Foundation and Arts Initiative Tokyo [AIT].

Albert Samreth (Born in 1987, Los Angeles, USA)
Albert Samreth is a conceptual artist who graduated from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) in 2012. He has developed a studio practice based on engaging with the poetry of natural and systematic processes, for example using the currents of the Pacific Ocean to create paintings or allowing the Cambodian sunshine to transform materials over time. His more recent works include ‘The Voice’, a five-channel audio installation for the Singapore Biennale 2013 where his poetry was narrated by Carolyn Hopkins, a voice actress whose announcements are used throughout the entire New York City subway system and most airports around the world. For this exhibition, Samreth will present a new series of ‘paintings’. Whilst some paintings will be created by the effects of Tokyo’s heavy summer rainfall, others will be made by the sunlight in a natural photographic process. The remainder of his work for the show will be derived from graphic scores related to his concurrent project for the International Moscow Biennale of Young Art, where he will be teaching songs to an African Grey Parrot.

Gor Soudan (Born in 1983, Kisumu, Kenya)
Gor Soudan is a conceptual artist living and working in Nairobi, Kenya. Often subtly engaged with contemporary political and social issues, and deeply embedded in urban culture, Gor’s artistic practice is an intense, obsessive process through which material is transformed into reflective work. He has previously worked with pages of the Kenya constitution, cartons, plastic and more recently “protest wire” – a tangled, black mass of wire he salvaged from car tyres bunt during the civil unrest that accompanied the last elections in Kenya. These works provide acute observations on the rapid socio-political changes Africa, and Kenya in particular, is currently undergoing. For this exhibition, Soudan will show his ongoing project ‘Drawing in Space’, which is inspired by his observations in nature. The project makes use of wire salvaged from land protests in Nairobi (Kenya) as well as used bicycle brake cables from Freetown (Sierra Leone), and will be presented along with linear drawings and an installation made using natural materials in Tokyo (Japan).