

Patricia Fernández – *The Records*

October 12 – November 30, 2013

Opening Reception – Oct. 12, 7-9pm

David Petersen Gallery is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by Los Angeles-based artist Patricia Fernández.

Patricia Fernández's *The Records* is a re-presentation of a collection of paintings from her project *A Record of Succession*. Informing this collection are an oral history, written documents, and a series of correspondences between individuals that span two years time and three generations.

Fernández's grandmother had kept five buttons since her childhood, each one fallen from a different piece of clothing from different years in her life. Her collection began once reusing the buttons on several occasions and eventually recognizing the impermanence of a mend. After inheriting them, the artist continued to collect buttons that she felt were markers of personal histories. During this period she also began a correspondence with five women—friends and family of different generations—and translated their individual histories into this collection of button paintings. The paintings become a transmission of memories from these individuals, and in turn, through the work, these unwritten stories become part of her family's mythology.

In this presentation, the artist delineates spaces that become portraits of subjects from three different generations. The paintings and other ephemera, comprising an installation, are presented as the artifacts from *A Record of Succession*, and are an attempt to pass the evasiveness of memory into a tangible object.

Framed by carved wooden lines that run throughout the gallery, a private, domestic space is constructed, which holds paintings alongside fragments, visual notations, textures and photographs. These records serve as footnotes to the body of work. The interior recalls the artist's family home; the unfinished "x" pattern on the wood framing evokes her grandfather's signature carving mark, which the artist has adopted as her own.

The buttons are a record of an exchange; they became the medium through which these familial stories are passed between the individuals. Traded, gifted, or inherited, this arrangement of buttons comprises a visual chronicle of a translated history of human subjects whose personal histories interact and often collide.

David Petersen Gallery
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