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Mathieu Malouf:

“Facilities”

September 28th – November 6th, 2016

“The Internet is a bathroom occupied by thousands of people, with everyone thrust into each other’s intimacy.” –Ada O’Higgins

Lomex is pleased to present Mathieu Malouf’s first solo exhibition in New York in more than 3 years and his first with the gallery.

“Facilities” can be used to describe a place for doing something, an opportunity, and here in this extremely complicated exhibition where many readings would be possible, it might be understood as a politically correct term for bathroom. We also use the facilities as a place to hide, catch up on our feed. The ones on display (all built in the environs of what once was Eva Hesse’s studio)—all follow Bernard Tschumi’s design proposal for the Urban Glass House to a rigorous extreme; a blueprint for a certain style of contemporary condo meant to respond to the contemporary desire for infinite space. To use Bernard Tschumi’s words; they are spaces of “publicized privacy”, which simultaneously provide a safe haven away from the world and a shelter for focused connectivity.

The works shown here expand on an architectural vernacular that first appeared in Toilet, a solo presentation by the artist at Jenny’s gallery in Los Angeles last March, that centered around a public restroom sculpture based on Dimes restaurant and Tschumi’s blue condo in the Lower East Side of Manhattan. While Malouf’s new sculptures condense several moments of modernism and topical anchoring points, they ultimately assume a sculptural form bearing distant resemblance to Mike Kelley’s sheds, Alex Hubbard’s bars, Wilhelm Reich’s orgone accumulators and Liam Gillick’s discussion platforms, among others.