

M23 Projects NY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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M23 is pleased to present *speedrunning*, a new project by Los Angeles based artist Daniel Klaas Beckwith.

Daniel Klaas Beckwith theorizes a terminal point of human progress. In a post human chorus, motorized objects ominously harmonize amid a leering field of anthropomorphized debris. Vehicles and appliances appear to have developed a singular melodic voice, and discarded bags and refuse take ambiguously threatening shapes. Betraying the appearance of entropy, this is a depiction of a system whose efficiency is not only a tendency, but is approaching a limit.

“Speedrunning” is a niche genre of video gaming subculture in which a player attempts to beat or end a game as fast as possible, honing a cybernetic mastery of the coded system until it is understood at a more fundamental state; reaching beyond the visible screen of information and manipulating invisible truths. Logically centering around the eponymously titled article excerpt, *speedrunning* posits that ours is a world of fiction, built of useful misunderstanding and structural exploitation; refined by a language designed to dissect and control the chaos of nature.

The development of human language as a self-organizing structure churns an inevitable flow of efficiencies, and as survival is abstracted and exploited the ultimate product of progress reveals itself to be: entertainment. Distorting the diegetic frame by proving entertainment itself as a structure to exploit, the action of the speedrunner reveals the paradox of progress: as the length of the speedrun approaches zero, as when communication within any system approaches perfection, a moment of omniscient singularity appears in which distinctions no longer exist and only languageless static remains.

Daniel Klaas Beckwith (American, b. 1988) holds an MFA in Sculpture from Yale University (2015) and a BFA in Sculpture from Virginia Commonwealth University (2010). In 2015, he received the Lin Art and Architecture Scholarship and the Fannie B Pardee Prize. Recent exhibitions include the solo project *Eschaton*, MEYOHAS, New York and numerous group exhibitions, including *Wet Eyes* at MEYOHAS, New York; *A Small Group Show of American and British Artists*, Space Space, Tokyo; *Vacancy*, Motel, Brooklyn; *Slightly Flexible*, GAIT, Los Angeles.

Daniel Klaas Beckwith *speedrunning*

27 October – 17 December 2017

Opening – Friday, 27 October 2017, 7-9 pm

M23/Project Room
209 Morgan Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11237

For additional information please call +1 (212) 206-7839 or email m@m23.co

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