

**PRESS RELEASE****For Immediate Release: January 29, 2020**

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Bernhard Zuenkeler | Illusion (detail) | Silk and acrylic paint on wood-panel | 24" x 24" | 2013

**Experience 45: STARDUST is a backstage pass to the world of creative systems and a showcase of the power of an artist collective. The Experience will be on view at ESMoA February 13 until May 16, 2020.**

El Segundo, CA – ESMoA's fresh Experience 45: STARDUST will explore the different pathways of thinking. Art is a state of mind. Artworks are able to prime and inspire your brain activity. They can wake you up, where intuition has put you to sleep. Through STARDUST visitors will experience the underlying laws of creative thinking and discover a backstage pass to the world of artistic stimulation. STARDUST also features a showcase of collaborative projects produced by Bernhard Zuenkeler and artist collective, freeters.

Founded in 2018 by 12 European artists led by Amely Spoetzi, Michael Sistig and Bernhard Zuenkeler, freeters works as a creative collective that addresses the effect, shape and quality of work environments and spaces. The collective relies on contributions by artists and designers to realize and build environments that inspire ingenuity, wonder, and joy. Among their most recent projects, freeters revitalized the headquarters of Germany's Telecommunication Giant Deutsche Telekom (T-Mobile) and the new Start-Up Campus for Technology Global Player BOSCH. The Group has won recognition and awards for their work, including the German Design Award. The collective understands itself not as an exclusive group but as a unified artist network collaborating with artists from all over the world.

STARDUST features over 40 artworks and objects. Some of the works on view are interactive, such as a three-sided foosball table by Ben Beyer (freeters) and a deliberate transformation of the traditional game of chess entitled *Free Chazz* by Bernhard Zuenkeler. Also on view will be artworks by: Peter Dreher, Jean-Honoré Fragonard, Martin Kippenberger, Piet Mondrian, Egon Schiele, Michael Sistig, and Amely Spetzl.

The ESMoA Experience Award recipient for STARDUST is Rachel Robin Reid. Reid is a versatile artist whose practice includes work in ceramics, printmaking, fiber arts and textiles. Since 2015 Reid has been predominately working in ceramics, devoting much of her practice to making miniature ceramic vessels thrown “off the hump.” This method of working also lends itself to the title of Reid’s work on view in STARDUST.

A special preview for Experience 45: STARDUST will be held on Saturday, February 8 from 5 pm to 8 pm with opening remarks by Curator Bernhard Zuenkeler at 6:00 PM. STARDUST will officially be open on Thursday, February 13 from 1 PM to 8 PM.