

The Birdsell Project

August 15th, 2015 - October 24th, 2015

Opening Reception: 7:00pm - 10:00pm on August 15th, 2015

401 East Colfax Avenue. South Bend, IN 46617

The Birdsell Project is pleased to invite you to the opening of our summer 2015 show, which presents new site-specific installations in the basement of the Commerce Center in South Bend, Indiana. Eleven artists-in-residence-- Matthew Batty, Liam Cawley, Hunter Foster, Leah Gallant, Margaret Halquist, Sohee Kim, Allison Polgar, Bryce Robinson, Andrew Strong, Nalani Stolz, Nayeon Yang--have used a diverse range of mediums to transform these abandoned spaces into new environments. Working with projection, paintings, sculptures, and found objects, their work raises issues of religion, gender politics, local history, and decay.

The show's location, beneath South Bend's former power plant, was built in 1914 along the banks of the St. Joseph River. During the eighties and nineties, the basement also housed a health club. The remnants of both these pasts remain in the Commerce Center's basement. Come experience the unique stories that each artist has incorporated amongst the massive rusted pipes and structures of the powerplant and the pool, jacuzzi, saunas, and locker rooms of the old East Bank Club.



In progress installation in the pool

The show will open to the public on Saturday, August 15th from 2pm-5pm. The opening reception will take place Saturday, August 15th from 7pm-10pm. There will be music, food and a cash bar at the reception. Opening remarks will take place at 8pm. A closing reception will be held October 24th at 7pm. Open hours by donation. The opening and closing reception will be ticketed. All profits from the reception go to supporting artists and future artistic endeavors in the community.

The Birdsell project seeks to revitalize under-utilized spaces by opening them to artists and the public. The Birdsell acts as a community space that reflects upon South Bend's history, celebrates current artistic endeavors, and experiments with future methods of merging art and community. For more information please visit our website: birdsellproject.org, or find us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/thebirdsellproject>, and on Instagram at @thebirdsellproject: For tickets to the reception search "Birdsell" at eventbrite.com