



GRAND ARTS ANNOUNCES EXHIBITION BY ELLIE GA *SQUARE, OCTAGON, CIRCLE* SEPTEMBER 6 – OCTOBER 26, 2013

Grand Arts is pleased to present *Square, Octagon, Circle*, a new project by Ellie Ga opening September 6, 2013 and on view through October 26, 2013. Please join us at the gallery for an opening reception on Friday, September 6th from 6-9pm and on Saturday, September 7th at 2pm for an artist talk with Ellie.

Square, Octagon, Circle is a journey that begins with a beacon in the Arctic, and continues as the artist travels to Alexandria, Egypt to study the remains of the Pharos Lighthouse—a towering wonder of the ancient world whose ruins now lay submerged underwater at the foot of the Qait Bey Citadel on what was Pharos Island. Little is known for certain about the original design and construction of the lighthouse, and what is known is shrouded in myth. Speculative renderings of the lighthouse can be found across centuries and cultures, while its singular status remains embedded in the Greek, Persian and Latinate words for lighthouse (e.g., Fr. *phare*, Sp. *faro*). For Ga, as for many she meets in her travels, the fallen tower is an “object of obsession,” which ultimately casts light on the fugitive quality of knowledge itself. With *Square, Octagon, Circle* Ga invites us to join in the pursuit of what can't be captured, and to consider with her the spaces between history and memory, language and visuality, experience and perception.

Square, Octagon, Circle unfolds in a variety of media, including slides, photographs, documents and objects collected on Ga's research trips, as well as video installation and sculpture. Each of three small galleries in the exhibition is designed to build upon that which precedes it, paralleling the three known sections of the lighthouse which would have mapped a concentric square, octagon and circle if viewed from the sky above.

Square, Octagon, Circle is accompanied by a brochure with an essay by New York-based writer and editor at Artforum, Lauren O'Neill-Butler.

Ellie Ga, video stills for *Square, Octagon, Circle*, 2013.

ELLIE GA

Spanning a variety of media and often culminating in performances and installation, Ellie Ga's work probes the distinctions between documentary and fiction, private and public histories, writing and visual inscriptions, and the still and moving image. Her work has been presented at institutions such as The Kitchen, New York; The Power Plant, Toronto; Fondation Cartier, Paris and The New Museum, New York. Ellie Ga is represented by Bureau, New York.

ABOUT GRAND ARTS:

Grand Arts is a non-profit art project space in downtown Kansas City, Mo., that commissions and assists artists in the production and realization of ambitious contemporary art projects. The gallery is open Thu-Fri 10-5, Sat 11-5 and by appointment.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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