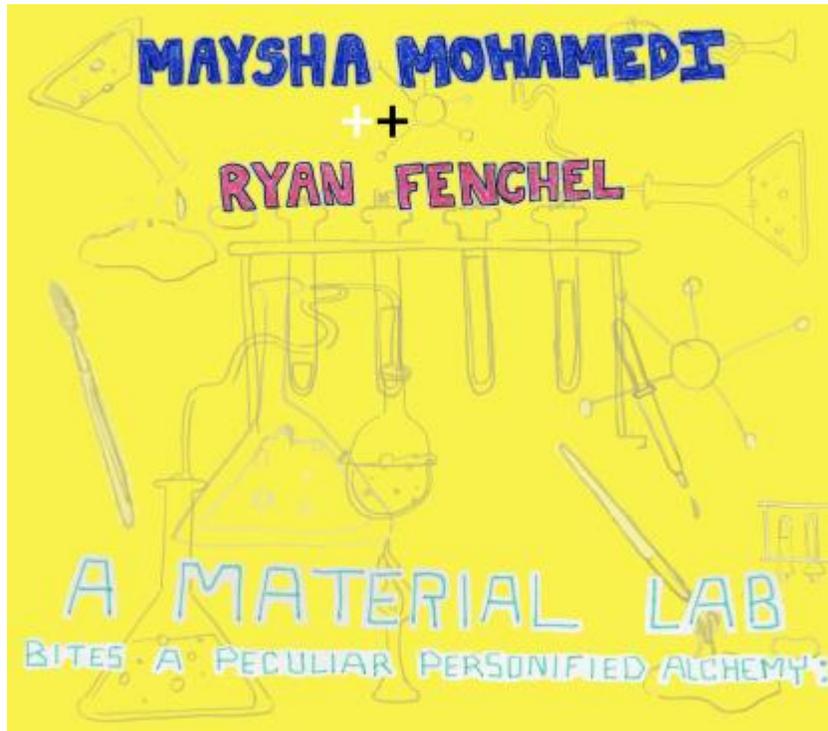


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Dalton Warehouse**  
*Presents...*



**Opening Reception:**  
**Saturday, June 17th | 6-9pm**

**Exhibition Dates:**  
**June 17th - July 8th, 2017**

**Dalton Warehouse** is pleased to present ***A Material Lab Bites a Peculiar Personified Alchemy***, a two-person show with artists **Maysha Mohamedi** and **Ryan Fenchel**. Both artists approach their studio practice similarly, as an alchemist or material scientist working in a lab. The sciences are relevant to the background of both artists. Prior to considering herself a visual artist, Mohamedi was a neuroscientist. Fenchel references being influenced by Alchemy and natural science which are both regularly personified in his paintings as vessels.

Materially, both artists experiment with their painterly applications on canvas. Mohamedi uses unconventional approaches to painting, favoring using her hands, wrists, found objects and homemade tools that she stamps and drags across the surface. Fenchel experiments with surface texture by using oil sticks and chalk pastel. Both are painting scientists testing their own limits as well as the limits of the medium.

These two artists input- as in putting into a program- personal components that either get repeated over time or discovered throughout the painting process. Maysha's forms relate to her ethnicity, personal life and background. Often pulling from images found in her own daily life or reusing a previous mark she made, her personality quirks pop up in her mark making. Ryan repeats his forms throughout his work, projecting his drawings of personified vessels. The vessels act as alchemists experimenting to create more vessels like themselves. The affect of Mohamedi and Fenchel's artwork provides a cerebral treasure trove that fills up both eyeballs and that viewers can take home and keep as their own secret.

**Maysa Mohamedi Artist Statement:**

I invest each painting with a single idea that ignites an associative process inspiring my mark-making. The marks depict the extent of what I am able to do by stretching across, reaching, and balancing my body along the edges and seams of the surfaces, which lie side-by-side and flat on the floor. No brushes: I favor unorthodox paint application using my hands or wrists, found objects, and handmade tools that I stamp, drag, and pull across the painting's surface.

I used to be a neuroscientist so I run my studio like a laboratory, with a lot of experimentation. I consider the marks I make as points of light reflected off the back of the retina, ultimately causing a psychological shift in the viewer. But, I also believe in the evocative power of color, shape, and line as a link to that which is holy.

My paintings could be about fate, existential matters, and what it's like to be underwater for extended periods of time.

**Ryan Fenchel Artist Statement:**

Ryan Fenchel (b. 1981, United States) lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. He completed an MFA in Art Theory and Practice from Northwestern University in 2007. Past exhibitions include solo and group shows in Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Germany and Tokyo. Fenchel is represented by Carrie Secrist Gallery.

Ryan Fenchel's drawings and paintings depict shapes that resemble vessels – jars, flasks, vases and pitchers. Executed in chalk pastel and oil, the cryptological images yield a purposefully awkward sense of space and balance. Driven by a confluence of tropes, including alchemy, secret societies, Cubism and Surrealism, and natural science, Fenchel connects and combines known forms and meanings in order to generate unfamiliar values and interpretations.

**Dalton Warehouse** is a collaborative studio and exhibition space located in South Central LA, and run by artists: **Katie Kirk, Aubrey Ingmar Manson, Lydia Maria Pfeffer, Daniel Schubert, and Keith Tolch.**

We believe in engaging and expanding a growing art community open to thought and provocation through a democratic system developed in our own sphere.

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Open Saturdays, noon-6pm, or by appointment