

The Tale Tellers: The Rag Pickers

Curated by Charlie Levine

with Samantha Ros

THRESHOLD: Stand4 Gallery

Framing the role of curator as storyteller, *The Tale Tellers* is a project that invites creative practitioners to tell a familiar story or narrative through a series of visual cues.

For *The Tale Tellers: The Rag Pickers*, curator Charlie Levine re-tells a chapter, *The Rag Pickers*, from the book *Walter Benjamin's Archive*. This chapter focuses on theorist Benjamin and how he stored and collected information he later used as prompts for his writings on archives, reproduction and architecture.

For this exhibition, Levine is taking *The Tale Tellers* process one step further than just visually representing (plot) points of the chapter. She is also asking us, the audience, to see the project's use of reproduced images and the loss of their 'aura' (a key theory of Walter Benjamin's) as key to this storytelling process - how memories fade and uncanny associations linger upon images with the passing of time while their authentic quality deteriorates.

This tale asks us to question what the role of the curator is in directing a narrative and how we, the reader, piece together memories through these visual 'rags'.

Images (left to right):

Human Forms, Ivo Bisignano, 2020, photo by Shai Epstein

Bookshop at Night, Mandy Hudson, 2006

Breathing Room, Anna Berry, 2014

Coventry Market Car Park, Historic England

Vitrine from the Original Furnishings of the Collection "Kunst industrieller Gegenstände" (today *Kunstkammer*), 2019, photo by Csilla Ariese

A top-hatted spectre, Léon Spilliaert, 1908, photo by Vincent Everarts

Kartonabfälle (Cardboard Waste), Dieter Roth, 1986

Title unknown, Hanne Darboven, date unknown

Das Ende Des Alphabets (The End of the Alphabet), Martin Kippenberge, 1989

Green Knots, Yifat Gat, 2010



thetaletellers.com



Exhibit Catalogue

To read other tales visit thetaletellers.com

To find out more about Charlie Levine visit charlielevine.org or @charliellevine

Instructions

- (1) Choose a favorite story, poem, song, tale, narrative, etc.
- (2) Figure out its 8-10 key plot points
- (3) Find an image / film clip / gif / etc. (either your own or by others) that illustrates each of the plot points
- (4) Then please follow the QR code below to the form to submit your tale. Please be sure to attach all images in the correct order, and list the image titles/authors (if applicable) in the correct order as well. Tales will then be uploaded to the THRESHOLD website, which can be found at <https://stand4gallery.org/threshold/>.

Important Notes

- * If images of your friends or family appear in your submission, please be sure to get their approval and inform them that the image may appear online.
- * Tales will be uploaded to the THRESHOLD website at the curator's discretion.

