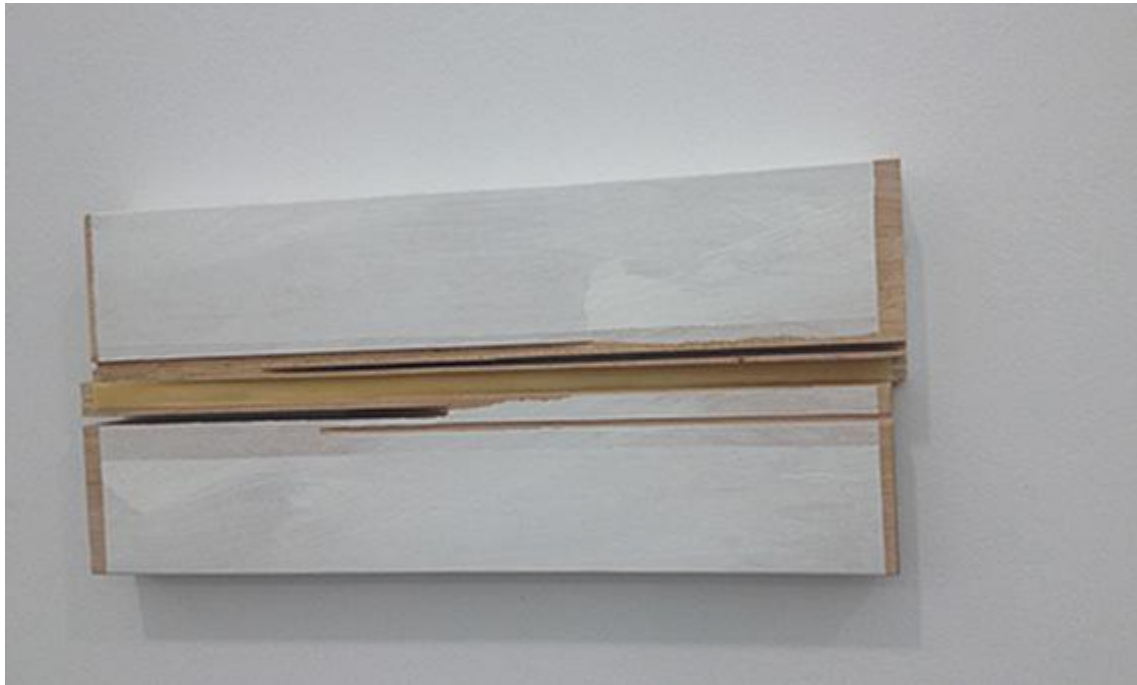


New Wave Women: Frieze

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Catherine Corman

Author, 'Daylight Noir', 'Virgin Queen', and 'Romanticism'



Melissa Kretschmer, Chute, 2014 butcher block, plywood, beeswax, vellum, gesso, cm 21,60 x 46,50 | 8-1/2, 18-3/4 inches, Courtesy Galleria Alfonso Artiaco, Napoli

Melissa Kretschmer

Melissa Kretschmer's sculptures have been compared to valentines, reliquaries and hermetically sealed vaults. She likens her process to improvisation, discarding initial models before creating the final work. She feels close to collage, pulling together pieces of wood, wax and glass (materials chosen for their mercurial qualities), and joining them to one another. Measuring fragments to a fraction of an inch, she fears her work gives the illusion of being precise, but stands firmly against precision in favor of accuracy. She says, "Accuracy is about the rightness of the whole entity rather than the fit of its individual parts."