SUSAN CIANCIOLO
GOD LIFE: MODERN HOUSE ON LAND OUTSIDE GAME TABLE

FOLKWAYS RECORDS Album No. FL9965
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PROF. AVV. MARIO PALLADINI
G. D’Annunzio – Notturno – X
Dante – D. C. – Paradiso – Canto XXXII
Boccaccio – Decameron – Novella V
Saggi di Lettura Dalla Letteratura ITALIANA

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FL 9965
“While you live, shine
Life exists only for a short while
and time demands its due”
200BC Epitaph of Seikiles

American artist Susan Cianciolo’s practice draws together elements inspired by craft, fashion and daily domestic life. Fabric off-cuts, buttons, cardboard boxes, diary pages and her young daughter’s drawings become integral parts of works in which the seemingly casual and low-fi nature of their construction is at odds with the precision of their compositions.

In Gallery 1, the mannequins in Platforms 1–4 were salvaged by Cianciolo from mannequin-designer Ralph Pucci’s workshop in the 1990s. At that time she became known for her RUN clothing lines, made in collaboration with friends, students and relatives, shown on live models in downtown New York galleries and sold in high-end stores. Some 25 years later, Cianciolo customised and installed them on low platforms before dressing them in inimitable garments to create a sculptural installation that draws on fashion, craft and bricolage but ultimately occupies a territory entirely of its own.

The integration and transformation of archival material into new works is characteristic of Cianciolo’s approach. In 2001 she started to make an ongoing series of Kits, a group of which is shown in Gallery 2. Originally called Fluxus Boxes, the Kits are filled with fragments from Cianciolo’s life and past works. Like much of her output, they are inspired by her memories and visions. These DIY boxes of materials, photographs, objects and collage invite the user to construct their own costumes, talismans or rituals.

Over the past year Cianciolo has focused on making a series of Games, developed with her 11 year-old daughter Lilac and inspired by the way in which games become such a natural part of living with children. On the opening night of the exhibition, a new performance entitled Scene 10 – The Celebration and the Games sees the Games activated by Cianciolo’s
collaborators, students and friends wearing hand-made costumes, adding a further dimension to her unerring integration of her art and life.

Cianciolo’s very particular sensibility is both intimate and generous, elevating domestic labour and existence, but equally inspired by her deep spirituality.

**Susan Cianciolo** (b. 1969, Rhode Island, US) lives and works in New York.

*Exhibition generously supported by Modern Art, London, and Bridget Donahue, New York*

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**LIST OF WORKS**

**ENTRANCE**

*Tapistry 4*, 2017
Mixed fabric

**GALLERY ONE**

*Platform 1*, 1990–2017
Ralph Pucci mannequin limbs, 2009 hand-painted bamboo and paper Wisdom of Flowers fan and hand-blown glass bottle with custom 1999 RUN 9 perfume, 1995 RUN 1 kevlar and leather Red Fin Shoes made by Aaron Lown

*Platform 2*, 1990–2017
2012 textile featuring original crocheted patches from RUN 6 (1998), knit cotton, wool blends, vintage Japanese obi; 1997/2010 rebuilt dresses from original RUN collection and featured in ‘RUN RESTAURANT UNTITLED’ restaged for the 2017 Whitney Biennial, antique cotton and silk apron

*Platform 3*, 1996–2017
Reconstructed cotton chef uniform shirt from RUN 6 collection, worn by Rita Ackermann in 1998 film Diadal and 1997 skirt made of terry cloth towel, snap and button from RUN 5 collection, featured in Sleepers; 1996 mesh lycra swimsuit from RUN 2 collection with Mark Gonzales’ drawings (courtesy Lydia Rodrigues), 1997 Blue Dress from RUN 4 Collection, Schoeller Industrial Textile, thread and snap fastener (courtesy Sonia Stagg)

*Platform 4*, 1995–2017
Mannequin limbs, archival items from original RUN collections incorporated into ‘RUN RESTAURANT UNTITLED’ restaged for the 2017 Whitney Biennial, antique cotton and silk apron

*Orange Circle*, 2018
Collage, marker, watercolor, gold leaf, glitter, pencil and pen on paper

**STAIRWELL (ASCENDING)**

*Figure and Small Dog*, 2018
Collage and watercolour on magazine page

*Two Figures on Italian Graphic*, 2017
Crayon on paper

*Figure with Hands on Hips*, 2018
Collage, marker, watercolour and pen on magazine page

*Man in Tie with Photographed Hands*, 2017
Crayon, watercolour and collage on paper

*Blue Man Sitting*, 2017
Watercolour and collage on paper

**LANDING (OUTSIDE GALLERY TWO)**

*Eight Period Pieces*, 2018
Collage, marker, watercolor and pen on magazine page

**GALLERY TWO (CLOCKWISE)**

*Matar, to live*, 2019
Mixed media, wood, paper, plastic and cardboard
LIST OF WORKS (CONTINUED)

Garden game, 2019
Cardboard and mixed media

The Church, 2018
Collage, marker, watercolour and pen on magazine page

Game 2. WALK IN FREEDOM, 2018
Cardboard, wood, acrylic paint, popsicle sticks, tape, glue, styrofoam and pen

Game 3. UNDEFEATED WAKE UP, I AM AT YOUR FEET, 2018
Cardboard, acrylic paint, wood, construction paper, glue and plastic

Twister Game Textile, 2019
Mixed media, linen, vinyl, paper, embroidery and plastic

Jewellery Game, 2019
Mixed media

Chess, 2019
Mixed media

In the world, not of it, 2018–19
Wood and mixed media

GALLERY THREE (CLOCKWISE)

Notebooks Kit, 2016
Cotton tapestry, cardboard box, photograph, paper, notebooks, ink and paint

Miniature Doll Box, 2015
Cotton fabric, vintage textiles, inkjet on paper, ink on cardboard, plastic curling ribbon and stickers on tapestry with Mike Mills textile

Men’s Kit, 2012–2015
Cardboard box with watercolor drawings, blazer, pens, pencil, patches, book, cards, knife, cologne, photograph and Hamlet poster

Cardboard box, inkjet photographs, cloth tapestry and original sticker pack from 1998 ‘RUN Media Today’ show at the Brooklyn Anchorage curated by Andrea Rosen

The Glitter Kit, 2016
Christmas tapestry, cardboard box, paper, glitter and paint

The Prize Kit, 2016
Cardboard box, paint, paper; barcode stickers, dollar bills and coins

Pattern Do It Yourself Kit, 1996–2016
Plastic United States Postal Service mail box, photograph, paint, cloth ribbon and archival RUN patterns from 1996–2016

The Kit of Glitter and Love, 2016
Cardboard box, glitter, plastic bag, drawing, Yale Union poster, masking tape and cloth tapestry

Kids Outfit Kit, 2015
Cotton, thread, paint, pants, top, cardigan, popsicle sticks, book, games, colored paper and bracelet

Kit with RUN Home Book Cover, 2005–2016
Cardboard box, RUN Home book cover, quilted tapestry, drawing, tape and archival RUN pieces dipped in glitter

The Cooking Kit, 2016
Cardboard box, plastic bag, notebook, organic egg recipe and paint

Being a Nurse Kit, 2015
Cardboard boxes with wood blocks, popsicle sticks, drawings, photographs, fabricated insect wings and nurse costume

GALLERY FOUR

Queens and Kings and Working Class Heroes, 2015
Continuous screenings Saturdays 22 & 29 Jun, 6,13 & 27 Jul, 3 & 24 Aug

All works courtesy the artist, Bridget Donahue, New York and Modern Art, London

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