



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**LEADAPRON**

8445 Melrose Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90069  
t. 323.782.1888  
f. 323.782.1883  
www.leadapron.net  
info@leadapron.net

**Taj Forer: Stone By Stone**

Curated by Jonathan Brown  
6 April – 19 May 2012  
Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday 10 to 7pm | Saturday 12 to 5pm

LEADAPRON is pleased to present *Taj Forer: Stone by Stone*, an installation of photographs and objects. Forer's masterful and poetic exploration of the materials that make our world is more than an ode, but a cry of the wild to add to the folklore of where we are today as a species. Reconnecting us with the magic of our past and a premonition of our abuse of power, Forer's synesthetic approach to storytelling lures us back, beyond the gloss and gimmickry of the artifact of culture to regions of our pre-verbal brain and yet fast forwards us to the present reminding us of our duty and responsibility to mother earth.

Taj Forer is a photographic artist, publisher and educator. He received his MFA in Photography from UNC-Chapel Hill (where he is currently a Lecturer in the Department of Art) and his BA from Sarah Lawrence College. He is a Cofounder of Daylight, the celebrated international photography publisher. Forer is the author of two books of his own photography, *Stone by Stone* (Kehrer Verlag, 2011, Heidelberg, Germany) and *Threefold Sun* (Charta Editions, 2007, Milano, Italy). His photographs have been exhibited in museums and galleries, around the world, with notable solo shows at Yossi Milo (New York, NY) and SENDA (Barcelona, Spain). His work can be found in private and public collections throughout the United States and Europe including those of The J. Paul Getty Museum (Los Angeles, CA), The North Carolina Museum of Art (Raleigh, NC), The Sir Elton John Collection (London, UK), The Mint Museum of Art (Charlotte, NC) and The Taubman Museum of Art (Roanoke, VA).

LEADAPRON is a fine art gallery and rare art / photography bookstore founded by Jonathan Brown. Recent notable exhibitions have included James Lee Byars: Letters, Books, Multiples and Ephemera; David Levinthal: Toyland and Farrah Karapetian: Accessory to Protest.

[continued on page 2]

Jonathan Brown felt his poem *Tendrils* captures in words what Taj Forer expresses in images.

### **Tendrils**

2011

Horn, bone, shell, stone  
What's left behind  
That we have known  
And objects to explain  
Plucked from a salva  
A tray with things

Once I felled a cactus like a man  
Pinned a skull to a wall  
Saw as an imageless thought  
A photograph in black and white  
With colors bled  
The muted scream I felt  
Imagined moss covered rocks  
Disguised as animal pelts  
Flax spun into a linen sheet  
The seed of sexual heat  
And held soft flesh  
In Beauty's mirror

An oyster  
Sounds more than taste  
A moan  
Sights more than sounds  
A tuft  
Touch more than sights  
A pine needle whip  
An iron maiden  
Smell more than touch  
A stable of horses, then a whinnie  
That swirl of dirt into a cloud  
Like a congress of instinct  
Like  
Stained feathers

The annals of the mind  
All marked in wooden boxes and glass jars  
The stench of deep time  
Stuffed animals, pinned insects, what we find  
In dust filled halls  
Can not compare  
To  
The savage cry and fluid dreams  
Of things in flight or in a sprint  
Muscles and gears, frailty and fears  
Who we really are

Spilling laughter on the hour  
Our buzzing nerves  
The sweet drug  
Air filled with gin  
What we do  
And where we've been

Till we expire  
Our lips  
Sucking a stone  
Silk clinging a nipple the way wet silk will  
Dampened by fright  
Why we go on  
Walkabouts and smoke signals  
Stamps and footprints  
Fossils and bones  
Marks of an hour spent aboard  
The empty bottle or condom or tin can  
Skin we used  
Air we mixed  
While we picked up sticks and pretended  
The heap we join  
That we share  
The solace that we are together  
As plumes of one stained feather