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TIMO FAHLER (b.1977, USA)

Timo Fahler's work explores the ideas of use and reuse through casting and manipulating found objects and combining them with relics that relate to his personal experiences and events. While waste recycling has become a distinct part of the North American cultural capital, in Central and South America the concepts of use and reuse are exercised as ethos; walls are comprised of mud and plastic bottles, old bicycles are transformed into washing machines and knife sharpeners, even shards of broken glass find use as security devices atop privacy fences.

The son of a Mexican mother and a German-American father, Fahler's chicano heritage is of deep significance to his practice, informing the consistent material (and immaterial) investigation within his work. Fahler has spent the last decade exploring his origins by traveling, living and working throughout the southern Mexican basin. During these times, Fahler has become aware of the creative capacity inherent in cultures and societies that use and reuse. He translates these ideas into works by collecting items deemed disposable and/or recyclable (scrap metals, fabrics, pieces of Styrofoam packing) and reconfiguring them into formalist objects in which the items are divorced from their original purpose. By restructuring these objects in a manner that indicates or points to function or meaning and that remains abstract in form, he evokes a bricoleurian practice evident in Mexican culture, yet representative of a multi-cultural aesthetic, communicating with the senses physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Timo Fahler was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1977 and lives and works in Los Angeles. Recent exhibitions include *forward*, ltd Los Angeles and *A most imperfect understanding, A most slanted manner*, LAXART, Los Angeles, CA. His collaboration with Rafa Esparza at Club Pro Los Angeles, titled *In*, received critical acclaim and their primary work from the exhibition has been brought in for a special installation at Art Contemporary Los Angeles.