

Nina Canell

→ Ground floor / First floor

- 7 *Mid-Sentence*, 2014, Cable, concrete, steel, 117×13×18 cm
- 8 *Untied*, 2014, Cable, concrete, steel, stone, 30×46×101 cm
- 62 *Interiors (Condensed)*, 2013, Glass, congealed air, 11×176×156 cm
- 63 *Nostalgia in New Car*, 2014, Ceramic cartridges, "Nostalgia" scent, "New Car" scent, plexiglass, 13×45×32 cm

In her sculptures, Nina Canell often works with incorporeal materials such as force fields, physical forces and also substances that are beyond perception but that fundamentally shape our environment. In her work *Interiors (Condensed)*, which is highly reduced in terms of both colours and components, she gives air a paradoxically corporeal presence. Alongside the glass that separates the congealed air from the atmosphere, a second, homely inner space is marked by the carpet. However, given the exhibition space in which it is located, the compressed air also alludes to the general air circulation, which itself is both intimately bound up with the viewer's body and functions as a transmission medium, for example for the relentless flows of data in our electromagnetic culture.

In her new work, *Nostalgia in New Car*, Canell examines the relationship between physical and symbolic processes by following the logic of scent. The two cartridges contain fragrances developed by a scent laboratory for marketing purposes, themed "Nostalgia" and "New Car". Here the association innate in the title alludes to the symbolic ability of scent (and thus its medium, air) to evoke something that isn't there and thus to be both present and absent at the same time. The volatile organic compounds that vaporise from the materials inside a new car, producing the particular smell, have long been considered potentially harmful. However, in linking scent to a specific representation, the imitation of this chemical reaction, most importantly, makes the production of wishes visible. This possibility of instrumentalizing air also underlies the increasing use of scents in rooms and objects, designed to evoke an immediate naturalness of things.

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