

RENIEL DEL ROSARIO AND ANNIE DUNCAN *DD's Hardware & More*

MAY 16 - AUGUST 17, 2024

Opening Reception: MAY 16, 6 - 9 pm

DD'S HARDWARE AND MORE OPENS AT BRYANT AND THIRD

SAN FRANCISCO—*DD's Hardware & More*, the highly-anticipated hardware store collaboration of artists Annie Duncan and Reniel Del Rosario, opens on May 16th at the corner of Bryant and Third Street. Despite the recent instability of San Francisco-based business ventures, the entrepreneurs have banded together to offer durable, high-quality ceramic hardware in the city's vacated downtown core. As with Ace, Cole's, and other beloved local hardware franchises, *DD's Hardware & More* recognizes that the best hardware stores are one-stop shops for almost any community need. Basing their inventory and aesthetics on the ever-changing landscape of shop windows in the Bay Area, Duncan and Del Rosario offer both hardware staples (no pun intended) and more niche products often found in these potpourris inventories. Their sculptural selections will adapt to the times—anything it takes to survive in the Bay Area.

RISKY BUSINESS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Many naysayers will bet against a new ceramic hardware business in downtown San Francisco, citing the city's slow economic recovery following the pandemic. But San Francisco has always been a boom-and-bust town. Financial highs and lows drove the Gold Rush and made space for the countercultural movements of the 1960s. When rents fell at the end of the 20th century, tech startups swooped in and created the dot-com bubble of the 1990s, which burst in March, 2000—24 years ago!

Annie Duncan and Reniel Del Rosario are no strangers to the Bay Area's boom-and-bust economic cycles, having witnessed several during their decades living and working in Northern California's financial center. Both artists focus their crafts on commodities and the economic, societal, and personal values these objects hold. Firing anachronistic sculptures that tie the past to the present through nostalgia, the pair offer *DD's* as a memorial to and reimagining of the bygone shopfronts of the 1990s and early 2000s.

DD'S HAS YOU COVERED!

The shelves of *DD's Hardware & More* are chock-full of the best ceramic tools money can buy. From a bulking pink hammer the size of a human torso to a heaving ceramic pick-axe that could crack with even the lightest use, *DD's* covers all your ceramic tool needs and imaginative desires. No doubt this vast coverage is due to each owner's prolific output. A one-man mass producer, Del Rosario churns out truckloads of ceramics daily, producing messy, immediate objects on the fly. Slapping together

GALLERY 16

501 Third Street, San Francisco, CA // (415) 626-7495

recycled clay with expired glazes, this artist never knows what will emerge from his kiln. By entering these useless objects into market systems, Del Rosario satirizes the small business owner's American Dream of building an empire and making a fortune. While their edges may be smoother, Duncan's objects are equally devoid of function and packed with criticism. By blowing up small, pink "women's tools," the artist pushes consumers to realize that gender is a construct and femininity another capitalist marketing scheme. While big box stores scale down special "lady tools" for women's delicate, fragile hands, Duncan scales them up—the worst hammer ever is now 5 ft long. Using humor and satire to challenge the value, function, and role of (art) objects in our daily lives, Duncan and Del Rosario welcome you with open arms to *DD's Hardware & More*.

Join us on Thursday, May 16th from 6–9 pm at 501 Third Street for the grand opening. The store will be open through the summer, with many anticipated changes and upgrades! For more information, email offhours.sf@gmail.com.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

Reniel Del Rosario (b. Iba, Philippines) is an artist who primarily uses ceramics, quantity, and satire to discuss themes of commodification and value. His projects range from interactive mimics of consumer establishments, reimaginings of artifacts, and imperfect copies of already-existing objects. He holds a BA in Art Practice from the University of California at Berkeley. He is a 2019 recipient of the Center for Craft's Windgate-Lamar fellowship, a 2022 SFMOMA Artists Soapbox Derby racer, and has been featured in writings such as ARTFORUM and Bon Appetit Mag. His work has been exhibited internationally through traditional and alternative venues such as West Coast Craft, Meta Open Arts, the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, Catharine Clark Gallery, other places Art Fair, Load Na Dito, Praise Shadows Art Gallery, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Jane Lombard Gallery, and simply on the public sidewalk.

Annie Duncan (b. 1997, San Francisco, California) makes paintings and ceramic sculptures that explore femininity, symbolism, and art historical references. Leaning into her affinity for collecting, sorting, and obsessing over objects, her work finds humor, heartbreak, joy, and meaning in the jumbled world we inhabit. She received a BA from Vassar College in 2019 and an MFA from California College of the Arts in 2023. Annie was a featured artist with Plunge Towels. She has shown her work in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Miami, and London.

Off Hours is a nomadic curatorial project led by Katherine Jemima Hamilton, Shaelyn Hanes, and Ebti. Together, they present artist-driven exhibitions that result from dialogue developed during studio visits, ongoing conversation, and collaborative writing practices. Off Hours supports and spotlights emerging Bay Area artists through thoughtful curation, programming, and writing.