

ARTFORUM

Lisa Young

CUE ART FOUNDATION
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Marshaling the standard tools of the contemporary post-Conceptual artist—video, photography, print, and, of course, the Web—Lisa Young teases out hidden connections between the quotidian and the sublime via a series of meditative exercises in visual repetition. Describing her project in terms more evocative of curatorial than artistic practice (“A key activity in all my work is collecting, analyzing, and repositioning image and text,” she writes), Young brings a facility with organizational systems to bear on highly disparate source material: In this show, curated by the editors of *Cabinet* magazine, she draws on everything from spectator sports to snack foods in pursuit of the everyday ineffable.

In a pair of videos, *Practice*, 2007, and *Drives*, 2008, it is golf that provides Young with the framework on which to hang her ideas. In the former, a lone player goes through the motions to perfect his putt; in the latter, we see nothing but balls in flight, plucked from television coverage of a tournament. Both sequences break the rules of sport as entertainment but, in omitting expected context, hint at infinite potential woven into the fabric of both the routine and the spectacular. In *Fortune Hunting*, 2008, Young gathers an impressive array of cookie fortunes, deconstructs their ever-optimistic wording, and arranges them into an interactive online archive of shared hopes and dreams. Charting these pronouncements in a labyrinthine wall drawing, she again arrives at a narrative of limitless promise carried by the most prosaic (and perishable) of vehicles.

— *Michael Wilson*



Lisa Young, *Practice*, 2007, still from a color video, 25 minutes.

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