

Charlotta Hauksdottir, Photo Gallery, Oakland, DOMESTIC- Elizabeth Bernstein, Charlotta Hauksdottir, Victoria Mara Heilweil, Kija Lucas, Mary Parisi, Curated by Victoria Mara Heilweil.

Charlotta exhibited 3 photographs of domesticity. They are approximately 20x24, color, in white frames, without mats. Each is a domestic scene in one location with multiple exposures of the family members semi-transparently carrying on household activities. All three appear to be affluent mostly white urban families. The homes appear compact and not overly large. The domestic activities and people appear tranquil.

Of the three images I am most struck by the one in which the mother is kneeling on the floor interacting with (her?) child.

The artist's statement refers to the images reporting the mundane activities that make up life. True, but they reinforce what we should all remember about photographs – that is – each image frames only a tiny portion of what was visible and represents only a fraction of a second of time. These images depict real places and real people performing real acts, yet they have been constructed by the artists using the artifice of multiple exposures.

We envision our lives as a uniform continuum of actions and movements. These images compress human activity into simulation and parallel actions all happening at once. They tickle our sense of time.

