

ARTFORUM

Previews: Shannon Ebner at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

By Jacob Proctor

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MIAMI

SHANNON EBNER

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART ·

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Curated by Alex Gartenfeld · For more

than a decade, Shannon Ebner has explored the shifting relationship between topographic and typographic form. Found patterns become accidental glyphs or pictographic systems, highlighting the simultaneity of seeing and reading, while homemade alphabets fashioned of cinder blocks or cardboard and wood probe the line separating sculpture from the written word. Ebner's exhibition at the ICA will focus on the ongoing series "Black Box Collision A," begun in 2013—thirty-one large-scale photographs, each depicting the letter A—shown all together here for the first time. Culled primarily from advertising and commercial signage, the isolated letterforms acquire formal and affective charges quite independent of their original communicative efficacy. Also on view will be a new video edited in collaboration with Erika Vogt and with a score by Alex Waterman, new cinder-block sculptures, and the artist's book *Auto Body Collision* (2015). The accompanying catalogue will feature texts by the curator, Bruce Hainley, Laura Hoptman, and Eileen Myles.

—Jacob Proctor