

MATTHEW MARKS GALLERY

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ART

Trisha Donnelly

True to form, Donnelly offers no explanation for the six enigmatic pieces in her new show—some poetry needs no translation. One untitled sculpture, which is made of two pieces of Rosa Portagallo marble with jagged ends, rests on the concrete floor like an artifact of an as yet undiscovered ancient civilization. Another smooth, carved slab of stone stands upright, like a modular panel of uncertain function. Maybe Donnelly’s sculptures replicate components of prosaic objects, so familiar they’ve become invisible. A ghostly projection of pistonlike forms, the result of three overlapping videos, achieves a similarly uncanny effect. This eventless film, just one minute and one second in length, feels as mysterious and as consequential as a communiqué from outer space.

—*Johanna Fateman*