

Video Walkthrough | New Mineral Collective: *The Pleasure Report*

Introducing their newly commissioned exhibition, *The Pleasure Report*, Tanya Busse and Emilija Škarnulytė discuss the possibilities of counter prospecting within their collaborative practice, New Mineral Collective.

Watch the walkthrough on Mercer Union's website:

<https://www.mercerunion.org/exhibitions/the-pleasure-report>

Tanya Busse: We work with concepts of counter prospecting to infiltrate and subvert extractive industries with more reparative and imaginative futures.

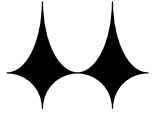
Emilija Škarnulytė: We are New Mineral Collective, world's largest and least productive mining company. We met during our studies up in Northern Norway where we started working together and looking into geopolitics of landscape surrounding us, perforated landscape, and inverted scars. Counter prospecting is a quite effective tool that can keep plots of land passive and protected.

Tanya Busse: We are very curious about kind of the processes behind acquiring a license, so a prospector's license, which means that you can claim a plot of land and that plot of land is leased to you. And these are usually the first steps leading to the opening of a mine. And part of that sort of requirement on behalf of having the responsibility of a license is to also follow up 3 years later with a report. And so this exhibition actually is kind of like we're laying bear our report and so we thought it could be interesting to combine a monograph, like our artistic practice from the past 10 years with a report and what does that look like? We have this juxtaposition between body and land that we kind of go in between, but also that both the body and the land are very often like under threat by larger forces.

Emilija Škarnulytė: Where we found our common interest and passions were deep time, geology, often invisible hidden forces of different power structures, and dealing with landscape scars left by industry.

Tanya Busse: We work with something called geotrauma healing therapies and so we played with acupuncture of the earth, acupuncture of the body, the massaging of borders and I think that really comes across in the sound work that's here which is a 16-minute sonic piece. There's a lot happening in the sound when it comes to working with binaural sounds, working with pink noise, as well as the voice over that is doing a guided sound therapy the way that, you know, the wellness industry works with sound.

Emilija Škarnulytė: We really worked on the colour and cancelling out the corners of the room, so it's like more an altered, inner subterranean, subconscious space.



Tanya Busse: We tried to make the palette kind of fleshy and pleasurable, so thinking what is kind of like the opposite of colours that you would normally see within industry. We also like are very interested in looking into industrial processes that are used, like the scale of mining the dimensions of it. And so we decided to work with sand casting and actually the producers that we worked with very often work within the industry and so we thought it would be interesting to like, work with that process but then try and subvert it or like twist it in our own way playing a bit with negative space and positive space, Invisible, visible, absent, present. And so this exhibition kind of unfolds our corporate tool box in different forms.

Emilija Škarnulytė: New Mineral Collective is a platform where we try to invite different voices, lawyers, poets, activists. So this platform is open. We try to mostly raise the questions, to reflect what could be the alternative solutions, alternative values.