

# Moving In

February 8 – March 8, 2019

Rami George  
Nova Göthlin  
Mengda Zhang

Curated by Lauren Downing and Tyler Shine  
Incubation Series XIII, hosted by FJORD

FJORD  
Crane Arts LLC  
1400 N. American St. #105  
Philadelphia, PA 19122



Mengda Zhang, Video still from *Back Fish*, 2018

**Opening Reception:** 6–9pm Friday, February 8, 2019

**Second Thursday Reception:** 6–9pm Thursday, February 14, 2019

**Gallery Hours:** Saturdays 2–6pm and by appointment

*Moving In* presents opportunities to not only dwell upon, but within, another's experience. The artists in this exhibition explore the mutability of space and time by inhabiting alternative perspectives, both physically and psychically, to account for the overlooked or misunderstood. In recognizing their unique positions, each artist examines the various ways we occupy space as active participants, whether through displacement or cohabitation, to consider the inherent repercussions.

A feeling of place or home becomes a persistent point of contention, as these artists also consider who and what has existed before and amongst us. Memories help navigate this volatility and are held in structures, photographs, gestures, and other commonplace items. And through their remnants and accumulations, they often conjure a vicarious sense of identity. These artists take pause to reflect upon how their interactions with these vestiges and stand-ins question the familiar and bring notice to the routine motions of everyday life.

Borrowing different voices, **Rami George** pieces together parts of stories embedded in vernacular structures and photographs to uncover a shared, but unknown history. And through her photographs and video work, **Nova Göthlin** taps into storytelling, sparse settings, and rural life to inhabit the psychological and physical spaces that accompany the sensation of solitude. **Mengda Zhang** considers the impact of various kinds of developments, ranging from cultured microbes, surging populations, and degenerative illness to reflect upon the migration of her own family.

*Moving In* is the thirteenth exhibition in the Incubation Series, a student-led initiative that fosters new ways of making, exhibiting, and seeing art. Founded in 2015, the Series is a collaboration between students in the Fine Arts and History of Art graduate programs at the University of Pennsylvania. The Series showcases the work of MFA students in focused and conceptually rigorous exhibitions, while also offering an opportunity for art history graduate students to expand their curatorial practices. Each academic year, the Incubation Series team produces several exhibitions throughout Philadelphia's thriving art scene, allowing participants to build gallery relationships, engage with peers outside of campus, and test exhibition strategies.

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**Information**

FJORD: <https://www.fjordspace.com/about>

Incubation Series: <http://www.theincubationseries.com/>

