

ANDREW KREPS GALLERY

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Kevin Jerome Everson

Century

April 13 – May 13, 2017

535 W 22nd Street

Opening Thursday, April 13, 6-8pm

Andrew Kreps Gallery is pleased to announce *Century*, an exhibition of films by Kevin Jerome Everson (b. 1965, Mansfield, OH.)

Since the late 90s, Everson has created an extensive body of work that conflates archival, documentary and scripted footage, blurring the distinctions between what is real, and what is simulated. His films, which often depict the everyday lives of working-class African Americans, display a concise focus on singular moments of life's cycles, from celebrations to scenes of labor. Subjected to various formalist techniques, including extreme duration and editing, as well as the constraints of film itself, Everson works to obstruct the narratives he presents, moving his films from figuration or representation to more abstract entities.

Three films, *Regal* (2015), *Century* (2012), and *Chevelle* (2011), are taken from an ongoing series, depicting automobiles found in junkyards, the specific make, and model of each car chosen as they were manufactured in part in Everson's hometown of Mansfield, Ohio. These defunct cars are filmed as they are crushed, twisted, and otherwise rendered unrecognizable - simultaneously suggesting new, sculptural forms, while completing the cycle of their existence.

Rough and Unequal, a pair of 16mm films from 2017, represents a departure as Everson turns his view outwards, beyond the everyday. Reflecting on the space where he lives and works, Everson filmed the waxing and waning of the moon from the observatory at the University of Virginia. Mirrored on opposite walls of the gallery, and enlarged far past the frame, the moon itself mutates to a meditative grayscale, cycling in and out of view.

Kevin Jerome Everson's films are included as part of the 2017 Whitney Biennial Film Program, with screenings on April 8-9, as well as the 2017 Cinema Program at Tate Modern, London. His work has exhibited internationally at film festivals including Sundance, New York, Toronto, Venice, Rotterdam, Berlin, Ann Arbor, Oberhausen; the 2008 and 2012 Whitney Biennial and 2013 Sharjah Biennial; Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH; Museum of Modern Art, New York; National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.; Centre Pompidou, Paris, and Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul.