

INSIDE OUT

An exhibition by the Push/Pull artist collective

There is a growing sense that opposing movements—one toward ideals of freedom, the other toward increasing restrictions—are approaching an inflection point. Social and economic classes are polarizing, public rhetoric doesn't reflect lived reality, and rapid technological change eases as much as it restrains. The collective feeling is that things have turned inside out.

In this exhibition, works from the Push/Pull collective explore where ideals of nature and community persist against the realities of decay and enclosure. Traditional landscapes and interiors give way to tensions between nature and built environments, in whose margins communities adapt and survive.

Our exhibition was postponed from its 2020 run because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Reflecting on the theme now, it seems eerily prescient and still relevant. The pandemic continues, and we are learning how deeply fractured our political environment has become (aided by increasing technocratization) as we reckon with its inequitable fallout.

—Helen Miller, exhibition curator and Push/Pull collective member