

## 100° City

**Erin Jane Nelson, Jason Benson, and Joel Dean**

April 17-May 9, 2015

Opening reception: Friday, April 17, 7-11pm

Pagan Lovesong ♦

What is the word for "brown foliage" in Greek ♦ Which daughter of king Sithon, in Thrace, falls in love with Demophon, keeper of water, on his return from Troy to Greece ♦ Which oil will be best for application to the skin as an emollient, and will traditionally be used by massage therapists to lubricate the skin during a massage session ♦ What promise will be made by Demophon to which daughter of king Sithon ♦ Will it be used as a wood conditioner of certain woodwind instruments, such as the oboe and clarinet ♦ On what day will Demophon return from Athens and marry which daughter of King Sithon ♦ Is it a very wet promise ♦ Will this rumour run dry ♦ Is the wild species toxic ♦ Is the domesticated species wholesome ♦ Is it, are we a docile specie ♦ Or does it, do we imitate the nature of an occupied nest on behalf of pure will ♦ Does Demophon disappear ♦ Will there be no rain to wash away her tears ♦ Will there be no rain ♦ Will the town take to emptying the underground supply ♦ Will sinkholes form ♦ Will they begin to swallow acres at a time ♦ Will the Air grow thick ♦ Will the Air grow thicker and thicker ♦ Is brown the new green ♦ Will that word go extinct ♦ Will its absence spawn new translations of the language from which it grew ♦ Will oil be used to cover this body, the yard, the plants to keep in moisture ♦ One day, will

everything fry in the noon-time ♦ Will the salt of sweat season this yard ♦ What became of Phyllis ♦ Did Phyllis hang herself ♦ Will she metamorphose into an almond-tree ♦ What became of Phyllis ♦ Is the almond a symbol of watchfulness and hope in the Hebrew Bible ♦ Do they call us ground lickers ♦ Do we speak in an Alien tongue ♦ When the errant, remorseful Demophon returns to find Phyllis as a leafless, flowerless tree, will he embrace the tree's thirsty body ♦ Will the tree suddenly burst into bloom ♦ Will it be a demonstration of love not conquered by death, just as almond not conquered by drought ♦

-Erin Jane Nelson and Joel Dean

**Erin Jane Nelson** lives and works in Oakland. She studied at The Cooper Union School of Art and The Malmö Art Academy. Recently, her work has been shown at Document (Chicago), OMMU (Greece), Interstate (Brooklyn), and Jancar Jones Gallery (Los Angeles). Her published projects include Lollie, Penny, Poems (Publication Studio Oakland), and Broon (Gottlund Verlag). She has a forthcoming solo exhibition with Hester (New York City).

**Jason Benson** lives and works in Oakland. He recently exhibited work at Violet's Cafe (Brooklyn), Bureau (NYC), TG (Nottingham), Lodos (Mexico City), Queer Thoughts (Chicago), and Bodega (Philadelphia). He has a forthcoming solo exhibition at Bodega (NYC).

**Joel Dean** lives and works in New York City. He is founder and director of Nobody Likes Being Told They're Making Themselves Sick, a program of anti-art eco-exhibitions. Recent shows include Mini Bar Artists Space (Stockholm), Mission Comics (San Francisco), Bureau (New York), Lodos (Mexico City) and Bodega

(Philadelphia). He has a forthcoming project with  
Princess in New York.

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