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LaunchPad

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Abbie Read: *Coast***

August 31 – October 2, 2022

**First Friday Reception:** September 2, 5 – 8:30pm

**Artist's Reception:** Saturday, September 17, 5 – 8pm

**Gallery Hours:**

Wednesday – Sunday, 11am – 5pm & by appointment



Read's exhibition, *Coast*, comprises a collection of diminutive altered found objects and constructions created from found objects. The result is simultaneously an installation and a display of specimens reminiscent of a natural history exhibit. An homage to the artist's strong connection to a particular place, *Coast* emerged from a lifetime of collecting debris along the shoreline of the small island in Maine where Read's family has had a home since the 1950's. Detritus from the shoreline, much of which consists of remnants of the fishing industry, has provided an ongoing inspiration for her artistic practice, finding its way into both two- and three- dimensional work. The exhibition also features a 100-page artist book of drawings.

Abbie Read grew up making art on the campus of Phillips Academy, in Andover, Massachusetts. She attended Oberlin College, and later the University of Michigan School of Art where she earned an MFA in Mixed Media. She works in painting, printmaking, book arts, collage, and sculpture. Read's work has been featured at venues throughout Michigan and New England including the Portland Museum of Art, the Portland Public Library, Lesley University, Catamount Center for the Arts in Vermont, Wellesley College, as well as at numerous galleries in Maine. Internationally she has participated in the Art In Embassies Program with exhibitions in Doha, Qatar and currently in Hong Kong. Read lives and works in Appleton, Maine.

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