San Francisco
CRITICS’ PICKS

Maria Antelman
TART
47 Lusk Street
June 15–July 13

In TART’s clean, well-lit space, a narrow wooden ladder leads to a loft dubbed “Scotland’s Secret Bunker,” which features video and media work on a rolling basis. In the current installment, Maria Antelman unravels before the viewer a loose collection of musings and images in an atmospheric video propelled by ideas of flight and the malleability of space and time. Following in the footsteps of nineteenth-century Parisian photographer Nadar, who took the world’s first aerial photos from a hot-air balloon, Antelman uses the seamless, dreamlike movement of aircrafts as a metaphor for time travel. As images of flying machines and those who fly them are intertwined with bird’s-eye views of salt mines, suburban housing developments, and reservoirs, the fusion of camera and aircraft seems to meld with visions generated by our own fantasies and speculations.

In the gallery’s main space, TART uses the detritus from the opening of Antelman’s show, a “happening” held as homage to the recently deceased Allan Kaprow. “It’s Happening” presents video footage from this celebration, offering a sort of real-life loop that returns time and again to the space’s near but invisible past.

—Sari Carel