

DOLLS HOUSE GALLERY presents  
MICRONATION  
a solo exhibition of selected works by EMILY LAZERWITZ

PRIVATE VIEW  
Tuesday, March 15th  
5:30 PM



By definition, a MICRONATION is an entity, often very very very small, that claims to be an independent nation or state but is not officially recognized by world governments or major international organizations. Despite this, the people within the nation persist their independence and often form fully functioning governments complete with passports, currency, laws, and officials even though none of it is considered 'real' outside their supposed boundary lines, which themselves are also imaginary. Ergo, the MICRONATION, in and of itself, represents an ideal that is too good to be true, that cannot possibly exist, and yet it does through the shared belief of the people who keep it going. The MICRONATION's very nature creates and questions a specific paradox: Can something that isn't real exist?

Clearly, in this case, the belief in the system is enough for its existence. Perhaps, it is the scale that allows this all to happen. By being so ridiculously small, suspension of disbelief takes over from practicality and, in some cases, even reality. Scale might be limited, but other limitations fall by the wayside as ideals, hopes, and dreams take over. It no longer matters that it is not real; the MICRONATION does not need to be real, and in fact it would be ruined if it were. Instead it exists as a tiny escape from an oppressive reality that is both separate from and yet still contained and even considered within that very same reality.

EMILY LAZERWITZ is a second year MFA student in Fine Art Media whose research focuses on mythological systems of belief within religious and government structures.

**The DOLLS HOUSE GALLERY is located in the Slade School of Fine Art's Foyer opposite the Materials Museum, run by Edward Allington and Michiko Oki.**  
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