ART WORLD

At Postmasters, Richard Ibghy and Marilou Lemmens Forge Small Art from Giant Ideas

Blake Gopnik, Wednesday, February 10, 2016

THE DAILY PIC (#1487): These two tiny sculptures are by the Canadian team of Richard Ibghy and Marilou Lemmens, in a group show of unusually small works that curator Paulina Bębecka has put together for Postmasters gallery in New York. The pieces by Ibghy and Lemmens are from a series called “All the Kings Horsemen”; they use bits of thread and stick and wire to give material form to theorems and formulas from economics.

By barely being there, these sculptures get at the inherent immateriality of mathematical and statistical calculations. In our current economic and social climate, however, they also speak of the fragile grasp on reality that economics seem to have, spewing will-o’ the wisp ideas and ideals that never seem to pan out in practice. Bębecka said that these pieces are what got her launched into theme of her show, and that means that her whole project has a political dimension: We need smallness, right now, as a moral counterweight to the oversized forces we are all up against.

(Courtesy Postmasters, NY)