

# GLADSTONE GALLERY

Andrew Goldstein, "The Unmissable Highlights of Christine Macel's 2017 Venice Biennale,"  
*Artnet News*, May, 10 2017

**artnet**® news

Exhibitions

## The Unmissable Highlights of Christine Macel's 2017 Venice Biennale

"Viva Arte Viva" eschews epic overtures for intimate detail, but its most powerful moments linger in the memory.

Andrew Goldstein, May 10, 2017

**RACHEL ROSE**  
*Lake Valley, 2016*



One of the greatest crowd-pleasers of "Arte Viva Arte" is this animated film by the young American art star Rachel Rose, which tells the story of a woman and (especially) her sweet little dog, who seem to share a kind of spiritual sympathy that flows across their sleeping and waking lives. Not much happens in the film—the woman goes to work, the dog runs out into the back yard and encounters a threatening fox, a gentle hedgehog, and other animals—but what does happen transpires in scenes of extraordinary, transfixing, psychedelic beauty. When the woman sleeps, she floats out of her body; when the dog ventures into the yard, she sees the natural world unfold in

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ravishing swaths of shape and color. (It may remind some of *The Book of Kells*, or the work of Hayao Miyazaki.) This is a film about ontology, imaging the different ways that we animals experience the world, and at eight-and-a-half-minutes long, it's a must-see in its entirety for any visitor to the Giardini.

