



19 March 2019 — *Peter Schjeldahl*

Charles LeDray

Freeman

DOWNTOWN The bite-size world of LeDray's miniature sculptures is the real world scaled to thought—which, of course, must be compact enough to fit into our crowded skulls. His subjects (clothes, a catcher's mitt, a hotel key, tools, a soiled sidewalk, a beat-up pegboard) are infused with needs, desires, histories, and dreams. Beyond the irresistible "wow" factor of LeDray's workaholic perfectionism, there's a profound delight in grasping the quiddity of a specific mop or a lonesome cinder block. Even when the works are fanciful (as when four garments cling, with hints of desperation, to the corners of a block of wood), they have the obduracy of righteous Minimalism, defying associations with the cute or the twee. In this show, LeDray inverts his usual trope, in meticulous ink drawings, by inflating antique bookplates until they're nearly a foot high. Magical.—*P.S. (Through April 6.)*