

## **ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES**

# IRL: Investigating Reality

A Group Show Curated by Indira Cesarine

## THE UNTITLED SPACE

45 Lispenard Street, NYC

June 6 - 21, 2019



#### **CURATORIAL STATEMENT**

"We live in a culture so immersed in social media, it is often impossible to distinguish reality from the edited, retouched, fantasy lives led online. As we become more dependent on the digital world, we equally crave authenticity and the truth. "IRL" which is an abbreviation of the term "in real life" is a phrase that emerged in the early days of the internet when people saw a need to distinguish things that were presented online versus the realities of offline or the "real world". The expression "irl" has become increasingly relevant as apps and edited realities created for likes shift the paradigm towards unrealistic and often unobtainable virtual worlds that defy reality with perfect holidays, perfect bodies, cyber romances, and artificial followers. I felt it was time to get back to "IRL" and invited an international selection of emerging and established contemporary artists of all genders and generations to "investigate reality." The exhibit explores this narrative with works that are often very intimate, works charged with self-interrogation, vignettes of reality, explorations of realism, revelations of private lives, as well as works full of satire and humor that address the intersection of the digital and physical worlds. What does "IRL" or "in real life" mean to you? As we become more connected are we becoming more disconnected? As our computer monitors and smartphones take over our lives, we find ourselves longing for nature, for tangible connections, and genuine experiences. This exhibit asks the viewer to explore their own reality, navigate through fact and fantasy, take a deeper look at the effects of technology on contemporary culture, as well as reflect on what "authenticity" means to them. "- Curator Indira Cesarine

## **EXHIBITING ARTISTS**

Aela Labbe, Alexandra Rubinstein, Alison Jackson, Alison Stinely, Anne Barlinckhoff, Annika Connor, Becky Flanders, Buket Savci, Camilla Marie Dahl, Cara Lien, Chelsie Kirkey, Colin Radcliffe, Daniela Kovacic, Dani Lessnau, Dara Vandor, Dolly Faibyshev, Elisa Garcia de la Huerta, Erin Victoria Axtell, Fahren Feingold, Giulia Livi, Grace Graupe Pillard, Gray Swartzel, Indira Cesarine, Jave Yoshimoto, Jeanette Hayes, Jennifer Dwyer, Jessica Frances Gregoire Lancaster, Karen Bystedt, Karen Mainenti, Katie Commodore, Katy Itter, Leah Schrager, Linda Friedman Schmidt, Logan White, Mairi-Luise Tabbakh, Mary Henderson, Mary Tooley Parker, Michael Liani, Miss Meatface, Nichole Washington, Reisha Perlmutter, Robin Tewes, Sydney Kleinrock, Tara Lewis, and Tracy Kerdman.

## Aëla Labbe

Originally from Saint-Nolff in the Bretagne region of north-west France, Aëla Labbé moved to the Netherlands to study contemporary dance at the Amsterdam School of Arts before turning her sensitive and poetic eye towards an exploration of photography. Whilst continuing in her dual roles as photographer and dancer, Aëla Labbé currently lives in Nantes. Her work has appeared in leading independent magazines around the world and been widely exhibited internationally; appearing in numerous exhibitions in France, Italy, Spain, UK, and the USA. "The essence of Aëla Labbé's photography defies easy interpretation or analysis. Averted gazes and ambiguous gestures of partially obscured characters serve as powerful metaphors for the evasive nature of the unconscious. Ethereal images that probe the consciousness are imbued with the burnished hues of half-remembered dreams yet shimmer with a child-like nostalgia. Somber mise-en-scène that approach film noir in their cinematic quality is often reminiscent of the Kaidanshu or Kowai Hanashi of Japanese movies. Protagonists in a seemingly enchanted and occasionally possessed world find themselves entwined in landscapes into which the sun permeates only with a vaporous and indeterminate glow. As with the illogical narrative of dreams, events seem to unfold unconstrained by conventional boundaries of time and place; a nostalgic glimpse of the



past flows through the photographer's imagined present. Ultimately, Aëla Labbé's work represents a somnambulistic journey into realms of mysticism and ritual that only the initiated can ever hope to fully understand."

## Alexandra Rubinstein

Alexandra Rubinstein's paintings center on the female experience and explore how society and culture have shaped gender and intimacy. Alexandra Rubinstein is a conceptual artist whose practice focuses on deconstructing patriarchy by making the personal political. She came to the United States from Russia when she was nine and spent the magical years of puberty under the oppression of both cultures. Over time, she was able to reconcile the weight placed on her by society and has continued to explore themes of culture, gender, and body in her work. Rubinstein's precisely rendered, vivid paintings use provocative subject matter and humor to engage the viewer while contemplating the deeper issues addressed in her work. She studied painting and photography at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and has spent the last seven years in New York. Her work has been shown in New York City as well as internationally, and was recently featured in The Untitled Space's "EDEN" special project at SPRING/BREAK Art Show.

## Alison Jackson

Alison Jackson is a contemporary, BAFTA award artist who explores the cult of celebrity – an extraordinary phenomenon created by the media, publicity industries and the public figures themselves. Her work sits squarely in the middle of the current fake news, alternative facts or news debates. Jackson makes convincingly realistic work about celebrities doing things in private using cleverly styled lookalikes. Likeness becomes real and fantasy touches on the believable. She creates scenarios we have all imagined but never seen before. Jackson's work has been widely exhibited in museums, galleries and in public collections across the world, including Pompidou Centre, La Louvre, The Frances Foundation, Paris; Tate Modern, The Tate Britain, The Hayward Gallery, The National Portrait Gallery, London; Liverpool Biennial; San Francisco MoMA; Musée de L'Elysee, Lausanne; International Center of Photography, New York, among many others. Jackson's artwork has additionally been featured in The Times, Vanity Fair, The Guardian, Artnet as well as countless magazines and newspapers globally.

## **Alison Stinely**

Alison Stinely was born and raised in Erie, Pennsylvania. She received her BFA from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and her MFA from Indiana University, Bloomington. She is an Assistant Professor of Painting at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. Alison's work has been in many juried and invitational exhibits nationally. She has also received many awards and honors and is a two-time winner of the prestigious Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant. Her solo exhibition "Nocturnal Emissions" was featured on HiFructose.com and her work "Rib Meat" was featured in Juxtapoz Magazine. Alison's work is in many private collections both domestically and abroad.

## **Anne Barlinckhoff**

Anne Barlinckhoff is an artist whose work is a study of the human body and our relationships. With her remarkable eye for detail and evoking emotions for trust, close to the skin of her subjects are an exploration of the sculptural bodies turned into shapes and stories, forms and contours that transform the ordinary into a new kind of intimacy. Sometimes even deliberately placed out of context, and thus urge the viewer to recalibrate the visual and cultural assumptions we live by. The power she feels within her body and soul is infinite and that power is strengthened when shared with others. Her work



has been exhibited in solo shows in South Africa, where she is based, as well as in the Netherlands. She has additionally been featured in group shows at The Untitled Space in NYC; SCOPE Miami, 2018; Landskrona Foto Festival, Landskrona, Sweden; The Ladies Network, Tiny Tailor Gallery, Sydney, Australia and Photo Vogue Festival, Milan, Italy.

#### **Annika Connor**

Annika Connor is a modern-day Renaissance woman. Primarily known as a Contemporary Romantic painter, her work uses strong symbolism and passionate imagery to ignite the imagination. Connor received a BFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Since then she has worked professionally as a painter in New York, London, and Stockholm while participating in numerous national and international exhibitions. Annika is Swedish-American and currently resides in Brooklyn where she maintains an active studio. In addition to her work in the studio, Connor is also a SAGAFTRA actress. In the studio or on set, Annika Connor employs a playful attitude and an optimistic eye to see the beauty and humor around her. Her work was recently exhibited in "The Female Gaze on Love, Lust & Longing" at Superfine Art Fair presented by The Untitled Space.

## **Becky Flanders**

Becky Flanders primarily photographic work focuses on the mythic feminine, transcendent and ecstatic states, sex positivity, and the relationship between subjects and states. She is an artist and entrepreneur based in Tampa, FL. Born in the Washington DC area in 1980, she received her BS in Artificial Life and the Digital Arts from UMBC in 2002, and her MFA in Photography from USF in 2009. She is a leading member of the photography collective Fountain of Pythons and a member of the all-female curatorial collective CUNSTHAUS. Her work has been exhibited from Miami to Puerto Rico, Switzerland, Japan, and Australia, and has recently been accepted into the permanent collection of the Kinsey Institute for research in sex.

## **Buket Savci**

Buket Savci was born in Istanbul, Turkey. Previously a landscape architect she started studying painting in Istanbul. Just out of curiosity and thirst for new experiences she immigrated to New York in 2006. After settling down she received her BFA from Pratt Institute in 2010 and MFA from NY Academy of Art in 2012. Her work has been exhibited internationally and nationally at venues such as Flowers Gallery, RJD Gallery, Kustera Projects, Dacia Gallery, Art Hamptons, Sotheby's, Governors Island Art Fair in New York, Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, WI, Masur Museum of Art in Monroe, LA, Biennale Arcipelago Mediterraneo, Palermo, Italy, Kamakura Art Center, Tokyo, Japan and Contemporary Istanbul Art Fair in Istanbul, Turkey. She had her first solo show Playaround at Olcay Art in Istanbul in 2014, and two-person exhibition Zwei Positionen at Kunstverein in Ludwigsburg Museum, Germany in 2018. She has won the Grand Prize for Dave Bown Projects' semiannual competition in 2016 juried by Helga Christoffersen (Assistant Curator of New Museum, NY), and recently Jonathan LeVine Projects' 2nd Delusional Art Competition People's Choice Award. Some of the publications she is featured are; The Figure: Painting, Drawing, and Sculpture published by Skira Rizzoli, Istanbul Codex: Contemporary Artists from Turkey by Imago Mundi, Who Is Afraid of Feminism exhibition catalog juried by Catherine Morris, Poets and Artists Magazine, and International Painting Annual 7 by Manifest Gallery Publications. In addition to her studio practice, she has taught printmaking as a postgraduate teaching assistant at Long Island University and NY Academy of Art. She worked with Jeff Koons, Liu Bolin, and Zaria Forman as their painting assistants. Recently she has attended a 3-month artist residency at Pilotenkueche International Art Program in Leipzig, Germany.

## Camilla Marie Dahl



Camilla Marie Dahl is an oil painter, bronze sculptor, and printmaker based in Brooklyn. She received a bachelor degree in Fine Art from Skidmore College in 2016 and is currently pursuing her MFA degree at the New York Academy of Art. Camilla has received grants and awards including La Ceiba Grafica Award, a printmaking residency that will begin this June. In 2016, she received the SEE Beyond Award, a grant which allowed her to complete her first life-size figurative bronze sculpture, and the Heinz Award for Outstanding Senior Thesis, which she exhibited at the Tang Teaching Museum. Camilla has exhibited regionally at galleries including The Five Points Gallery in Torrington, CT, Morrison Gallery in Kent, CT, BJ Spoke Gallery in Huntington, NY, and The Untitled Space in New York, NY.

#### Cara Lien

Cara Lien (b. 1990, Drammen) works with themes of female sexuality and cultural voyeurism through painting and digital performance. From 2014 - 2017 Lien attended Bergen Academy for Art and Design obtaining her BFA. She currently goes to Oslo National Academy of the Arts where she is working towards her MFA.

## **Chelsie Kirkey**

Chelsie Kirkey (b. 1987) is an American artist living and working in Brooklyn, NY. Figurative and made with careful composition, her paintings, often self-portraits, invite the viewer to witness captured, intimate moments of home life and offer personal reflections of both body and spirit. Employing photography as a reference for many of her paintings, her process to create is thought-out and meticulous. Recurring motifs in her work include floral and woven patterns, fine details, and rich colors that evoke a sense of romanticism and time and place. Chelsie has shown in a number of cities including New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Seattle, and Oslo.

## Colin Radcliffe

Colin J. Radcliffe is a ceramic sculptor based in Brooklyn, NY. Radcliffe's work focuses on the pursuit of love and intimacy obstructed by his chronically diseased body, the dynamics of dating in queer digital space, and ultimately queer belonging. Recent press includes an interview with YNGSPC, Canvas and Crumpets, Arcade Project Zine, and GUTS. Radcliffe has attended the Wassaic Project residency in 2016 and 2017 and has exhibited work in group shows at the Wassaic Project, Flux Factory, Untitled Space, Field Projects, Good Children Gallery, and Satellite Art Show. Radcliffe had a solo in October 2017 at Temporary Storage Gallery in Brooklyn, NY and most recently a solo in April 2019 at Equity Gallery in NY, NY. Radcliffe graduated from Bard College in 2016 with a B.A. in Visual Arts.

#### **Daniela Kovacic**

Daniela Kovačić Muzio (1983) is a figurative painter born and raised in the Chilean Patagonia and is currently working in Chicago. Her work explores different topics around self-identity, largely through the depiction of women and children. Daniela has received prestigious awards and scholarships such as Fulbright, Becas Chile, Robert Gamblin Painting Award, NYAA scholarships, and residencies. She was a finalist for the 13th & 14th International ARC Salon and was nominated one of the ten finalists for The Bennett Prize 2019. Her work has been exhibited and published internationally. She has a master's degree from the New York Academy of Art and a bachelor's degree from Universidad Finis Terrae, Santiago, Chile.

## Dani Lessnau

Dani Lessnau is a visual artist living in New York City. Greatly influenced by her mother's profession as a psychologist, her chronic health issues, and her dedicated yoga and meditation



practice; she has a perpetual curiosity for how we relate to our bodies and others, the flux of these relations, and all that escapes definition, existing only in experience. She studied at the International Center of Photography, New York and is presently pursuing her MFA at Bard College. Recent group exhibitions include Our Souls to Keep at Field Projects, NYC; Figure Fuggenti at Acta International, Rome; Divina Comedia at XXXI Festival International of Sexual Diversity at Museo Universitario del Chopo, Mexico City; Notas al Futuro at Galerié Breve, Mexico City; and Hidden Narratives at Rita K. Hillman Gallery, New York.

## **Dara Vandor**

Dara Vandor received a BA from McGill in Art History. Her work is held in public and private collections in North America and Europe and has been exhibited in London, New York City, Los Angeles, Miami, Toronto, and Montreal. She has been featured by Harper's Bazaar, the Telegraph, Interior Hong Kong, Yes & No, The Handbook, Sharp and Ask Men. Vandor uses a pen to create her detailed and lifelike pieces. The medium itself seems ordinary: it produces small, intimate gestures, being a tool most of us use often, for daily tasks. Yet when tens of thousands of tiny strokes are marshaled en masse, they begin to assume a life of their own. Her work was featured in "(Hotel) XX" exhibition presented by The Untitled Space at SPRING/BREAK Art Show 2018.

## **Dolly Faibyshev**

Dolly Faibyshev is an American born to Russian immigrants, the vicarious fantasy of America became ingrained in her from an early age. She experienced the relationship of her family to their adopted homeland until she learned to define those experiences in pictures. She is a New York based self-taught photographer exploring the meaning of the American dream in all of its forms. In addition to her fine art practice, she has photographed for The New York Times, The New Yorker, TIME, Le Monde, Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair, and other publications. Exhibitions include Superfine! Art Fair, Untitled Art Space in New York, White Columns New York, Slow Culture Los Angeles, John Doe Gallery Brooklyn, and The Museum of the City of New York. As the value in the photographed found moment diminishes with the rise and popularity of Instagram and staged or manipulated imagery, her work seeks to define and simultaneously question our definitions of reality and authenticity, the theater of the real and the construction that we think of as "real".

## Elisa Garcia de la Huerta

Elisa Garcia de la Huerta was born in 1983 in Santiago, Chile. She is an interdisciplinary artist and holistic Ayurveda practitioner. She received her BFA at Universidad Finis Terrae, Chile in 2006 and her MFA Fine Arts at the School of Visual Arts in New York in 2011. She is co-leader of Go! Push Pops, a queer transnational feminist performance art collective. Elisa has shown her art and performances at the Brooklyn Museum, Bronx Museum, Whitney Museum, The Untitled Space, C24 Gallery, Momenta Art and Soho20 Gallery in New York, the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Museo Historico Militar and Galeria Artespacio in Santiago, Chile and the Select Art Fair at Miami Basel, among others. She was nominated for the Rema Hort Mann Visual Arts Grant and has obtained a Brooklyn Arts Council Grant and the Culture Push Fellowship for Utopian Practice for her work with Go! Push Pops. Her work has been featured in Dazed and Confused, Huffington Post, Japan Times, ArtSlant, Hyperalleraic, Paper Magazine, Interview Magazine, and many more publications. Garcia has been an Artist-in-Residence at Alexandra Arts in Manchester, England, Soho20 in New York City, The Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, Maryland as well as in Havana, Cuba in 2003 and London, England in 2007. She performed in Tokyo, Japan with Go! Push Pops as part of a US/Japan exchange fellowship in 2015. Her work has been included in group exhibitions at The Untitled Space including "IN THE RAW: The Female Gaze on The Nude",



"SHE INSPIRES", "SECRET GARDEN", "EDEN", and "ONE YEAR OF RESISTANCE"

#### **Erin Victoria Axtell**

Erin Victoria Axtell is a multifaceted artist, born in Montana and currently residing in New York City. Her media consists of abstract and figurative painting, mixed media collage, animation, poetry, and photography. Her work wrestles with double-standards in society, questioning the female body and images of perfection, the ego and its expression in politics and social media, and our disconnect from the environment. Axtell's work calls bullshit on ideas and systems that distract us from what she believes is most important, a critical awareness of our impact on the planet as constant consumers. She subverts images and language that have conditioned us into ignorance of our surroundings. She refuses to engage with social media as a quiet experiment to protest our dependency on these platforms for validation and success in almost every industry.

## Fahren Feingold

Watercolor artist Fahren Feingold imparts an ethereal quality to her unique works depicting the female form. Her watercolors featuring bold feminine nudes reference imagery from early 20th century French erotica, vintage American magazines from the 70s and 80s, and today's Internet girls. The Los Angeles native moved to New York at the age of seventeen to study at the Parsons School of Design. After earning her BFA between Parsons and Glasgow School of Art, she worked as a fashion designer for top brands including Ralph Lauren, Nicole Miller, and J.Crew, among others. In 2016, her dreamy watercolors caught the eye of the legendary Nick Knight, who commissioned her to illustrate Paris Fashion Week for SHOWStudio. Between 2016 and 2017, her work has been featured in numerous international exhibitions including "Moving Kate," curated by Nick Knight for SHOWStudio in London and The Mass in Tokyo; "The Vulgar" at The Barbican in London, curated by Judith Clark and Adam Phillips; "Red Hot Wicked" at Studio C Gallery in Los Angeles; as well as The Untitled Space group shows "UPRISE / ANGRY WOMEN" and "SECRET GARDEN" curated by Indira Cesarine and "LIFEFORCE" curated by Kelsey and Remy Bennett. Touted as "a trailblazing artist on a meteoric rise" by Voque, her watercolors have steadily gained recognition from collectors and critics alike for their sensitive, dreamlike colors, graceful brush, and rendition of the female nude. Through her erotic depictions, Feingold gives new voices to women of the past and present while exploring larger notions of female constructs in contemporary society. She had a solo show curated by Indira Cesarine at The Untitled Space in September of 2017, as well as a solo show in collaboration with brand Fleur du Mal in 2018. Her work was also recently featured in the "EDEN" Exhibition presented by The Untitled Space at SPING/BREAK Art Show.

#### Giulia Livi

Giulia Piera Livi (b.1992) is an interdisciplinary artist from Philadelphia, now living and working in Baltimore City. She earned a B.F.A. from Penn State University and an M.F.A. from the Mount Royal School at the Maryland Institute College of Art. Her work in painting and installation is an investigation of interior space and design, focusing on abstracting reality. Her immersive rooms employ color and form to work out ideas of multifunctional art objects. Livi has exhibited both nationally and internationally with recent solo shows at VAE Gallery (Raleigh, NC), Arlington Arts Center (Arlington, VA), and School 33 Art Center (Baltimore, MD). She is a 2018 Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award Winner, a 2017 Bethesda Trawick Young Artist Award Winner, and a 2017 and 2018 Janet & Walter Sondheim Prize Semi-Finalist. Livi is currently an adjunct professor at MICA.

## **Grace Graupe Pillard**

Grace Graupe Pillard has exhibited her artwork throughout the USA with one-person exhibitions



in Hartford, CT., Jackson MS., Chicago Ill., Newark, NJ, in addition in NYC at The Proposition, Bernice Steinbaum, Donahue/Sosinski and Hal Bromm as well as The Frist Center in Nashville, TN, The NJ State Museum and the NJ Center for Visual Arts. In 2015 and 2006, she had solo exhibits at Carl Hammer Gallery in Chicago; other solo exhibitions were at Payne Gallery at Moravian College, PA., Aljira Gallery, Newark, NJ., Rupert Ravens Contemporary in Newark, NJ, and Rider University, NJ. Graupe Pillard has exhibited her work at the MOMA and MOMA PS1, as has been the recipient of many grants including three from The NJ State Council on the Arts, as well as from The National Endowment for the Arts. She has received Public Art commissions from Shearson Lehman /American Express, AT&T, KPMG, Wonder Woman Wall at The Port Authority Bus Terminal, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ and the City of Orange, NJ. Commissions from NJ Transit for the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Transit System at Garfield Station in Jersey City, and 2nd Street Station in Hoboken, and Aberdeen-Matawan Station in Aberdeen, NJ. Her work has been written about in The Village Voice, The NY Times, Art News, The Star-Ledger, Newsday, Flash Art, Artforum, Art in America, Arts, and Tema Celeste.

## **Gray Swartzel**

Gray Swartzel is a New York based artist who uses lens-based media & installation to navigate lived performativity, intersectional identities, and the real vs. the ideal as they interrogate their queer body in relation to the social construction of motherhood. Working specifically with their biological mother in the American South, Swartzel constructs new realities that toy with connectedness and isolation as well as the poetics of mortality. They hold a BFA and a Minor in Women's and Gender Studies from UNC-Chapel Hill, an MFA from Carnegie Mellon University, and have shown at The CICA Museum in South Korea, The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, The Museum of Human Achievement in Austin, The Archaeological Museum of Messenia in Greece, The Buffalo International Film Festival, and others.

## **Indira Cesarine**

Indira Cesarine is a multimedia artist who works with photography, video, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. A graduate of Columbia University with a triple major in Art History, French and Women's Studies, she additionally studied at Parson's School of Design, International Center of Photography, School of Visual Arts, Art Students League and the New York Academy of Art. Cesarine had her first solo show at the age of sixteen at the Paul Mellon Arts Center. Her work as an artist has been featured internationally at many art galleries, museums and festivals, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Mattatuck Museum, CICA Museum, San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, Getty Images Gallery, French Embassy Cultural Center, Art Basel Miami, Cannes Film Festival and the International Festival Photo Mode to name a few. In 2014, her public art sculpture, "The Egg of Light" was exhibited at Rockefeller Center as part of the Fabergé Big Egg Hunt. Her work was auctioned at Sotheby's New York for the annual "Take Home A Nude" art benefits in 2017 and 2018, at Artwalk NY 2018, and was featured at SCOPE Art Basel (Switzerland) and SCOPE Miami in 2018 as well as at SPRING/BREAK Art Show in 2018 and 2019. She has also been selected to represent the State of New York for HERFLAG2020, a nationwide initiative which commemorates 100 years of Women's Suffrage, with a female artist representing each of the 36 states that ratified the 19th Amendment.

## Jave Yoshimoto

Jave Yoshimoto is an artist and educator of multi-cultural background. He was born in Japan to Chinese parents and immigrated to California at a young age. Yoshimoto has since resided in various parts of the U.S., which influenced his artistic practice. He believes in creating works that are socially conscious and true to his authentic self. Yoshimoto holds B.A. in studio art from University of California Santa Barbara, M.A. in art therapy at the School of the Art Institute of



Chicago, and M.F.A. in painting at Syracuse University. As an artist, he has conducted research on contemporary humanitarian issues. He has visited Japan and Nepal after the devastating earthquakes and worked in Greece to assist with the refugee crisis. He been an artist-in-residence nationally and internationally and is currently completing his second year as a fellow at Tulsa Artist Fellowship. Yoshimoto has been featured in multiple publications such as Guernica magazine, Chicago Tribune, Huffington Post, New American Paintings, among others. He received a letter of recognition from the United Nations and has exhibited his works internationally and across thirty states nationwide. Yoshimoto currently works as Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, teaching foundations courses.

## Jeanette Hayes

Jeanette Hayes (b. 1988) is a painter/multimedia artist based out of NYC. Originally from Chicago, Hayes moved to NYC and received a BFA from Pratt Institute. Her work addresses the traditional preservation of non-traditional technological imagery through painting, video, digital manipulation, and Internet collages. Hayes' interests include cultural phenomena and the confrontation of conventionality and subject matter. Hayes has made animated GIFs and videos for Proenza Schouler, CHANEL, Alexander Wang, and Opening Ceremony and has done an artist sponsorship with BlackBerry. i-D Magazine put her on their 30 under 30 list, Complex Magazine chose her as an artist to watch, The New York Times featured her in their first "Up Next" column, Interview magazine did an artist feature, and most recently, TimeOut New York chose Hayes as one of the "5 most important new artists in New York City." Exhibitions of her work at The Untitled Space include "SECRET GARDEN: The Female Gaze on Erotica" as well as "EDEN" at Spring/Break Art Show 2019. Jeanette Hayes currently lives and works in New York City.

## **Jennifer Dwyer**

Jen Dwyer grew up in the Bay Area, California. Dwyer attended the University of Washington in Seattle, WA, and received dual degrees in Ceramics and Environmental Science. She has been awarded numerous grants, scholarships, and fellowships, including the Pottery Center in Jingdezhen, China; Salem Art Works, in upstate New York; Trestle Gallery Residency program in Brooklyn; and Kala Arts Center in Berkeley, CA. Prior to starting graduate school, Dwyer was based in Brooklyn. She is currently completing her master's degree program at the University of Notre Dame, where she received a Full Fellowship and will graduate in Spring 2019. Inspired by the Bay Area clay scene at a young age, Dwyer has worked with ceramics for over a decade. Her current practice is centered around ceramics, with elements of painting and video. She has received numerous interviews and publications, including Create Magazine, Vogue, Hyperallergic, Newsweek, Vice, and I-D magazine, among others. Dwyer is one of the featured artists in the book The New Age of Ceramics published by Hannah Stouffer. Dwyer's work centers on social and ecological concerns of our age.

## Jessica Frances Gregoire Lancaster

Jessica Frances Grégoire Lancaster was born and raised in the Detroit Metropolitan area and eastern Canada. She has studied in Paris, Washington DC, and New York City. She received her BFA in Fine Art Photography from the Corcoran College of Art + Design (2013) and holds an MFA in Studio Art from New York University (2018). She has participated in multiple group exhibitions throughout the United States. Her work was most recently shown in the inaugural XL Catlin Art Prize Traveling Exhibition (2018) hosted by the San Francisco Institute of Art, Linda Warren Projects (Chicago, IL), and the New York Academy of Art, juried by curators from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum, MoMA, and Gagosian Gallery. Her work has appeared in the Washington Post and she has served as a contributor to The Photographer's Playbook, edited by Jason Fulford and Gregory Halpern, published by the Aperture Foundation. Jessica



lives and works in New York City.

## Karen Bystedt

Karen Bystedt is an internationally acclaimed, highly prolific photographer and mixed media artist currently based in Los Angeles. She has published four photography books including Not Just Another Pretty Face (NAL, 1983), The New Breed (HOLT, 1989), Before They Were Famous (GPG, 1994) and They Dared To Dream (OSLO PROD, 1998). She has photographed film stars and rock and roll icons such as Slash, Johnny Depp, Brad Pitt, Drew Barrymore Eddie Van Halen, and Jon Bon Jovi. Her work is exhibited in museums across the globe including The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburg, The Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art in Oslo, and The Armenian Museum of Modern Art., and her images have appeared in dozens of publications including Italian Vogue, Vanity Fair, Connoisseur Magazine, The Peninsula Magazine, Fabrik Magazine, InStyle and People. Her work has exhibited and sold at Art Basel at Scope, Red Dot, Art Houston, LA Art Fair, Art Hamptons, and at Port Authority in NYC. Bystedt continues to expand her mixed media approach, fusing photography and street art in her work as an individual, whilst forging and supporting artistic communities across the world, discovering and providing platforms for emerging talent, celebrating innovation, eclecticism, and above all – the expression of the self.

## Karen Mainenti

Karen Mainenti has had solo exhibitions of her work at SPRING/BREAK Art Show, The Bard Graduate Center Library, The Society for Domestic Museology and Chashama. Select group exhibitions include the DUMBO Arts Festival, La Bodega Gallery, Trestle Gallery, Guest Spot @ The Reinstitute in Baltimore, Maryland and the Cornell Museum of Art in Delray Beach, Florida. Her artwork has received coverage in Artnews, Artnet News, Hyperallergic, Gothamist, Brooklyn Magazine, Gallery Gurls, and the Believer Magazine, among others. In 2018 she was an Artist-in-Residence at the Bard Graduate Center Library. She is currently at work preparing for a solo show at Ground Floor Gallery in Brooklyn, NY, (forthcoming in September 2019). Mainenti lives and works in New York City and teaches at The City College of New York.

## **Katie Commodore**

Katie Commodore is an interdisciplinary artist; whose work looks at people's expression of sexuality. In 2000 Commodore received her BFA in illustration from Maryland Institute College of Art. In 2004 she obtained her MFA in printmaking from Rhode Island School of Design. She has had solo exhibitions at Baby Grand, NYC, and SHAG, Brooklyn. Selected group show credits include (Hotel)XX, Spring/Break, with The Untitled Space, StitchFetish 6, The Hive Gallery, and Facing the Walls, The VETs Gallery. Over the past few years, her artwork has concentrated on creating intimate portraits of her friends, often focusing on how they express their sexuality.

#### Kat Toronto aka Miss Meatface

Kat Toronto, AKA "Miss Meatface", is a multidisciplinary artist hailing from the San Francisco Bay Area who works in performance-based photography. She uses her often unsettling and surreal images to explore cultural ideals of feminine beauty and the objectification of women in a feminist society by toying with the push and pull of dominance and submission, as well as the acts of revealing and concealing. Diagnosed with a rare form of cervical cancer in 2010 that eventually led to a full hysterectomy in 2013, Kat uses the name "Miss Meatface" as an artistic and spiritual catalyst to delve into a complex set of questions about where she now fits into society as a woman. Kat executes her work between London, England, and San Francisco, California. Her artwork was featured in group shows "SECRET GARDEN", "SHE INSPIRES", "UPRISE/ANGRY WOMEN", as well as "(HOTEL) XX" and "EDEN" curated by Indira Cesarine for SPRING/BREAK Art Show. Her work has been featured in Vogue Italia, Vice, Refinery



29, as well as numerous other publications.

## **Katy Itter**

Katy Itter is an artist living and working in the Hudson Valley. She grew up in Seattle in the '90s surrounded by the constant misty melancholia the city is most famous for. These moods would later influence her outlook and artwork. From an early age, Katy felt the power that artwork had for self-expression and exploration. She received her bachelors in arts from the University of Washington where she majored in Interdisciplinary Visual Arts. This was a new program, and it fit her well as her artwork tends to blur the lines between digital and traditional craft mediums. After college, Katy continued to work in the contemporary arts as a gallery attendant at the Henry Art Gallery. As a contemporary museum, most of the work was highly conceptual and not always pretty to look at. Her time spent in the galleries had a heavy influence on her work and taught her that the value of artwork is not dictated by its aesthetics but the deeper meanings it communicates to us. In 2013, she moved to New York where she joined the MFA Sculpture program at SUNY New Paltz. The experience of arad school allowed Katy to synthesize a body of work around issues that were personal yet universal. Struggling with body acceptance and eating disorders has been a significant part of her life, and it has come through as an obsession with an unattainable perfection in her work. In the environment of an academic art program like New Paltz's sculpture department, Katy was able to analyze the things that she learned during her time at the Henry and create work that confronts societal expectations of beauty. Ideas of obsession and repetition resurfaced after grad school when she worked as a display artist at Anthropologie. A lot of the work at the store was made from cheap everyday materials found in hardware stores. This afforded her the opportunity to experiment with alternative materials as well as practice repetitive processes in art making. Today, Katy works as a cast and mold maker in a costume shop in Cornwall, NY, where she makes weapons and armor for television, film and theme parks. She is also an adjunct professor of studio art at several schools in Hudson Valley.

## **Leah Schrager**

Leah Schrager is an artist who works between the web and New York City. She graduated in 2015 with an MFA in Fine Art from Parsons, The New School. In her work, she photographs, appears in, augments and markets her own image. She is interested in the line, movement, and biography of the female body. In 2010, she founded a new form of therapy as Sarah White, The Naked Therapist. She also co-curated the female-positive "BodyAnxiety.com" exhibition, which was featured in the April 2015 issue of ArtForum. Her recent project, "Ona," an artist and musician, evolved out of the question of celebrity as art practice. Her first EP, "Sex Rock," was released in late February along with a retrospective of her work at Superchief Gallery in Soho, New York. Exhibits of Schrager's work at The Untitled Space include the group shows "Self Reflection", "In The Raw: The Female Gaze On The Nude", "(HOTEL) XX" and "EDEN" at SPRING/BREAK ART SHOW.

#### Linda Friedman Schmidt

Linda Friedman Schmidt is a self-taught artist known for her emotional narrative portraits and figurative artworks created from discarded clothing. She was born stateless in a German displaced person camp, the first child of Holocaust survivors. She depicts her own reality informed, shaped, and colored by the trauma woven through her conscious and unconscious mind. Heavily layered in both material and metaphor, Linda's conceptual art is centered on medium, process, and their associations and relationships. She uses the frayed fabric of society to explore mending and its implications for societal change and peacebuilding. She dismantles the world, and pieces it together differently, creates unity from diversity, metaphorically repairs and refashions a world torn apart. Her artwork has been exhibited extensively, selected for



numerous top quality invitational and juried group shows of contemporary fine art by prestigious curators both in the USA and abroad. Recent exhibitions include the 2019 Every Woman Biennial in New York City, Fahrenheit 213 at Arc Gallery San Francisco, and Women Empowered: Fashions from the Frontline at Cornell University. Recent press includes Maake Magazine and Hyperallergic. She is the subject of a short documentary released in 2018 "Under Her Skin: Linda Friedman Schmidt."

## **Logan White**

Photographer Logan White was raised in the Deep South by her classical concert pianist mother. White imbues her work with the ambiance of her heritage - the magnetism of the haunted South and the emotional intensity of the Romantic period. She obtained her BFA in Photography from Rhode Island School of Design in 2007. Her work has been seen in various publications such as Nylon, ID, Vogue Italia, Elle UK, and Dazed and Confused. Her work has been shown in Paris, Los Angeles, New York City, Miami, Milan, Sydney and, Providence.

#### Mairi-Luise Tabbakh

Mairi-Luise Tabbakh's erotic photographic work captures the raw essence of woman as subject and explores the sensuality of human relationships. The objectification of her subject is all the more intriguing given her own femininity, adding a layer of mystery to her work. Her photographs have been featured in various publications as well as group exhibitions in both London and Paris and can be found within a number of notable private art collections. Tabbakh's London debut was "Humans Relations," a two-person exhibition alongside Fenton Bailey that presented a monochromatic theme of erotic photography. Sascha Bailey curated the show at Imitate Modern and it launched to an impressive turnout of celebrities, collectors and press, cementing its success with industry heavyweight Damien Hirst purchasing pieces for his own collection. Marco Pierre White, Lord Bath and Derek Chisora are also collectors of Tabbakh's photography. Tabbakh leaves no question to the passion and depth of emotion in her imagery. She has an innate ability to turn her interaction with and fixation on the human subject into a beautiful art form. Recent exhibitions her work has been featured in include the group shows "(HOTEL) XX" at SPRING/BREAK Art Show and "SECRET GARDEN: The Female Gaze on Erotica" at The Untitled Space.

## **Mary Henderson**

Mary Henderson received her BA in Fine Arts from Amherst College in Amherst, MA (1995), and her MFA in Painting from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA (2001). Her work was included in "Mirror Mirror: Contemporary Portraits and the Fugitive Self," at The Museum of Art, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, "As Others See Us" at the Brattleboro Museum, Brattleboro, VT, "The Future is Now," at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art, Wilmington, DE and has participated in numerous exhibitions in New York, Chicago, Miami and other cities. Mary Henderson lives and works in Philadelphia, PA.

## **Mary Tooley Parker**

After a career in dance, and then in art production at Vanity Fair and GQ magazines, Mary Tooley Parker left New York City for a more rural environment. She then began pursuing an interest in textiles of different forms, eventually leading her to the one indigenous American folk art of hooking "rugs." Her textile compositions have been exhibited from New York City to Vermont. She is a member of the National Association of Women Artists, and the Silvermine Guild of Artists. She was awarded a Fellowship by the New York Foundation for the Arts in 2015 and served as a panel juror for NYFA in 2018.



## Michael Liani

Michael Liani was born and raised in Israel. In 2010 he started a four-year program in Art and Photography at Minshar Academy for High Arts and graduated with honors. He further enrolled at the Open University and graduated with Dean's Honors with a B.A. in Social Studies and Humanities. In 2017 he graduated with honors the MFA program at Bezalel Academy of Arts, Jerusalem. Tel- Aviv allowed him to grow into a small microcosmos that combines different religions, cultures and so much sexuality. Minshar school gave him the platform to express his conflicts and influences in an aesthetic manner. His graduation exhibition named "KULU" (translated from Moroccan: everyone) is a hybridization experience between Oriental and western views, which reside indefinitely in Israel, religion and sexuality, movement and silence, all this through the eyes of video and stills. His project received excellent reviews and coverage in the main art newspaper in Israel, "Gallery –Ha'aretz". His camera is a tool, acting as an aesthetic weapon that allows him to shoot without killing, but still wounding. The act of healing that wound brings understanding and awareness.

## **Nichole Washington**

Nichole Washington is a visual artist working and living in New York. In 2016 she graduated from School of Visual Arts where she earned a masters degree in digital photography. Since earning her degree Nichole has been creating mixed media works exploring woman empowerment and identity. Nichole's work is featured in the inaugural issue of MFON: Women Photographers of the African Diaspora. She has exhibited work in galleries around the United States including at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Nichole has led workshops at Lower East Side Girls Club and at 29Rooms as an Artist in Residence. Nichole creates superheroine characters that exist in a space where they are respected, loved and protected. She uses photography and paints to construct works that are colorful, bold and imaginative. Nichole's work is an exploration of feminine strength, identity, and spirituality. In her most recent works, Nichole creates unique symbols inspired by Egyptian hieroglyphs and Adinkra symbols. Nichole's strong use of design, layered with her symbols and expressive brush strokes create a multidimensional space that allows room for nuance and transformation. She hopes to persuade viewers to look beyond the surface and to have a transformational experience with the work. Her work has been featured in several group shows at The Untitled Space including "She Inspires" and "ONE YEAR OF RESISTANCE".

#### Reisha Perlmutter

Reisha Perlmutter was born in Naples, Florida in 1990. She received her BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2012. Between her undergraduate and graduate degrees, she attended residencies in Italy and France, focusing on traditional atelier studies. She completed her MFA from the New York Academy of Art with a concentration in figurative and anatomical painting. Her work is best known for representational imagery of women and water, where she explores the relationship between body and environment as well as perceptions of beauty. Her work is collected and shown internationally. She has participated in museum shows both in the United States and Europe, and her work has been auctioned off several times at Sotheby's. She continues to live and work in New York City.

#### **Robin Tewes**

Celebrated artist Robin Tewes was born in Queens New York in 1950. She received her BFA from Hunter College in 1978 and her MST from Pace University in 2012. She is the Recipient of many notable and prestigious awards, including the 2008 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Painting Award, the 2007 Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Award, and the 2004 and 1989 New York Foundation for the



Arts-Painting. Selected solo exhibitions include Wright Gallery, Adam Baumgold Gallery, Headbones Gallery, Klapper Hall Gallery, Bill Maynes Gallery, John Weber Gallery. Some group exhibitions include: at P.S. 1, P.S. 122 Painting Association, The Drawing Center, Aldridge Museum, Whitney Museum, Museum of Modern Art, Hunterdon Museum. Tewes is interested in how much a single narrative moment can tell us about ourselves. The walls or backgrounds of her paintings are minimal, but at a closer glance are covered with words and images scratched or painted on the surface. Her intention is that nothing is what it seems, especially at first glance. She wants my paintings to be accessible, thought-provoking, say something and to possibly make a difference. The personal reference of her work can be a universal experience.

## **Sydney Kleinrock**

Sydney Kleinrock is a painter and textile artist born in Long Island, New York. She received her Associates Degree from Fashion Institute of Technology, and she has recently graduated in December with a BFA from Hampshire College, studying visual arts and sustainability. She is currently an artist in resident at the Vermont Studio Center, focusing on paintings with an added element of embroidery. In her last year at school, she exhibited a gallery show of her thesis artwork which examined the role of clothing in everyday life as well as its larger, cross-cultural impact on the global environment through paintings on found textiles. Her art practice incorporates sustainable methods of making to explore themes of climate change, overconsumption, queerness, femininity, and identity. The work she makes uses painting, printmaking, and textile art, processes on/with found materials and secondhand fabrics.

#### **Tara Lewis**

Tara Lewis lives and works in New York City. She has created portraits since she was a little girl, sketching famous paintings or celebrity faces in magazines in the 1970s and '80s. Her love of fashion, portraiture, social psychology, and graphic design led her on a path of teaching combined with consistent art practice. Her work is in numerous private collections and has been exhibited at the Aspen Art Museum, The Untitled Space in Tribeca and New York Fashion Week at Spring Studios in collaboration with designer MILLY. Lewis is a direct descendant of Art Nouveau artist Alphonse Mucha, one of her primary influences, who also infused typefaces and cultural portraiture into his celebrated and pivotal compositions. For over decade, Lewis has served as Chair of the Department of Art at Phillips Exeter Academy and pursued her undergraduate art degree at the University of New Hampshire and graduate degree at Tufts University and The Museum School, Boston. As a multidisciplinary artist, Lewis primarily produces paintings and photographs that dive into youth culture anthropology with a pop twist. She creates large-scale oil portraits steered by text concepts. The printed words that appear in her works are the trampoline for portraits. The interaction of word & image is central to her work.

## Tracy Kerdman

Tracy Kerdman was born in Huntington, West Virginia. A city is now known as the heart of the opioid epidemic. At the age of five, she moved to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. She studied painting at the College of Charleston where she earned a BA in Studio Art. In 2010, Kerdman moved to New York to continue studying painting at the National Academy Museum and School, and MoMA, where she would take extensive lecture classes. Her paintings have been exhibited in Germany, Canada, New York and throughout the United States, from the Korean Cultural Center in Los Angeles to the Museum of Fine Arts in Tallahassee, Florida. She lives and paints in Hell's Kitchen NYC and in Saugerties, NY with her husband.