



The Untitled Space is pleased to present "TRUE STORIES" group show opening on April 9th and on view through May 27th, 2022. Curated by Indira Cesarine, the exhibition features over 30 contemporary artists whose work addresses storytelling through narrative painting, drawing, or portraiture.

"A picture is worth a thousand words." Storytelling through art is historically one of the oldest forms of communication dating back to early cave paintings thousands of years ago. Although once used as an essential tool due to the constraints of language and literacy, it has over time evolved into an art form exploring what it means to be human, allowing for a deeper understanding of our experiences, relationships, and selves. "TRUE STORIES" group show presents a diverse range of contemporary artists who navigate the complicated world we live in by sharing their stories. Whether based on real people and events or drawn from their imagination, each artist provides a window into their unique universe in order to elicit emotion and allow audiences to connect and engage. The artwork of "TRUE STORIES" addresses themes of public and private life, encounters, dreams, suspense and drama, the absurdities of life, lived experiences, traumatic moments, celebrations, memories, time, love, loss, and survival, while touching on notions of the eerie, the familiar, and the déjà vu. Through their depictions, the artists present complex narratives featuring characters and scenes that provoke our imagination, address our hopes, fears, and desires. They channel their abilities to give shape and character to stories that can be read across time, language, and cultures.





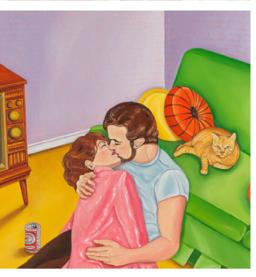












### **EXHIBITING ARTISTS**

Annie Brito Hodgin Kerry Lessard

Annika Connor Kestin Cornwall

Bartosz Beda Kristin O'Connor

Boris Torres Louise Campion

Bria Fernandes

Meegan Barnes

Danielle Muzina Mel Reese

Eva Redamonti

Faustine Badrichani

Michele Brody
Gabriel Zea

Michael Hubbard

Rebecca Bird

Grace Graupe Pillard

Robin Tewes Hannah Duggan

Ian Clyde Siobhan McBride

Indira Cesarine Sophia Oshodin

Jared Freschman Tabitha-ann Whitley

Katie Commodore Tracy Brown

Ken Mar Watson Mere

### **CURATORIAL STATEMENT**

"What is a 'true story'? The concept of truth revealed through a narrative be it art or otherwise is a concept that has always fascinated me. Stories are by nature colored by the person who shares them. Whether it be the aristos and rulers who relayed "reality" to the populace centuries ago or modern-day movies based on true events, often the stories we are presented with are significantly swayed by opinion, bias, or intended to influence the viewer. The artists featured in "TRUE STORIES" are not necessarily defined by being merely storytellers. Each in their own way through their works on canvas, paper, and panel, share their contemporary vision of the world we live in. They use narrative themes to address moments of the past, present or future as well as the characters that engage in those dialogues in order to confront the complexities and nuances of the complicated world we inhabit. Their works investigate our concept of reality and shared experience, providing insight into the human condition. They question our motivations, priorities, and obsessions with subtle details and emotional triggers. "TRUE STORIES" is made up of unique depictions of personalities and scenarios, observations of our culture, attitudes, and relationships, renditions of the mundane, bizarre, and fantastical. The world we live in has become increasingly complex, with the concepts of truth, right and wrong, reality and fiction, constantly thrown into question. Each detail, moment, and character we encounter becomes part of the greater puzzle of life. Somewhere in between the experiences we live and the stories we tell there is a notion of the truth and the desire to share it. What is your true story?" - Indira Cesarine

### ANNIE BRITO HODGIN

Annie Brito Hodgin (b. 1983) is a largely self-taught artist who paints figuratively in oils. She was born in Poughkeepsie, NY, and raised in the south. She now lives just outside Nashville in Hendersonville, TN. She has artwork in collections both nationally and internationally. Hodgin's paintings are often suggestive and rich in illusion. With thin layers and varied mark-making, the colors are vivid and the imagery bold. Her current work is a meditative exploration of trauma, ambiguity, culpability, absurdity, repression, and control. Hodgin considers her figures avatars for exploring these realities, and the tensions they create. Her loose symbolism is drawn from literary and mythical references, memories, and the subconscious.



### ANNIKA CONNOR

Annika Connor is an artist, activist, SAGAFTRA actor, and writer. A modern-day Renaissance woman, Connor is primarily known for her watercolor and oil paintings though she also writes screenplays, sketch comedy, and acts in film and t.v. These seemingly disparate mediums link in her imagination as one aspect of her studio life informs another. Connor's art uses strong symbolism and passionate imagery to ignite the imagination. As a vocal advocate for gender equality, her paintings explore topics ranging from political to explorations of beauty and nature. Her work often showcases the feminine aesthetic while portraying issues of female identity. In the studio, she uses precision, detail, and allegory as a hook to lure the viewer's eye while depicting imagery that is narrative and slightly mysterious. When writing she pulls heavily from her life as a painter and at times is inspired to base characters and situations on her real-life art world experiences.



# BARTOSZ BEDA

Bartosz Beda was born in Poland in 1984. He relocated to the UK in 2008 to study at the Manchester School of Art. After graduating in 2012 with an MA in Fine Art, Beda was selected for the 2012 Catlin Art Guide as the most promising emerging artist in the UK. Short-listed for the Title Art Prize, the Door Prize, and selected for The Saatchi New Sensations 2012, a group exhibition in London for the most exciting graduate students in the UK. He won the esteemed Towry Award for the Best of the North of England in 2012. Beda was awarded a six-month scholarship from Manchester Metropolitan University to attend the Academy of Fine Arts in Dresden, Germany in 2012/13, and received a fellowship from Fondazione per l'Arte, Rome, Italy in 2016. In 2018, Bartosz Beda was awarded a fellowship residency at Google, Center for the Arts in Reading, PA.

He has participated in group shows including at the Brownsville Museum, USA (2019), Hopkins Center for the Arts USA (2019) among many others internationally. Beda's works are in the public collection at Reading Public Museum, Brownsville Museum, Siena Art Institute, and Fondazione per l'Arte, as well as in private collections throughout Europe, the United States, South Africa, and Asia. Beda's art has been featured in The Independent, BuzzFeed, Daily News, and The Guardian. He now lives and works in the United States.



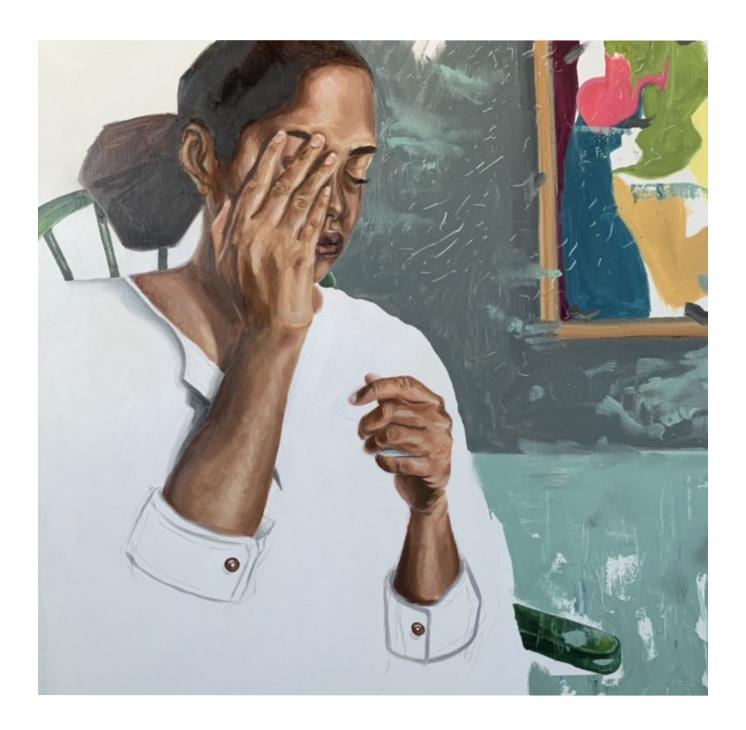
# **BORIS TORRES**

Boris Torres was born in Ecuador in 1976 and moved to Brooklyn as a child. His work explores the intersection of portraiture, queer culture, and sexuality from a Latin-American and immigrant perspective. A 2019 Leslie Lohman museum queer artist fellow, as well as a 2022 artist-in-residence at the Virginia Center for the creative arts, Torres's work can be found in the notable collections of Beth Rudin Dewoody and Amir Shariat. Torres is included in "Some People", a group portraiture show at Cheim & Read, along with work by Alice Neel, Alex Katz, among others.



### BRIA FERNANDEZ

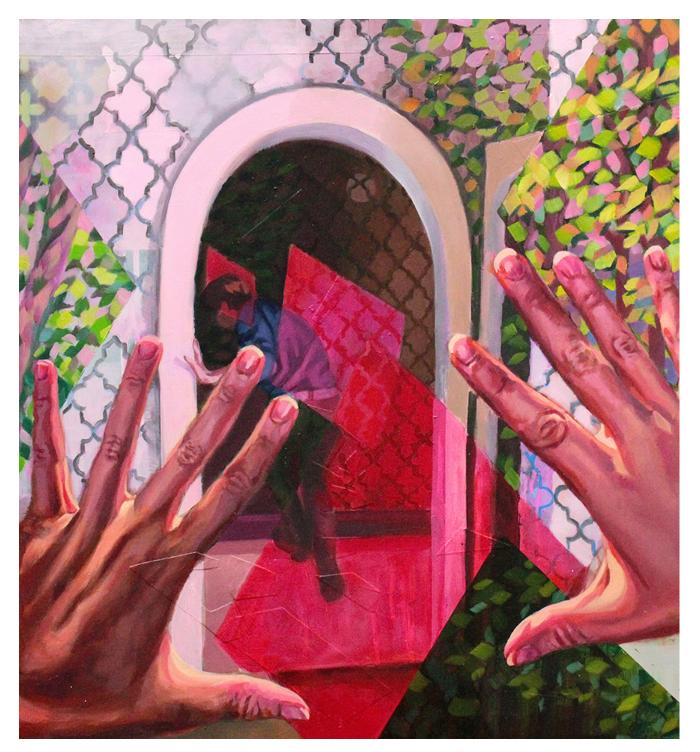
Bria Fernandes is a Canadian-born artist who specializes in figurative painting. She uses silence and omissions in her work to open a space for discourse. Silence, omissions, and exclusion are tools that can characterize oppression or vulnerability depicted in her imagery. Bria confronts submissiveness through expressions of passive body posture. Her figures are often painted in a pause of self-reflection, focusing on the introspective moments of self, often with no expression. These are moments that represent what often goes unseen, trapped in the mind and remaining silent, creating a split consciousness. She paints what she believes is unsaid. Bria Fernandes was born in Ottawa, Ontario, she is now living in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Bria began her education at the University of Manitoba's School of Fine Art in Winnipeg. She is currently enrolled as an undergraduate at Alberta University of the Arts, where she is completing her BFA.



### DANIELLE MUZINA

Danielle Mužina is an assistant professor of painting and head of painting at Murray State University. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, she received her BFA at Ohio Wesleyan University, her MA at Eastern Illinois University, and her MFA at Miami University. She has studied at the Jerusalem Studio School in Civita Castellana, Italy, and completed residencies at Golden Artist Colors, Chautauqua School of Art, and the Vermont Studio Center. Her most recent solo exhibitions were "Pink Apocalypse" at Georgetown College Galleries in 2021, and "the skies are full of them" at Southeast Missouri State University in 2022.

Mužina's work has also been shown at numerous other galleries including First Street Gallery, Bowery Gallery, Blue Mountain Gallery, Prince Street Gallery in New York, NY, Woskob Family Gallery in State College, PA, the Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art in Augusta, GA, and Verum Ultimum Gallery in Portland, OR. In January 2019, Mužina won an Artist Enrichment Grant from the Kentucky Foundation for Women. Grant funds were used to support this body of figurative paintings. Which addresses the charged interpersonal dynamics between women on an everyday level as we negotiate the way differing belief systems interact with global women's rights crises. She currently lives and works in Murray, KY.



Danielle Muzina, "The Slip"

## **EVA REDAMONTI**

Eva Redamonti is an artist who depicts drawings that blend realism with fantasy through movement and detail. She works in multiple media forms such as ink on paper, digital, gouache, and acrylic. Through her drawings, Eva strives to convey the emotion and narrative around various topics like empowerment, mental illness, superstition, and futurism. Music has a great influence on her work. She has been playing music since she was ten and began writing her own music later on in her career. Born and raised in Connecticut, Eva went on to pursue music at Berklee College of Music in 2013. She lives and works as both an artist and musician in Brooklyn, NY.



### FAUSTINE BADRICHANI

Faustine Badrichani is a French artist based in New York. Her work focuses on the female body and is an exploration of femininity, showcasing colorful women's silhouettes. Over the past ten years, Badrichani with the exploratory mind characteristic of self-taught artists has developed an extensive artistic practice, from oil paintings to sculpture (direct plaster), and focused on works on paper and acrylic paintings.

Faustine works from life and invites models to pose in her New York Studio. "For me, painting women is a play between what is universal and what is intimate, and this exploration is endless". The female body has always been a central figure in her practice, and she has developed different series of works around this theme. Creating her own graphic universe and showcasing a unique use of the color blue throughout her work. Faustine Badrichani is represented in France by Esther et Paul gallery. In June 2021 she had a solo show in Paris, named "D'abord la Mer". Her work can be seen at group shows in New York with various galleries/curators such as Insight Art Space, Untitled Art Space, Brooklyn Collective. As well as in multiple exclusive and curated only platforms such as Artsy, Saatchi, and ArtinRes.



## GABRIEL ZEA

Gabriel Zea was born in Singapore to a Colombian family and raised in a multicultural community in Houston, TX. His artwork has always reflected a desire to find a calm interior livelihood despite an outside world that is frequently in flux. He received his BFA in painting from the Maryland Institute College of Art and then his MFA soon after from the New York Academy of Art. During undergrad, he spent a year in Japan studying printmaking and the Japanese language. Upon finishing his MFA, he spent another year attending artist residencies in Spain, Germany, Russia, and the United States. He has since moved to Brooklyn and works as an assistant for Sean Kenney, an artist who creates immersive sculptures out of LEGO bricks, while still maintaining a consistent artistic practice on his own.



# GRACE GRAUPE PILLARD

In Grace Graupe Pillard's realist portraits and paintings of nudes, the backgrounds are stripped bare as are the subjects. The naked and larger-than-life portraits give her an opportunity to emphasize the subject's individualism, as well as address the human condition and aging process. Graupe Pillard has concentrated on portraiture since her early charcoal drawings which she exhibited at The Drawing Center, NYC in 1981. Her work, which has been exhibited at notable institutions such as MOMA PS1 and galleries including Cheim & Read Gallery (NY) and Carl Hammer Gallery (Chicago), has evolved over the years from pastels to large-scale oil paintings and installations of people who she describes as "having not been integrated into mainstream society". Her more recent paintings, inspired by selfies and iPhone photographs, attempt to convey the vitality and diversity of 21st-century contemporary culture while capturing the ineffable moments in our lives. "The sensuality and radiant beauty of youth and ethnic diversity are depicted in my choice of subjects, as well as the ravages of time which are imprinted on our being. All stages of life are filled with humanity that both elevates and dissipates the spirit."

Grace Graupe Pillard has exhibited her artwork throughout the USA with one-person exhibitions in Hartford, CT., Jackson MS., Chicago III., Newark, NJ, in addition in NYC at The Untitled Space, The Proposition, Bernice Steinbaum, Donahue/Sosinski, Hal Bromm, The Frist Center in Nashville, TN, The NJ State Museum, NJ Center for Visual Arts, Carl Hammer Gallery in Chicago, Payne Gallery at Moravian College, PA., Aljira Gallery, Newark, NJ., Rupert Ravens Contemporary in Newark, NJ, and Rider University, NJ, and Bernard Heller Museum, NYC. 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.

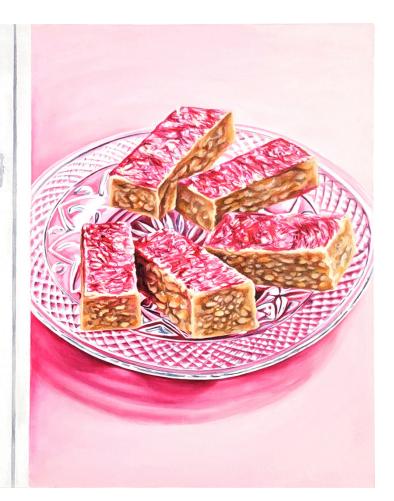


## HANNAH DUGGAN

Hannah Duggan is an emerging artist and current MFA candidate at the University of Massachusetts - Amherst graduating this Spring. She received her BFA in Painting and Drawing from the University of Georgia in 2018. After graduation, she attended the Chautauqua School of Art Residency. Hannah is a painter and ceramicist who has shown her work regionally and nationally throughout the United States. She has her first solo exhibition coming up at the Delaplaine Arts Center in Frederick, Maryland this May.

# Parents of Mich. school shooting suspect charged with involuntary manslaughter

James and Jennifer Crumbley, parents of shooting suspect Ethan Crumbley, face four counts each after police said that the gun used was purchased days earlier by the father.



## IAN CLYDE

lan Wilson Clyde is an artist and motion designer living in Craryville, NY. He grew up north of Boston and went to Rhode Island School of Design for graphic design. He worked and painted in New York City until recently moving to the Hudson Valley. He paints in oil, acrylic, and spray paint. He draws influences from video games, technology, the climate, and nature.



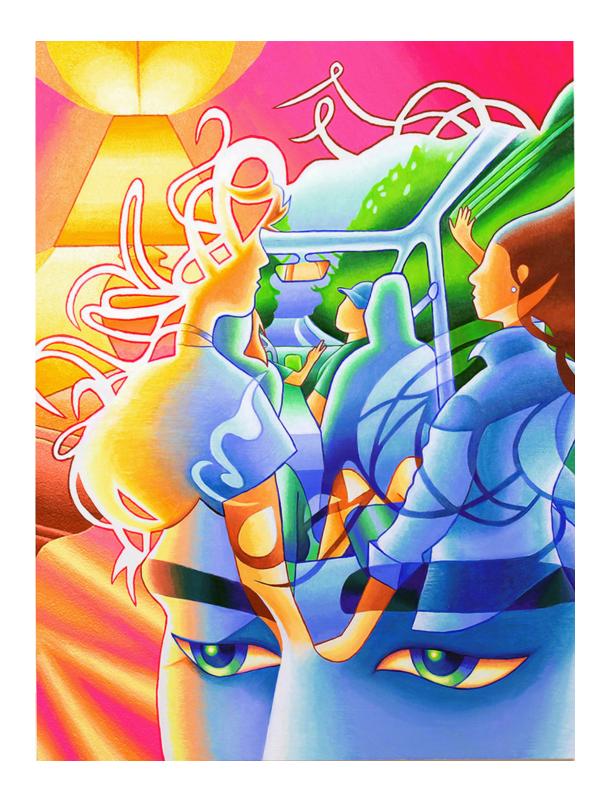
### INDIRA CESARINE

Indira Cesarine is a Mexican American multidisciplinary artist who works with photography, video, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. Her work as an artist has been featured internationally at many art galleries, museums, and art fairs, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Hudson Valley MOCA, The Watermill Center, Mattatuck Museum, Albany Institute, CICA Museum, Smack Mellon, San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, French Embassy Cultural Center, Art Basel Miami, SCOPE Art Fair, Norwood Arts Club, Cannes Film Festival, and SPRING/BREAK Art Show to name a few. In 2014, her first public art sculpture, "The Egg of Light," was exhibited at Rockefeller Center as part of the Fabergé Big Egg Hunt. Cesarine's artwork has been auctioned in a number of celebrated fundraising benefits including Sotheby's New York "Take Home A Nude", ARTWALK NY benefiting the Coalition for the Homeless, and Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research, among many others. Her artwork and exhibitions have been featured internationally in many publications including *The New York Times, American Vogue, Vogue Italia, Forbes, Newsweek, W Magazine, Harper's Bazaar, i-D, Dazed, New York Magazine,* and *The Huffington Post* among many others.



### JARED FRESCHMAN

Jared Freschman (b.1996), was raised in a religious Jewish family in Delaware. The grand-son of one of the last living Holocaust survivors. Freschman grew up going to a Jewish day school where he learned about his heritage and discovered ways to express his spirituality. As a child, he was intrigued by Middle Eastern artwork such as hieroglyphics and American pop art. Although Freschman wasn't religious, he had his own spirituality from a young age which involved working with astrology, healing crystals, and manifestation practices. His hometown mostly consisted of white Christian families. Being the odd one out, Freschman and his family constantly dealt with antisemitism. From the time he was a child, Freschman knew he was queer, which caused him to face homophobia and transphobia within his community.



### KATIE COMMODORE

Katie Commodore is an interdisciplinary artist who concentrates on creating intimate portraits of her friends, often focusing on how they express their 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 where she is currently an adjunct professor. Commodore has exhibited throughout the United States and Europe, including England, Italy, Germany, and Greece. Her work has been previously featured in a number of group shows presented by The Untitled Space including "(Hotel) XX" at Spring/ Break Art Show, "IRL: Investigating Reality" and "Secret Garden". Other notable exhibitions include "FEMME" presented by Spoke Art and Juxtapoz Magazine, SCOPE Art Fair, "StitchFetish 6" at The Hive Gallery, and "Facing the Walls" at The VETs Gallery. Residencies include ChaNorth, Pine Plains, New York; Red Light Design, Amsterdam, Holland; and One Night Residency, London, England. She is currently the Administrative Director of Crux, LCA, a cooperative of Black XR Creatives and Producers that focuses on Black storytelling and creating a foothold in the burgeoning vocabulary of new media of VR and creating Black wealth. Commodore has been featured in a number of publications including The New York Times and Dazed Digital, among others.



#### KEN MAR

Ken Mar was born in Oakland, CA. He attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he received his BFA in painting. He now lives and works in Brooklyn. The paintings of Ken Mar are informed by religious mysticism, childhood trauma, and the idea that we may be living in a computer-simulated reality. In exploring religious mysticism, his paintings are imagined as devotional works for a yet-to-exist religion in the far future. The use of isolated imagery on unpainted linen is inspired by The Shroud of Turin and the ancient manuscripts of The Gnostic Gospels. The images depicting children show them alongside grotesque caricatures and the artifice of simulacra. His work is heavily influenced by the simulation hypothesis, which proposes that our reality is a computer simulation. This unsettling and fascinating idea considers that the absurdities and contradictions of life may be clues that we are living within an invented narrative.



Ken Mar "Child Saints with Gnome"

# KERRY LESSARD

Kerry Lessard is a painter living and working in Brooklyn. She is originally from Manchester, New Hampshire. Through painting, she seeks to interrogate the roots of violence within white suburban communities, attending to the often mundane ways in which children, particularly boys, are socialized into relations of domination and brutality.



## KESTIN SELWYN CORNWALL

Kestin Cornwall grew up in the Windsor Ontario area. His father is Grenadian, and his mother is American. He spent much of his youth in Detroit, Michigan with his family. In 2001 he moved to Oakville, Ontario to begin his training at Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning. While completing the Art Fundamentals and Illustration programs, Cornwall's focus and love for the arts grew quickly. He increasingly combined both classical drawing and painting with modern digital reproduction and screen-printing. In 2006 Cornwall won the CAPIC Best In Show Award. Over the past ten years, Cornwall has focused on creating relevant, progressive art. He has used a varied practice of combining hand drawings, digitally removing the human hand, and then forcing the human element back into the work. Cornwall explores culture and humanity's relationship with beauty, sex, nature, and a long history of cultivation. In addition, Cornwall's work aims to ask questions regarding equality, immigration, and what it means to be black in North America.

Cornwall uses images to explore the notion that culture, entertainment, including film and other media shape the mass public perception of black people and people of color in North American society. Cornwall critically charts current political, social, and economic land-scapes with compositions brimming with references to media, popular culture, music, and art history. He enjoys challenging what's considered "common." He feels it is the duty of an artist to add beauty to the world while invoking the unending social responsibility to capture the thought. Many of his influences include contemporary graphic realism, street art, and old comics, with a complimenting mystery factor, often mirroring timeless depictions of pop culture. Each piece depicts an analysis of our obsession with beauty, age, and change. Kestin Cornwall lives and works in Toronto.



# KRISTIN O'CONNOR

Kristin O'Connor is a Brooklyn-based painter whose work explores femininity, sexuality, and radical self-acceptance. Her work has been featured in several shows across New York City, including "Secret Garden: The Female Gaze on Erotica", at Untitled Space Gallery in 2017, and "Little but Fierce" with ChaShaMa in 2018. In 2019, she was featured in "Femme" with SpokeArt Gallery & "Juxtapoz Projects" at Mana Contemporary in New Jersey. She graduated with a BFA in painting from the University of Tampa in 2013 and received her MFA from the New York Academy of Art in 2015.



## LOUISE CAMPION

Louise Campion (b. 1996) is a French artist from Paris, living and working in Tiohtiá:ke/ Montreal (Canada). She attended the Fine Arts School of Lyon (France) and completed her BFA in Studio Arts at Concordia University (Montreal, Canada) in 2019. Primarily interested in painting and drawing, her current practice focuses on the exploration of awareness and emotional survival within a context of global violence. Her recent research has been focused on the dynamics of the corporate world, and its very own codes. Campion has exhibited works in galleries such as La Salle Vasse (Nantes, France), Atelier 2112 (Montreal, Canada), and Jano Lapin Gallery (Montreal, Canada). She was a part of Artch-Emerging Art Market in 2020, the Connecting Creative Youth Through the Arts program of Yes Montreal in 2021, and just finished her residence for the Art Souterrain Festival. She is currently preparing her solo show at the Georges-Vanier Cultural Center (Montreal) for their 2022-2023 programming, during her artist residency at the Jano Lapin Gallery (Montreal, Canada).



## MEEGAN BARNES

Meegan Barnes is a Los Angeles-based figurative painter and ceramic artist with a playful, empowering approach to the female form. Her career in music and streetwear combined with a very influential 4 months in Brazil have all led to her current body of work. She embraces the female figure and society's ongoing obsession for curves, creating dynamic works that also incorporate her music, street, fashion and design influences. She has a BFA from CCA. Her work has been featured in numerous group shows in LA, New York and San Francisco.



#### MEL REESE

Mel Reese is an artist and curator who was born in 1991 in Livingston, NJ. She received a B.S. from Skidmore College in 2013. During that time she studied at Studio Art Centers International (SACI) in Florence. She completed an artist residency at Elsewhere Studios in 2013 and went on to receive a Post-Baccalaureate certificate from San Francisco Art Institute in 2014. Reese received her MFA in Fine Arts from the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in NYC in May 2017 and attended the Vermont Studio Center residency in November 2017. Reese has had solo exhibitions at MILCON Gallery, R&D Studios Bushwood, and Suzette LaValle in Brooklyn, NY. She has also shown in several selected group and juried exhibitions throughout the United States. Reese received the Award of Excellence from the 58th Long Island Artist Exhibition at the Art League of Long Island. Her work has been published in New American Paintings Northeast Issue 134, Inside Artists, Studio Visit Magazine, Artwork Archive Blog, A Women's Thing, Vellum Magazine, THE KIND, and Wallhop.

In addition to her work as an artist, Reese is the Head Curator for both Bushwood Land in Ridgewood, NY, and Art in Res (YC W20). She developed and now manages both curatorial programs. Mel Reese lives and works in Greenpoint, BK with her fiancé and their cat, Miss Puds, who hates all of Mel's paintings and is always her toughest critic.



# MICHAEL HUBBARD

Born just outside of Detroit, Michael Hubbard currently lives and works in Midland, Texas. Working primarily in the medium of painting, their work aims to create an imaginary vision of non-binary identity, in all its ambiguity, joyful freedom, and contradiction. Their work has been exhibited nationally including a recent solo exhibition at Gallery 1600 in Atlanta. They received a BFA in Painting from the Savannah College of Art and Design, and an MFA in Visual Art from Washington State University. They currently teach Painting and Digital Art at Midland College.



#### MICHELE BRODY

With a BA from Sarah Lawrence College in 1989 and an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Fibers and Material Studies Department in 1994, Michele Brody has maintained a full-time studio/exhibition practice as a mixed-media, community-based environmental artist, while working as an artist/educator throughout New York City. Her practice has thrived on collaborating with a range of communities and age groups in France, Germany, Costa Rica, Taiwan, Chicago and her home of The Bronx on a process of being present within a place in order to affect change in a range of media and forms generated by local stories, history, culture, environment and architecture.

Notable one-person shows in NYC include the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Lower East Side Tenement Museum, Chashama, Littlejohn Contemporary, and Hudson Guild, among others. Michele Brody has received a grant or residency almost every year as a professional and community-based artist from the Pollock/ Krasner Foundation, NYFA, NYSCA, LMCC and Bronx Council on the Arts. Brody has worked as an Artist-in-Residence at Skowhegan, Headlands Center for the Arts, Ox-Bow, Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, MASS MoCA, Wave Hill Winter Workspace program, BronxArtSpace and as a SU-CASA resident artist at senior centers throughout The Bronx. During the spring of 2006 she completed two major permanent public art installations in The Bronx for the Metropolitan Transit Authority's Arts for Transit program at the Allerton Station along the #2 and #5 trains and with the Department of Education's Public Art for Public Schools program at PSMS194 on Zerega Ave.

Michele Brody currently lives and works in The Bronx where she was awarded a Bronx Recognizes its Own individual artist grant in 2017, a City Artist Corp grant in 2021 and voted Arts Volunteer of the Year in 2018 by The Bronx Volunteer Coalition for her artwork with Bronx Seniors, and hosting her creative community platform of sharing tea and stories through "Reflections in Tea."



## REBECCA BIRD

Rebecca Bird received her BFA from the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in 2000, having attended the Yale Summer School of Music and Art in 1999. She was a Fulbright Fellow to Japan in Painting 2000-1, researching Nihonga. Before university, she apprenticed in egg tempera painting with painter Michael Bergt. Her painting concentrates around time recorded in material and animation of matter. Her open practice includes animation, narrative, performance, and collaborations of many kinds.

Bird has had solo shows at Kopeikin Gallery, Los Angeles (2019, 2017, 2015, 2011, 2009), Russel Day Gallery, Everett, WA (2017), Voookhyang, Seoul (2016), William Holman Gallery, New York (2015), Wave Hill, Bronx, NY (2003) and other venues. She has performed at the Hammer Museum, The Armory Show, Fumetto Festival and Issue Project Room, and shown her animation at Lincoln Center, the Everhart Museum and on Triple Canopy, and The New York Times. Her paintings have appeared in the Paris Review and Harper's Magazine. She is the recipient of numerous grants and residencies. Her work is held in public and private collections including MOMA, NY.



#### **ROBIN TEWES**

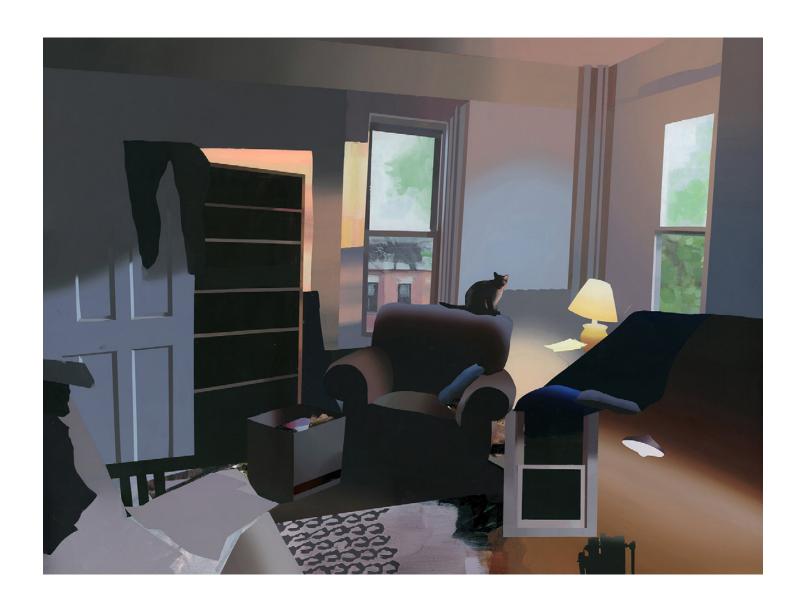
Robin Tewes's artwork reflects not only the artist's expression of her inner thoughts and feelings but also her fascination with the interconnection of interior and exterior spaces. Her paintings invoke a complex and often surreal narrative of voyeurism that draws the viewer into an intimate dialogue.

The Queens-born, New York City-based artist Robin Tewes, known since the early 1980s for her representational paintings of frozen and narrative-like moments, has shown her work in numerous solo exhibitions as well as museums including P.S. 1, the Museum of Modern Art, The Whitney Museum, and The Drawing Center. Tewes paints everyday people and domestic interiors in a precise, almost deadpan style that Artforum critic Ronny Cohen called "searingly direct" in its presentation of information and emotional impact. She often incorporates subtle, graffiti-like text into her paintings, suggesting pointed or disquieting thoughts, conversations, or social commentary on the scene being portrayed. ARTnews' Barbara Pollack described Tewes's work as maintaining "an edgy balance between surrealism and soap opera." In addition to her art practice, Tewes has worked as an educator, lecturer, curator, and activist. She has contributed socially-minded works to numerous exhibitions and benefits focusing on issues including women's reproductive rights, human trafficking, aggression, environmentalism, and the Iraq War. Tewes has long been rumored to be one of the original members of the controversial, anonymous feminist collective the Guerrilla Girls, known as member "Alice Neel."



## SIOBHAN MCBRIDE

Siobhan McBride was born in Seoul and adopted to the U.S. as an infant. She grew up in Queens, NY and currently lives in Staten Island. She received her MFA in painting from the University of Pennsylvania in 2005. She has received residency and grant support from Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Workspace Program, PSC CUNY Research Foundation, Jentel, the Vermont Studio Center, the Roswell Artist in Residence Program, Yaddo, Marble House Project, and the Sam and Adele Golden Artist Residency Program. Her work has been exhibited at Standard Space (Sharon, CT), DC Moore (NYC), NurtureArt (Brooklyn, NY), Roswell Museum and Art Center and the University of Maine Museum of Art in Bangor, ME.



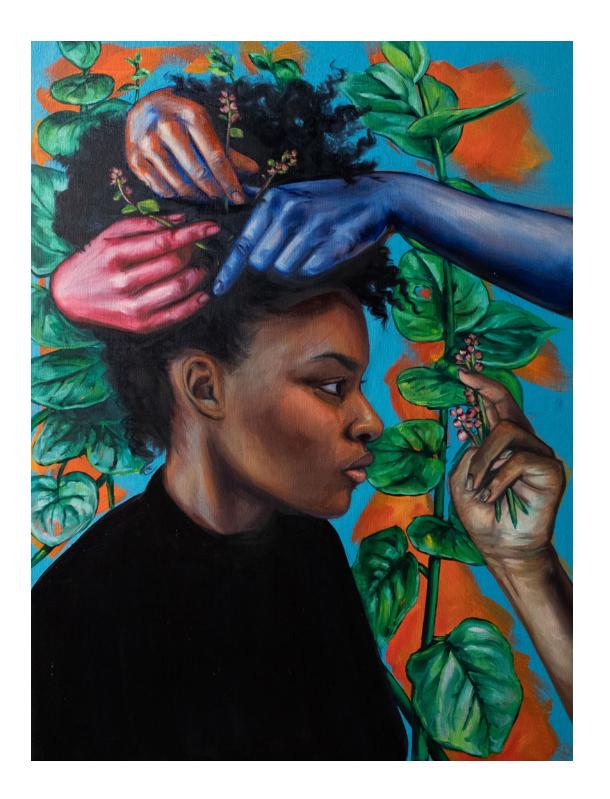
#### SOPHIA OSHODIN

Sophia Oshodin is a self-taught figurative painter based in London. She is known for visual storytelling centering around the spirit of everyday life using imaginary subjects. Her paintings are notable for their bold colors and patterns that engage the viewers to have their own interpretations. Sophia explores the artistic conventions and movements of daily life struggles and the complexities that humans experience using figuration storytelling with a gazing expression to highlight the absence of black figures in western art. Drawing inspiration from African arts, art history, fashion, politics, and everyday experience, she works predominantly in acrylic and oil. Sophia uses her practice to challenge the stereotypes drawn from personal experiences constructed by societal ideology and the media associated with the black community, Mental Health, and the complexity of navigating through everyday life. Sophia uses art to reflect representation in today's society. She often showcases the daily lives of her subjects in rich figurative paintings from the diaspora. Primarily women, with a particular interest in family connection, female representation, and empowerment.



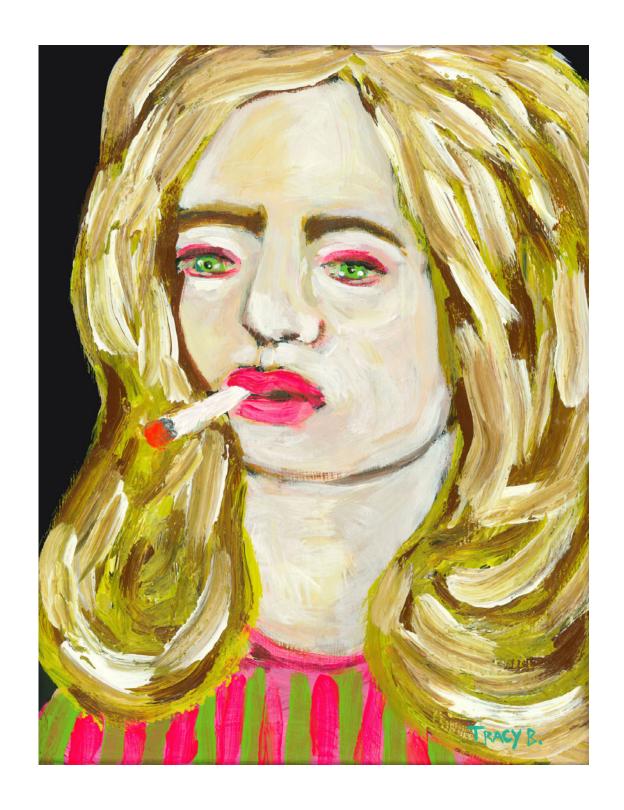
#### TABITHA-ANN WHITLEY

Tabitha Whitley is a Brooklyn-based artist with a focus in oil painting and relief printmaking. Tabitha received her BFA in Painting from the Fashion Institute of Technology in 2009, then went on to receive an MFA in Painting from the New York Academy of Art in 2011. Tabitha uses color and portraiture to explore themes around her African American heritage. Her work has been shown in galleries throughout the United States and was featured in the Wall Street Journal.



## TRACY BROWN

Tracy Brown was born and raised outside of Detroit, Michigan. Tracy believes in the ability of art to transform and bridge minds into understanding and unity. She moved to the desert to teach and make art during the great recession without intentions of staying but fell in love with the slower pace lifestyle, culture, and landscape of the desert. Over the last decade, Tracy has had an artist studio in downtown Tucson and has been actively showing her art in feminist exhibitions nationally and internationally. Her work has been on display in group shows in venues such as the SOMARTS Cultural Center in San Francisco, Denise Bibro Gallery in New York, Gallery 825 in Los Angeles, the National Steinbeck Center, the Women's Museum of California, The Untitled Space in Tribeca and the Czong Institute of Contemporary Art in Gimpo, South Korea. Her work on male bonding is included in the permanent collection of the Gwangju Cultural Foundation in South Korea, which is host to one of Asia's major biennials. She has had her work on display next to and juried by artists such as The Guerrilla Girls On Tour, Lynn Hershman Leeson, May Willson, Sylvia Slay, Beverly Buchanan, Suzy Lake, and Faith Wilding. Her work has been included in exhibitions juried by directors of major contemporary museum art collections such as Rita Gonzalez of LACMA, Maria Medua of SFMOMA, Lynn Russell of The National Gallery along with Eleanor Heartney, contributing editor to Art in America, Art press and more. Tracy has had work published and referenced in Elle Italia, Marie Claire Brazil, Ze.tt Germany, Dazed Digital, Bullet Magazine the Huffington Post to name a few.

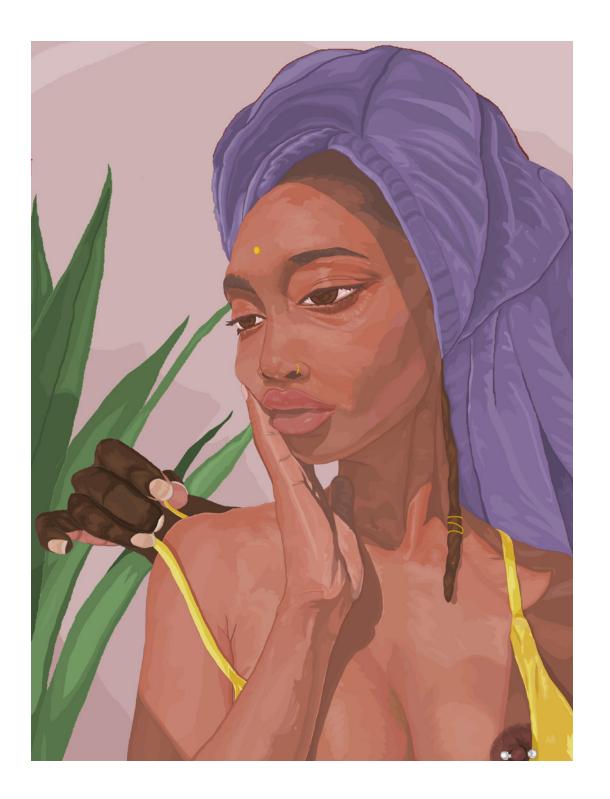


Tracy Brown, "Sondra Smokes Dope When The Kids Go To Bed"

#### WATSON MERE

Watson Mere has been an exhibiting artist for the past six years. Mere's work has been exhibited in galleries and museums, which include The Untitled Space; New York, NY; The Black Wall Street Gallery, New York, NY; Venice Art Gallery, Venice, Italy; Weeksville Heritage Center, Brooklyn, NY; and the Norman Rea Gallery, York, United Kingdom. He has earned various awards including the 2021 New Futures Recipient from The Other Art Fair, the 2018 Citation of Honor (Arts) from the District Attorney of Kings County, and the 2018 Jean-Michel Basquiat Award from Creole Image Honors. In 2018, C-Suite Quarterly chose Mere as a NextGen 10 in Philanthropy, Art, & Culture. Mere and his work has been featured in publications and television networks such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, Esquire Magazine, NPR, Philly Magazine, AfroPunk, BronxNet TV, Colossal, GlobeNewswire, Nylon, CSQ, and more.

Mere attended Florida A&M University, receiving a B.A. in Business Administration in 2011 and a Masters in Business Administration in 2015. He was born and raised in the town of Belle Glade, FL to two immigrant parents from Haiti. He now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.



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#### ABOUT THE UNTITLED SPACE

The Untitled Space is an art gallery located in Tribeca, New York in a landmark building on Lispenard Street. Founded in 2015 by artist Indira Cesarine, the gallery features an ongoing curation of exhibits of emerging and established contemporary artists exploring conceptual framework and boundary pushing ideology through mediums of painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography, video and performance art. The gallery is committing to exploring new ideas vis-à-vis traditional and new mediums and highlights a program of women in art as well as special events aligned with our creative vision.

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