

UNTITLED SPACE

“BODY BEAUTIFUL”

A Group Show Curated by Indira Cesarine

OPENING RECEPTION: November 21, 2019

Press Preview + Artist Cocktail 4pm – 6pm // Opening Reception 6pm - 9pm

EXHIBITION ON VIEW: November 21 – December 20, 2019

THE UNTITLED SPACE

45 Lispenard Street, NYC 10013



Artwork Featured in Body Beautiful Group Show by artists Tina Maria Elena, Elisa Valenti, Meegan Barnes

The Untitled Space is pleased to present group exhibition, BODY BEAUTIFUL, featuring works by 50 contemporary artists celebrating body positivity. Curated by gallery director Indira Cesarine, the exhibit will open on November 21st, 2019 and will be on view through December 20th, 2019. BODY BEAUTIFUL will feature artworks across a variety of mediums including painting, drawing, photography, video, and sculpture that highlight the power of the figure. Throughout the canon of art history the human figure has been a central theme, as we grapple with our own existence, feeding a desire to self-represent and to understand our place in the universe. This exhibition will present works by contemporary artists who address the figure not just as an object of beauty, or a subject of anatomy, but rather elaborate on body positive depictions of the human form, including all body types, ages, and genders, celebrating diversity as well as the timeless beauty of the body. The Untitled Space is honored to raise funds for Art4Equality through this exhibition, an initiative that supports the creation of empowering gender equality themed exhibitions and public art.



Artwork Featured in Body Beautiful Group Show by artists Hiba Schahbaz, Victoria Selbach, Allie Fuller

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What is Body Positivity? The body-positive movement, which dates back to early Victorian reforms against the corset, 1960s initiatives against fat-shaming, and more recently via social media with influencers challenging unrealistic standards of beauty, is "rooted in the belief that all human beings should have a positive body image, while challenging the ways in which society presents and views the physical body. The goal of the movement is to address unrealistic beauty standards and to build the confidence of oneself and others. The movement sets forth the notion that beauty is a construct of society, and poses that this construct should not infringe upon one's ability to feel confidence or self-worth. The movement states that neither fat-shaming nor skinny-shaming is acceptable, and that all body types can and should be celebrated."



Artwork Featured in Body Beautiful Group Show by artists Anna Sampson, Anne Barlinckhoff, Reisha Perlmutter

EXHIBITING ARTISTS: Abe Abraham, Alex Janero, Allie Fuller, Allie Wilkinson, Allison Hill-Edgar, Anna Cone, Anna Sampson, Anne Barlinckhoff, Annika Connor, Brittany Maldonado, Buket Savci, Camilla Marie Dahl, Cavanagh Foyle, Dafna Steinberg, Danielle Siegelbaum, Dolly Faibyshev, Dominique Vitali, Elisa Garcia de la Huerta, Elisa Valenti, Ellen Stagg, Elsa Keefe, Fahren Feingold, Grace Graupe-Pillard, Haley Morris-Cafiero, Hiba Schahbaz, Indira Cesarine, Ismael Guerrier, Judy Polstra, Katy Itter, Kaya Deckelbaum, Lauren Rinaldi, Lindsey Guile, Lisa Levy, Louis Marinaro, Lynn Bianchi, Mairi-Luise Tabbakh, Marcelo Daldoce, Meegan Barnes, Natasha Wright, Nichole Washington, Reisha Perlmutter, Sarah Weber, Sarah Maple, Savannah Spirit, Sebastian Perinotti, Shaina Craft, Shamona Stokes, Shohei Kondo, Tina Maria Elena, Victoria Selbach.



Artwork Featured in Body Beautiful by artists Sarah Weber, Savannah Spirit, Alex Janero

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Artwork Featured in *Body Beautiful* by artists Katy Itter, Marcelo Daldoce, Haley Morris-Cafiero

CURATORIAL STATEMENT

"Since the emergence of social media and online activism, the body positive movement has become increasingly relevant to the contemporary dialogue of diversity and inclusion. With the emergence of body activists of the last decade addressing the negative repercussions of fat shaming, including depression, eating disorders and body dysmorphia, we have seen a dramatic shift in consciousness with fatphobia slowly going by the wayside, along with the unhealthy societal demands for bodily perfection. Body activists have emphasized in particular fat shaming as a sickness in our cultural fabric. We now live in an era where body acceptance has finally become not only an important subject, but is taken seriously as central to the human experience. This dialogue has changed the lives of many women (and men) with marginalized bodies who didn't fit into society's definition of beauty or feel comfortable in their own skin. Ideals of feminine beauty in particular have historically been reserved for a select few who were blessed with privileged physiques. This beauty standard has evolved over the years from perfect hour-glass silhouettes achieved with corsets to the thin athletic figures and supermodels that dominated the 80s, waifs of the 90s and to yoga perfection of the 2000s. The "beautiful" people existed on their own pedestal, while the rest of humanity was overlooked. With beauty standards continuously transforming, what was once previously not accepted as "beautiful" has expanded into the current "body positive" narrative. But what does "body positive" really mean? Is it merely an emphasis on "fat acceptance" or is it truly as inclusive as the word suggest and the movement intends? The BODY BEAUTIFUL exhibition addresses this shift in our cultural experience, engaging viewers with artworks by a wide array of artists, who address what the "Body Positive" movement means to them in 2019. As a curator I felt it was important to include works by artists of all genders and generations, as well as represent all body types in this narrative. To me "Body Positive" should be inclusive of all shapes and sizes, skin colors, perfections and imperfections – including "skinny" bodies, plus size figures, pregnant bodies, bodies with stretch marks, scarring, wrinkles, aging - and yes, beautiful bodies size 0 to size XXXXL. I am proud to raise funds through this exhibition for Art4Equality, a new initiative I have launched that supports the creation of empowering artwork, exhibitions and public art that can impact social change, raise awareness and inspire our community." - Indira Cesarine



Artwork Featured in *Body Beautiful* by artists Louis Marinaro, Lynn Bianchi, Shamona Stokes

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Artwork Featured in *Body Beautiful* by artists Sarah Maple, Ellen Stagg, Shohei Kondo

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.

ABOUT CURATOR INDIRA CESARINE

Indira Cesarine's curatorial for The Untitled Space gallery includes solo shows for artists Sarah Maple, Rebecca Leveille, Alison Jackson, Fahren Feingold, Jeanette Hayes, and Kat Toronto aka Miss Meatface. Notable group shows include "EDEN" (2019) and "(HOTEL) XX" (2018) at SPRING/BREAK Art Show, "SECRET GARDEN" presenting the female gaze on erotica, "SHE INSPIRES," a group show of 60 artists exhibiting works honoring inspirational women, "IRL: Investigating Reality," and internationally-celebrated group shows "UPRISE/ANGRY WOMEN" and "ONE YEAR OF RESISTANCE" responding to the political climate in America, as well as numerous other critically-acclaimed exhibitions. Recent press on Indira Cesarine & The Untitled Space includes *Vogue (US)*, *Vogue Italia*, *CNN*, *Forbes*, *Newsweek*, *W Magazine*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Teen Vogue*, *New York Magazine*, *i-D Magazine*, *Dazed and Confused*, and *The New York Times* among many others.

ABOUT ART4EQUALITY

Art4Equality is an initiative launched by artist and curator Indira Cesarine supporting gender equality themed art exhibitions and special projects including films and public art by female identifying artists and allies. The mission of Art4Equality is to create empowering artwork and exhibitions that can impact social change, raise awareness and inspire our community. Art4Equality additionally facilitates opportunities by providing mentorship to female identifying artists, as well as special programming such as panel discussions, performances, and educational art events. Art4Equality empowers by creating a platform for progress. By supporting the work of underrepresented and marginalized artists, Art4Equality demonstrates the value, quality, and diversity of their contributions to the community, encourages an inclusive dialogue, and promotes equality for all. Art4Equality is a sponsored initiative of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit 501(c)(3) arts service organization. Tax deductible donations are accepted online. Learn more and donate: <https://fundraising.fracturedatlas.org/art4equality>
Visit Art4Equality online: <https://art4equality.org/>

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