



Pelham Art Center

155 Fifth Avenue Pelham, NY 10803 tel: 914.738.2525 fax: 914.738.2686 www.pelhamartcenter.org

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## ***Domestic Brutes***

**Curated by Christina Massey and Ety Yaniv**

**September 12-November 7, 2020 at Pelham Art Center**

Opening Reception Saturday, September 12, 1:00-4:00pm

Virtual Opening Reception Thursday, September 17, 6:00pm



*Fay Ku - Untitled (New Olympia), 2019. Graphite, oil paint and glitter on translucent drafting film, 20x30"*

**Pelham Art Center presents *Domestic Brutes* (Sept. 12 - Nov. 7, 2020), an all-women visual art exhibition curated by Christina Massey and Ety Yaniv.**

The all-women group show is titled after a quote from the mother of Feminism, Mary Wollstonecraft. The exhibition is presented this year to mark the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing women's constitutional voting rights.



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Featuring sculpture, installations and paintings by contemporary women artists from the greater New York City region, *Domestic Brutes* examines questions of identity, beauty, body, women's social roles and careers, engaging the visitor with diverse approaches of what feminism means in American society today.

*Domestic Brutes* includes the work of fifteen artists: Tirtzah Bassel, Aisha Tandiwe Bell, Ashley Norwood Cooper, Maria de Los Angeles, Nancy Elsamanoudi, Fay Ku, Sharon Madanes, Lacey McKinney, Joiri Minaya, Rose Nestler, Simonette Quamina, Diana Schmertz, Alisa Sikelianos-Carter, Manju Shandler, and Melissa Stern. The artists present a diverse range of media and subject matter, all unified by a rigorous attention to detail.

Aisha Tandiwe Bell's ceramic mixed media paintings and Joiri Manaya's video depicts female figures as both standing apart from and blending into their environments. Aisha Tandiwe Bell explores individual burdens, insecurities, and self prescribed traps, while the work also explores our ability to transform, resist and escape these traps.

Lacey McKinney, Diana Schmertz, Manju Shandler, Alisa Sikelianos-Carter, Fay Ku and Simonette Quamina address through abstracted portraiture, recent issues related to perception of race, identity, gender roles, equality and women's constitutional rights.

Melissa Stern, Nancy Elsamanoudi and Rose Nestler utilize iconic female items of fashion like high heels and bras as a witty and playful take on stereotypes of female beauty and the absurdity of feminine fashion. Tirtzah Bassel, Ashley Norwood Cooper, Maria de Los Angeles, and Sharon Madanes address issues of motherhood, the roles within the home and work environments, including the complexities of the immigrant experience particularly during this time of political divisiveness and upcoming election.

In the context of the historical centennial of the 19th Amendment, *Domestic Brutes* offers an opportunity to open up pivotal issues related to women's rights, as well as notions of identity, beauty, and activism.

### Opening Receptions

Pelham Art Center will host two opening receptions to celebrate the opening of *Domestic Brutes*. On Saturday, September 12th from 1:00-4:00pm, the Pelham Art Center gallery welcomes visitors to enjoy the exhibition up to 10 people at a time. Pelham Art Center gallery visitors are required to abide by all current health regulations.

A [virtual opening reception](#) will take place on Zoom Thursday, September 17th at 5:00pm. The virtual reception is free and open to all. Curators Christina Massey and ETTY Yaniv will be present along with *Domestic Brutes* exhibiting artists to view artwork in the exhibition and engage in discussion with attendees.



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### Artist Talks

Pelham Art Center will host a series of virtual artist talks with several *Domestic Brutes* exhibiting artists. Artist talks offer attendees a live studio tour and interactive discussion with the artist about their career, creative process and current projects.

[Maju Shandler: Thursday, August 20th, 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM](#)

[Maria de Los Angeles: Thursday, August 27th, 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM](#)

[Melissa Stern: Thursday, September 3rd, 5:00 to 6:00pm](#)

[Nancy Elsamanoudi: Thursday, September 10th, 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM](#)

[Fay Ku: Thursday, September 24th, 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM](#)

[Aisha Tandiwe Bell: Thursday, October 1st, 5:00-6:00PM](#)

[Diana Schmertz: Thursday, October 8th, 5:00PM to 6:00 PM](#)

[Ashley Cooper: Thursday, October 15th, 5:00PM to 6:00 PM](#)

[Alisa Sikelianos-Carter: Thursday, October 29th, 5:00PM -6:00 PM](#)

Artist talks are \$10 to attend and directly benefit the artists and Pelham Art Center. Visit [Pelham Art Center's website](#) for additional details and registration.

*Pelham Art Center is a non-profit educational and cultural institution committed to providing public access to see, study and experience the arts, foster lifelong arts appreciation and thereby strengthen the community. The Art Center was founded in 1970 and now serves more than 16,000 people each year. These events and programs are made possible, in part, by the ArtsWestchester with funds from Westchester County Government. Pelham Art Center also receives funding from: New York State Council on the Arts, A State Agency; Westchester Community Foundation; Pelham Community Members and Annual Fund Donors.*

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