

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EUQINOM Gallery at 1295 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 Hours: Wednesday – Saturday, 12:00 - 5:00 PM monique@euqinomgallery.com | (415) 823-2990

# Intersection of Gazes: Jamil Hellu, Mona Kuhn, Haley Morris-Cafiero, Kristine Potter

September 5 - October 27, 2018

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 8, 6-8pm

EUQINOM Gallery is pleased to present *Intersection of Gazes*, a group exhibition that brings together contemporary photographers who are pushing portraiture forward and making space with and for their subjects by broadening the art historical concept of "the gaze." The artists, Jamil Hellu, Mona Kuhn, Haley Morris-Cafiero, and Kristine Potter, all come from multicultural or marginalized perspectives and work to illuminate identity and the human experience in all its dynamic variety. *Intersection of Gazes* will run from September 5 - October 27, 2018 with an opening reception on September 8 from 6-8pm.

On view will be images from Jamil Hellu's latest body of work, *Hues*, where the artist makes portraits of members of the LGTBQ community, pictured in costumes that signal their cultural and ethnic lineage. Inserting himself into each picture dressed in related garb, Hellu's images, which all feature a saturated color background, reflect on just how multifaceted the community is. By discarding any homogenous notion of gay identity, Hellu presents a spectrum of experiences that are unique and singular in their own way.

Works from Kristine Potter's *Manifest* also evaluate masculinity. Images of men inhabiting the Western landscape in vulnerable positions of repose or traditionally feminine portrait poses offers a cultural counterpoint to our association of cowboy masculinity and the American West. Potter's work creates a parallel historical narrative where men are unbound by coded societal constraints and inhabit the landscape for pleasure and beauty instead of dominating the landscape for wealth and power.

Visceral images from Haley Morris-Cafiero document her response to the negative feedback and online bullying generated by her previous series, *Wait Watchers*, where Morris-Cafiero captured passerby gawking at her physical appearance. In *The Bully Pulpit*, she responds to the vitriolic language by researching images of the bully, dressing up like them and incorporating their insults into the picture. By turning a mirror back on the bully as well as creating a physical, real life response to the insult, she meets the gaze of her attackers by gazing right back. In contrast, Mona Kuhn's photographs from *Native* present intimate images of nude subjects that signal safety and security. Working in a naturalist community with less commodification and more acceptance of the human form, Kuhn develops long term and deep relationships with her subjects. Together they work as a team to create the images and in so doing, Kuhn deepens the relationship between subject and photographer extending power outside of its traditional scope.

## About Jamil Hellu

Jamil Hellu is a visual artist based in San Francisco. He was born in Brazil to a Syrian father and Paraguayan mother, moving to the United States in 1996. He holds his MFA in Art Practice from Stanford University and a BFA in Photography from the San Francisco Art Institute. He works primarily with photography, video, and installations. His projects revolve around representations of identity, particularly engaged in exploring interpretations of queer sexuality. His work has been featured in The New York Times, The Guardian, The Advocate, and VICE. He has recently been selected for the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts' signature triennial: "Bay Area Now 2018."

### About Mona Kuhn

Mona Kuhn was born in São Paulo, Brazil, in 1969, of German descent. In 1989, Kuhn moved to the US and earned her BA from The Ohio State University, before furthering her studies at the San Francisco Art Institute. She is currently an independent scholar at The Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles. Mona Kuhn's first monograph, Photographs, was debuted by Steidl in 2004; followed by *Evidence* (2007), *Native* (2010), *Bordeaux Series* (2011), and *Private* (2014). Kuhn's work has been exhibited at The Louvre Museum and Le Bal in Paris; The Whitechapel Gallery and Royal Academy of Arts in London; Musée de l'Elysée in Switzerland; Leopold Museum in Vienna, and Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney. Her work is in private and public collections worldwide, including The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Hammer Museum, Perez Art Museum Miami, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Kiyosato Museum in Japan. Mona Kuhn lives and works in Los Angeles. Kuhn's upcoming books titled *She Disappeared into Complete Silence* published by Steidl *and Bushes & Succulents*, published by Stanley/Barker are both scheduled for Fall 2018.

### About Haley Morris-Cafiero

Part performer, part artist, part provocateur, part spectator, Haley Morris-Cafiero explores the act of reflection in her photography. Morris-Cafiero's photographs have been widely exhibited in solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States and abroad, and have been featured in numerous newspapers, magazines and online including Le Monde, New York Magazine and Salon. Born in Atlanta, she is a graduate of the University of North Florida, where she earned a BA in Photography and a BFA in Ceramics in 1999. Nominated for the Prix Pictet in 2014 and a 2016 Fulbright finalist, Morris-Cafiero holds a MFA from the University of Arizona in Art. The Magenta Foundation published her monograph, The Watchers, in 2015.

### About Kristine Potter

Kristine Potter is a photographer based in Nashville, TN. She received her MFA from Yale University in 2005 and a BFA from the University of Georgia. She has exhibited both nationally and internationally – most notably in Paris, New York City, Miami and Atlanta. Her work is in numerous private and public collections, including at Light Work, where she was recently the recipient of their renowned Artist-In-Residence grant. Potter was named a Guggenheim Fellow in 2018. Her first monograph, *Manifest* was published by TBW Books in 2018.

#### About Euginom



Founded in 2015, EUQINOM Gallery (formerly EUQINOMprojects) represents emerging and mid-career contemporary artists. The gallery is focused on presenting multidisciplinary work that expands the boundaries of photo-based practices. Ranging from the ephemeral to the documentary the program champions work that is rigorous in process and practice and demonstrates a lively engagement with photo and art histories.

Director Monique Deschaines is a curator, gallerist, and educator. She is on the Board of Directors at SF Camerawork. Prior to founding EUQINOM Gallery, Deschaines was Associate Director at Haines Gallery. She has her MFA in photography from the San Francisco Art Institute and her BFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and at Tufts University, Cambridge.