A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce Room for Salivation, an exhibition by A.I.R. 2019-2020 Fellow Crys Yin. Her new body of drawings and paintings explores the complicated intersection of desire and shame, and the power that lies in revealing one’s truest impulses, no matter how perverse—or mouth-watering.

Stemming from an intense and unsatisfied childhood longing that grew with the artist into a more complex temptation, Room for Salivation is a hedonistic confrontation of Yin’s fiercest cravings, a livid exposé of want. Rendered in opulent excess both luscious and repulsively carnal, the monumental drawings at the center of Yin’s installation herald the object of her fascination and humiliation in marbled, greasy accumulations of crayon. Simplifying form to the point of abstraction—blurring the line between black and white, right and wrong—Yin points to fleshly mortification as itself only a facade for more insidious attacks on the self.

Centered on its own wall, Neither Be Spit Nor Swallowed, 2020, illustrates a psychosomatic disorder known as plum pit qi, first described by the 220 A.D. Han Dynasty clinical text Jin Gui Yao Lue as a hysterical condition suffered by women in which psychological distress manifests in physical form. Recently diagnosed with this disorder, Yin visualizes her shame and embeds it in the surface of this wood panel as a material blockage to a painted throat.

Teasingly, if earnestly, speaking to the undue stress felt by a body in conflict with itself and to secrecy’s ability to stifle the experience of joy, Yin’s desirous divulgence purges delicacy, pretense, and, with them, the fear of vulnerability. Playful in content and gesture, the works aspire to childlike openness, encouraging the empowering potential of honesty with others and with oneself.

Crys Yin is an artist based in New York. Her paintings, drawings and sculptures often deal with cultural misconnections and embracing the comedic side of personal experiences. She has exhibited at FLAG Art Foundation, Adam Baumgold Gallery, Fisher Parrish, Garis & Hahn, LVL3, amongst others. Yin has also participated in residencies with Shandaken Paint School, The Lighthouse Works, ProjectArt, ACRE, Ox-Bow and Lower East Side Printshop. This is Yin’s first major solo exhibition in New York City.

A.I.R. Gallery is wheelchair accessible via ramp. There are accessible toilets in the venue. There is comfortable seating with backs. Free tap water is available. The venue is nearest to the F train at York St (0.2 miles) and the A train at High St (0.5 miles). The nearest wheelchair accessible trains are the B, Q, R at Dekalb Av (1.1 miles) and the 2, 3 at Borough Hall (0.8 miles). The roads immediately surrounding the gallery are cobblestone. The nearest accessible parking garage (for an hourly