SARAH SHEPARD

GALLERY & ART ADVISORY

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Processing Harmony

Featuring Rinne Allen, Rachel Kaye, Serena Mitnik-Miller, Kelly Ording, Leah Rosenberg & Lena Wolff

July 21- August 27, 2022

Opening: Saturday, July 23rd, 2-4pm

Sarah Shepard Gallery is pleased to announce a summer group show with Bay Area artists Rachel Kaye, Kelly Ording, Leah Rosenberg, Lena Wolff, Serena Mitnik-Miller (LA), and Rinne Allen (North Carolina). A joyful show filled with intricate linear relationships, shapes, and visual connections carried through varying media, the fourteen works included weave together a story of strong female artistic viewpoints.

These artists use the beauty of abstraction to tell the story of process and movement. Conceptualizing form, pattern, and soft shapes, Mitnik-Miller, Kaye, Ording, Wolff, and Rosenberg all capture the natural world around them while blurring the line separating the viewer's perception and their thoughts under the surface. This group of artists exemplify that there is no hard edge between the relationship of thought and connection. Allen's work demonstrates this bond, as well as the experience of a person's process. Community is the source of these artists' creative drive and is the thread that weaves the stories together in this exhibition.

The work exhibited in this summer show presents the concept of space in relation to abstraction, as well as the way in which objects interact with each other in that boundless atmosphere. In the same way that the interaction of the colors and shapes create harmony within each work, individuals strive for the feeling of harmony, one that is a constant, infinite, and everchanging process.

ARTIST BIOS

Rinne Allen is a photographer living in Athens, Georgia who documents process as a way to visually demonstrate the effort that goes into creating things. Rinne spends most of her days collaborating with chefs, farmers, artisans, designers, & researchers to document their work and the process that goes into making it, with the hopes that those who view her pictures will learn something from them. Allen helps with the creative direction when working with her collaborators- she enjoys everything from coming up with the feeling of a shoot to sourcing the props & styling to the art direction once the photographs have been made. Rinne has a BFA in Photography from Sewanee: The University Of The South. She works out of her studio in an old house in her hometown of Athens, Georgia and lives with her family in a group of houses that they have rehabilitated over the years. Her family tends to a large garden, and she makes her light drawings there.

Rinne's work has been published in over 15 books and in national & international magazines, as well as shown in galleries and educational institutions. Rinne also has a regular column about harvests with the New York times' T Magazine that focuses on the southern region that she calls home.

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Rachel Kaye was born in 1981 and resides in San Francisco. She graduated with her BFA from California College of the Arts in San Francisco, CA. Kaye has exhibited nationally and internationally in Paris, Tokyo, San Francisco, Oakland, New York, Los Angeles & Palm Beach. Kaye has collaborated with her husband, artist Jay Nelson on exhibitions as well, blurring the line of artistic ownership and site specific sculpture. She has completed large scale murals in the Bay Area and her work has been featured in the Huffington Post, Refinery 29, Artsy, SF Gate & East Bay Express.

Serena Mitnik-Miller was born in 1981 in Massachusetts and moved with her parents to Hawaii at a young age. She graduated in 2008 from the Univearsity of California, Santa Cruz, with a BA in Photography and Printmaking. Mitnik-Miller was included in a two person exhibit at the Bolinas Museum in West Marin in 2019 entitled In Parallel: Windy Chien and Serena Mitnik-Miller. Serena is the co-founder of General Store in San Francisco & Venice, a carefully curated destination for local designers. She co-authored Abode: Thoughtful Living with Less in 2019. Mitnik-Miller has collaborated with many brands on artistic projects, including Quicksilver. She was an artist-in-residence at Art Park in Byron Bay, Australia and at Facebook. Her work is included in the Art In the Embassies collection in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Kelly Ording was born in 1976 and resides in Oakland. She graduated with her BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute. Ording works in both small and large scale. Her public works and murals can be seen in San Francisco's landmark Clarion Alley, Unity Plaza in San Francisco, Facebook Headquarters, Genentech, as well as other locations throughout the Bay Area and internationally. Her work is included in collections such as the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the San Francisco Arts Commission Public and Civic Art Collection, the Alameda County Collection, JP Morgan Chase Collection and the Ellie Mae Collection, to name a few. In 2018 she completed a mural project in Yogyakarta, Java, Indonesia with the Bagkit/Arise Project in association with Clarion Alley Mural Project and Indonesia Institute of the Arts, Yogyakarta. Ording has just been selected as one of three artists to be awarded the Kala Master Artist Award for 2020.

Leah Rosenberg's art practice spans painting, installation, sculpture, printmaking and food, focusing on the role of color in our lives, as well as its emotional and psychological impact. Her work has been presented in both local and international exhibitions. She was a recipient of the Irvine Fellowship through the Lucas Artists Residency Program at Montalvo Arts Center and the Kala Fellowship at Kala Art Institute. In 2019 she completed a residency at San Francisco Recology, working with paint salvaged from the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Rosenberg has worked as an artist in residence at Vermont Studio Center, Project 387, Facebook, Google, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts and McColl Center for Art + Innovation. Everywhere A Color, a permanent installation at SFO's International Terminal, and her book The Color Collector's Handbook published in 2018 by Chronicle Books, invite all people to connect through myriad hues. Rosenberg's passion for full spectrum color led to her appointment as the Creative Director for Color Factory in San Francisco (2017) and NYC (2018), for which she orchestrated installations and collaborated with internationally recognized artists. Rosenberg's work is part of SFMOMA's permanent collection where she also worked as the lead pastry chef at their rooftop cafe, creating desserts based on their rotating collection. Rosenberg received a BFA from Emily Carr Institute in Vancouver, BC and an MFA from California College of the Arts in San Francisco.

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Lena Wolff is a multi-disciplinary visual artist, craftswoman and activist for democracy who has lived and worked in the San Francisco Bay Area since the early 1990's. Wolff's work extends out of early American folk-art and quilt-making traditions while at the same time being rooted in minimalism, geometric abstraction, Op art, social practice, feminist and political art. Her broad interconnected artistic output includes drawing, collage, sculpture, text-based works, performance, music, and public projects. In recent years, she generated several projects that contribute to public dialog and the collective imagining of a more just future, including a widespread anti-hate poster campaign and a national public art initiative to boost voter participation. Her work has been presented in galleries and museums across the United States and collected by ONE National Lesbian and Gay Archives, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Oakland Museum of California, the San Francisco History Collection at San Francisco Public Library, San Francisco Arts Commission, Alameda County Arts Commission, Cleveland Clinic, University of Iowa Museum and the Zuckerman Museum of Art among others. She lives with her wife, artist, teacher and illustrator, Miriam Klein Stahl and their daughter in Berkeley, California.