



# DISTORTION SOCIETY

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## FRANCES SEGISMUNDO: *MEMOR*

BEACON, NY – Distortion Society invites you to experience the multi-layered cacophony of textures, forms and colours in *Memor*, a solo exhibition by Frances Segismundo. Compositionally, the paintings are inspired by aerial landscape photographs, but thematically, Segismundo's work explores physical and psychological space through abstract painting. Every element in her work is pulled from forms encountered in the natural world: the shrivel of dried sun palms, the patterns in plant cell cross-sections, the miniature worlds created by lichen on tree bark. By connecting to her physical surroundings, she can begin to understand the nuances of her mind. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, August 10, 2024 from 7-9:30pm and the exhibition will be on view through October 5, 2024.

Unable to afford therapy years ago, Segismundo leaned into painting as an emotional sanctuary. Her painting ritual developed into a somatic practice, allowing her to slow down, separate from distractions, and acknowledge every emotion. She employs the Zen methodology of balance, concentration, and movement and is able to navigate through her overwhelming consciousness with each applied layer. In *Memor*, Segismundo reflects on her progress by exhibiting new works alongside paintings from 2018, a juxtaposition that showcases six years of personal discovery and evolution.

Prior to arriving at this process of textured mark making and subconscious exploration, Segismundo was a figurative painter. She felt disconnected from her work after graduating from university and turned to Norman McLaren's abstract animations for inspiration. This fresh perspective allowed her to dismantle her practice by visualising music and connecting with herself, sounds, and her environment. She started

photographing textures she found on her walks and interpreting their forms in her work. This process developed into the unique style of art she currently creates, which is seen in both her studio practice and her tattooing style.

### ABOUT THE ARTIST

Frances Segismundo (b. 1992) is a Filipina visual and tattoo artist currently living and working in Brooklyn, NY. She was born in Los Angeles, raised in Hong Kong and is a graduate of Camberwell College of Art, London, UK (2015). She was a featured tattoo artist in the New Museum's *Pop-Up Tattoo Parlor* in collaboration with the Ace Hotel, Brooklyn, NY (2022). Segismundo's last solo exhibition was *Mind's Eye* at Brooklyn Arts Fellowship Gallery (2018) and she has participated in group shows including Conception Art Fair, NYC (2018), Two Thirty-One Projects, Chelsea, NYC (2017), Notting Hill Arts Club, London, UK (2014), and Philippine Arts Festival, Hong Kong (2011). Segismundo's tattoo portfolio was published in *New Tattoo Artists*, by Hoaki Books.

### ABOUT DISTORTION SOCIETY

Distortion Society was founded in 2023 by husband-and-wife duo Bradley Silver (a tattoo artist) and Michelle Silver (a painter). Merging eclectic styles of tattooing and contemporary art exhibitions, DS blurs the lines between body art and fine art and questions the preconceived notions of a tattoo studio or art gallery.

### PRESS CONTACT

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Frances Segismundo *Beneath the Surface*, 2024.  
Acrylic, oil pastel, coloured pencil, and pen on paper. 50 x 31 in.





Frances Segismundo Qualia, 2024.  
Acrylic, oil pastel, coloured pencil, and pen on paper. 50 x 33.5 in.