



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Center for Visual Art Presents *Pink Progression* and in the 965 Gallery, *Reclamation*

Pink Progression

May 31, 2018 – August 18, 2018

DENVER, CO (April 24, 2018)

Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) Center for Visual Art (CVA) announces ***Pink Progression***, an exhibition addressing concepts of human rights, gender, sexual identity, feminism, womanhood and inclusivity. *Pink Progression* is a series of exhibitions commemorating and celebrating the solidarity established during the women's marches in 2017 and 2018. During the marches, pink created a strong visual statement representing unity and empowerment. For the CVA exhibition, over fifty local artists incorporate or respond to this hue as they explore how social interactions are affected by gender and identity expression.

Within *Pink Progression*, themes of human nature are exposed in concepts of compassion, empathy, power struggles and oppression. Some artists describe how the women's marches inspired thoughts of what contemporary feminism means, how it affects non-binary people, and how it can incorporate revolutionary ideas of inclusivity. Others memorialize landscapes, drawing parallels between the way land and women's bodies are being threatened. Other artists refer to the concepts of women as self-reliant, receptive and continually evolving and transforming. Some draw you into their work to build a sense of intimacy and relatability while others provoke the viewer with visual representations of blatant injustice.

Mrinalini Chakraborty, co-organizer of the Women's March on Washington stated, "It's about standing up for, as well as standing beside, various minority groups, whether they are women, or religious or ethnic minorities, whether they are LGBTQIA community, these

groups whose rights are being threatened..." *Pink Progression* brings together a community of artists creatively exploring intersectionality, inclusivity, and empowerment.

Pink Progression was conceived of and organized by Anna Kaye. The CVA iteration features different work from the previous *Pink Progression* exhibitions. Many of the artists have created new work for the CVA exhibition.

Artists

Tya Anthony, Fawn Atencio, Libby Barbee, Michael Bernhardt, Tonia Bonnell, Mindy Bray, Trine Bumiller, Katie Caron, Danielle Cunningham Tierney, Rachael Delaney, Rebecca DiDomenico, Sally Elliott, Steven E Frost, Melissa Furness, Jennifer Ghormley, Ania Gola-Kumor, Emma Hardy, Kim Harrell, Ana María Hernando, Veronica Herrera, Tsehai Johnson, Margaret Kasahara, Anna Kaye, Rian Kerrane, Mary-Ann Kokoska, Sandy Lane, Viviane Le Courtois, Suchitra Mattai, Irene Delka McCray, Daisy McGowan, Laleh Mehran, Amy Metier, Susanne Mitchell, Kelly Monico, Sophie Lynn Morris, Lauri Lynnxe Murphy, Kate Woodliff O'Donnell, Mark Penner-Howell, Jennifer Pettus, Bonnie Ferrill Roman, Martha Russo, Ajean Ryan, Julia Rymer, Dylan Scholinski, Natascha Seideneck, Sue Simon, Frankie Toan, Chinn Wang, and Melanie Yazzie

Collaborations

Fawn Atencio & Susan Vaho, Mindy Bray & Sophie Lynn Morris, Katie Caron & Marie Perrin-McGraw, Sally Elliott & Bonnie Stolzmann, Melissa Furness & Estee Bershof, Jennifer Ghormley & Jodi Stuart, Kim Harrell & Katie Hoffman, Tsehai Johnson & Edie Tavel, Anna Kaye & Mark Brasuell, and Irene Delka McCray & Karen Keilpikowski

Participating Writers

Constance E. Boyle, Sommer Browning, Jessica Comola, Laurie Duncan, Jami Frush, Janice Gould, Diana Khoi Nguyen, Kim O'Connor, Eleanor Perry-Smith, Natanya Ann Pulley, Jessy Randall, Phuong Thao Vuong, and Tanaya Winder

Comic Artists

Kevin Caron and Brian Essig-Peppard

965 Student-Run Gallery Presents *Reclamation*

CVA's 965 Student-Curated Gallery presents *Reclamation*. By reclaiming the body, physical space, and even materiality via interventions into embedded systems, artists utilize their representational agency, displacing antiquated hierarchies while also establishing a new, boundless realm in which all people belong. Curators: Danielle Cunningham Tierney and

Amber Micciche. Artists: Jacqueline Sophia Cordova, Porscha' Danielle, Ashley Frazier, Sydnie Ross, and Jodi Stuart.

Events

Events are free and open to all.

- **Opening Reception:** Thursday, May 31, 6-8pm, Members Preview 5:30pm
- **Artist Panel:** Friday, June 22, 5:30pm
- ***Make-a-Recycled-Sketchbook* workshop with Jennifer Ghormley:**
Saturday, June 30, 1-3pm
Using scrap materials collected from other workshops and printing projects, students will learn the process to create one-of-a-kind books that have a variety of uses. We will turn 'oops' prints and found papers into the book covers, up-cycled newsprint becomes the interior pages. Next the books are bound together on the sewing machine. Then participants may decorate or embellish as desired. We will focus on embracing the pink color theme, as it relates to the Pink Progression exhibition. Instructor will provide all basic materials. Participants are welcome to bring scraps and materials as well, including fabric. ALL skill levels welcome, ALL ages welcome.
- **First Friday Summer Party:** Friday, August 3, 6-9pm
Live music, food trucks, and performance.
- ***Re-thinking the Pinking* workshop with Steven Frost and Frankie Toan:**
Saturday, August 4, 12-3pm
This hands-on workshop and discussion will address the symbolism of the pussy hat and generate new concepts for more inclusive symbolism. Artists Frankie Toan and Steven Frost will encourage an open dialogue around who the pussy hat represents/excludes, and how we should consider more inclusive symbolism in activism. Participants will have an opportunity to share their thoughts. The workshop will challenge participants to design/create alternative hats that reflect each participant's own voice in contemporary feminist activism. This workshop is intended for ages 17+
- **Poetry Reading and Closing Reception:** Saturday, August 18, 1-4pm
- **First and Third Fridays, 6-8pm**
Open late for viewing and art making

Sponsors

CVA Annual Sponsors are MSU Denver Student Affairs Board, Jan and Fred Mayer Fund, Marcia Gold Naiman Fund, Campbell Foundation Fund, Otten Johnson Robinson Neff Ragonetti PC, BBVA Compass Bank, Delta Dental, and SpringHill Suites Downtown at MSU Denver.

About CVA

Center for Visual Art is the off-campus contemporary art center for Metropolitan State University of Denver. CVA provides a year-round schedule of exhibitions that have both local significance and international reach, education programming open to the community, and immersive workforce development for students in creative fields. CVA is free and open to all. For more information, visit msudenver.edu/cva.

Location: 965 Santa Fe Drive, Denver, Colorado, 80204 // 303-294-5207

Images (left to right): Kelly Monico, *Preserve*, 2018, mix-media pigment print; Laleh Mehran, *Tenuous Hierarchy {1, 10, 100}*, 2018, 4K single channel video; Margaret Kasahara, *Notation 5-18*, 2017-2018, mixed media on paper.

Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 11am-6pm, Saturday: 12pm-5pm. First and Third Fridays open until 8pm. Closed Sunday and Monday, and for installation between exhibitions

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