

IPCNY Announces *Living in America: An Exhibition in Four Acts*

From Outrage to Action in Art

Curated by Assembly Room



Left: **Vanessa German**. *Venus Madonna Muse of Grounding Soul to Body to Earth: Gold then. Gold Running through the Universe, to Our Earth Sky on heels of Sun Fire, into your body from the top of your head, through to the soles of your feet, and then into the Earth, to her core, (liquid fire) and, back around again, and again. That you Always know where and What HOME is., 2019*. Mixed-media collage on *The New York Times Magazine*. 27 ½ × 19 × 3 inches. Courtesy the artist and Fort Gansevoort and Pavel Zoubok Fine Art, New York. © The artist. Right: **William Villalongo**. *You Matter*, 2015. Screenprint on velour paper mounted on coloring book pages with acrylic wash. 12 × 9 inches each, 36 × 27 inches overall. Courtesy Villalongo Studio LLC and Susan Inglett Gallery, New York. © Villalongo Studio LLC.

In Person at IPCNY **September 30—December 19, 2020**

Make a reservation at www.ipcny.org/visit

Online Exhibition launches **September 29** at www.ipcnyexhibitions.org/livinginamerica

Opening Online Public Program **September 29, 7–8pm EST**

(New York, NY—September 24, 2020)—International Print Center New York announces *Living in America: An Exhibition in Four Acts*, an online and in-person exhibition curated by **Assembly Room** that will unfold over the course of the fall season. Organized into four thematic “acts”—**Outrage, Love, Hope, and Care**—*Living in America* explores the transformative power of art in times of crises.

Featuring artists **Mildred Beltré, Vanessa German, Mark Thomas Gibson, Elektra KB, Yashua Klos, Narsiso Martinez, Azikiwe Mohammed, Nontsikelelo Mutiti, Africanus Okokon, Karen J. Revis, Swoon, William Villalongo, and Dáreece J. Walker**. *Living in America* presents a wide

range of practices and spotlights the relevance and adaptability of print formats during political upheaval and resistance. Works include conventional printmaking, mixed media incorporating found printed matter, and those informed by reproduction and dissemination. New work is shown here for the first time by **Elektra KB**, **Yashua Klos**, **Azikiwe Mohammed**, and **Africanus Okokon**, as well as a site-specific stencil installation by **Nontsikelelo Mutiti**.

"These artists bear witness, through their work, to transformation—cultural, material, and aesthetic—and actively engage each other and their local communities as collaborators and subjects," says Assembly Room. "As the public struggles to renew America, artists are paving the way and showing us how to channel our outrage, inspire love, live in hope, and act with care."

Act I: Outrage presents artists channeling rage, pain, and despair into their work; **Act II: Love** explores love as a radical approach to building a more inclusive society; **Act III: Hope** illuminates forgotten histories and imagines new futures; and **Act IV: Care** considers artistic practices that center care as acts of self-preservation and political action. In IPCNY's Chelsea exhibition space, **Acts I and II will open to the public on September 30**. After a brief "Intermission," the gallery will open a new installation comprising **Acts III and IV on November 11**.

Complementing the in-person gallery presentation, the online exhibition at www.ipcnyexhibitions.org/livinginamerica presents an expanded selection of works in each act that will roll out over the course of the fall season. Throughout the fall season, IPCNY will host Online Public Programs with artists in conversation with Assembly Room, free and open to the public on Zoom.

IPCNY Director Judy Hecker explains, "The title *Living in America* references the 1985 song performed by James Brown, while Assembly Room thoughtfully modeled the exhibition's actual structure on a play, thereby creating an evolving narrative and activating the artists as participants." The curators were inspired by the visionary Brazilian theater producer **Augusto Boal's *Theatre of the Oppressed*** (1973), which aims to create space for dialogue about obstacles, desires, fears, and dreams; and to motivate social and political change within the "theater" of our individual lives.

Against the backdrop a deadly global pandemic, painful social isolation, and massive unemployment, the countless unjust murders of Black Americans has sparked widespread, impassioned protests for the protection of Black lives—and reignited popular awareness of the structural inequities visited upon Indigenous, Latinx, and LGBTQIA+ Americans and all Americans of color. Together, the four acts explore ways in which artists respond to the racism, violence, and societal inequality that the events of 2020 have pushed to the fore.

Online Public Programs

Tuesday, September 29, 7–8 pm

Artists **Elektra KB** and **Karen J. Revis**, and independent curator **David Platzker**, in conversation with Assembly Room

Tuesday, October 20, 7–8 pm

Artists **Mildred Beltré**, **Azikiwe Mohammed** and **Dáreece J. Walker**, in conversation with Assembly Room

Tuesday, November 10, 7–8 pm

Artists **Yashua Klos**, **Nontsikelelo Mutiti**, and **Karen J. Revis**, in conversation with Assembly Room

Tuesday, December 1, 7–8 pm

Artist **Vanessa German** in conversation with Assembly Room

Assembly Room

Assembly Room is a curatorial platform founded in 2018 by **curators Natasha Becker, Paola Gallio**, and **Yulia Topchiy** to empower female-identifying curators living and working in New York City, and beyond. Through collaboration and partnership, they advocate for racial and gender equality in the arts, provide opportunities for professional enrichment, and offer compelling art, exhibitions, and public programs.

Also On View

New Prints In Focus: Evgenia Kim & Olivia Fredricks

This focused presentation showcases new work created by our two recent Artists-in-Residence, Evgenia Kim and Olivia Fredricks, whose work was featured in *Homebody: New Prints 2020/Winter*. Visit ipcny.org/infocus for more.

International Print Center New York (IPCNY)

IPCNY is New York's flagship non-profit arts institution dedicated to the innovative presentation of prints by emerging, established, national, and international artists. Founded in 2000, IPCNY is a vibrant hub and exhibition space located in New York's Chelsea gallery district. Our artist-centered approach engages the medium in all its varied potential and includes guest-curated exhibitions that present dynamic, new scholarship along with the *New Prints* Program. A 501(c)(3) institution, IPCNY depends on foundation, government, individual support, and members' contributions to fund its programs.

Support

Living in America is supported, in part, by Keris Salmon and Frank Williams, and the IFPDA Foundation. Support for all programs and exhibitions at IPCNY is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; and by Foundations including the Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Inc., Deborah Loeb Brice Foundation, Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Jockey Hollow Foundation, PECO Foundation, Travelers Foundation, and NYC COVID-19 Response and Impact Fund from the New York Community Trust, along with major individual support.

IPCNY reopens on September 30 with Gallery Hours:

Wednesday–Friday: 11 am–5 pm; Saturday: 12 pm–5 pm

Book your in-person visit at www.ipcny.org/visit

View online exhibition at www.ipcnyexhibitions.org/livinginamerica

For Online Tours and Educational Programming: Email Megan at megan@ipcny.org

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