

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Kara Springer, *The Shape of Mountains, part II*, double sided inkjet prints on rice paper, poplar support structure, 72 x 96 in.

Porous Alternatives: Artists from the IATP

October 5 – November 2, 2024

Featured Artists: Erick Alejandro Hernandez, Cecilia Caldiera, Katie Chin, Adriana Furlong & Christian Amaya Garcia, Elisheva Gavra, Marty Koelsch Kara Springer, Mariia Usova & Liam Schenk, Yiyang Wang

Curated by Eunsoo Yi

Opening Reception: Saturday, October 5, 2024, 5-8pm

Artist Talk: Introduction from the Curator 6:30pm

Jenkins Johnson Gallery New York is pleased to announce Porous Alternatives, a group exhibition featuring works by Erick Alejandro Hernandez, Cecilia Caldiera, Katie Chin, Adriana Furlong, Elisheva Gavra, Marty Koelsch, Kara Springer, Mariia Usova, and Yiyang Wang. The exhibition is the culmination of the 2023-24 seminars of the Interdisciplinary Art and Theory Program (IATP) (<https://www.artandtheoryprogram.org/>), a tuition-free program for artists and writers based in New York City.

Porous Alternatives was born from seminar discussions around the topic of “alternative spaces.” Seminars were led by IATP core faculty as well as guests, including Joeonna Bellorado-Samuels, Luis Camnitzer, Christopher Fynsk, Karin Schneider, and Cecilia Vicuña. Rather than exposing the long-standing problems of the current socio-political system, the artworks being presented here explore the possibility of different worlds outside of it. They reimagine people, space, time, and the relationships built between them as radically upended, intimate, and vulnerable.

The exhibition is conceived of as a flexible and permeable structure in which the included artworks support each other. In this way, the exhibition seeks to create solidarity across the alternative worlds that the participating artists have imagined. Porous Alternatives showcases artworks that are full of a different kind of potential. In the fiercely competitive New York art scene where emerging artists face many obstacles, the IATP has given us an important opportunity to build a community. As a group that stimulates and supports each other, we hope to bring new ideas to the art world.



Erick Alejandro Hernandez, *Sombra; caballos al galope (Shadow Painting)*, 2022, oil, acrylic, and marker on canvas, 48 x 60 in

Erick Alejandro Hernández (b. 1994) is an artist from Matanzas, Cuba living and working in New Haven, CT. He received his BFA in Painting from RISD and his MFA in Painting and Printmaking from Yale University. Hernández's practice is invested in exploring how traditional techniques like oil painting and drawing can shift material forms in order to hold complex individual and collective histories. Revolving around overarching narratives such as a car crash or the death of a loved one, his paintings are investigative allegories exploring individual and shared experiences like grief, assimilation and exile. Hernández has been a fellow at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Oxbow, Yaddo, Macdowell and the Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, among others. Recent group and solo exhibitions include Murmurs (Los Angeles), The

Mistake Room (Los Angeles, CA), Perrotin (New York, NY), Yossi Milo (New York, NY), and Wilding Cran (Los Angeles)

Cecilia Caldiera is a New York City-based interdisciplinary artist. Using sculpture, printmaking, and installation, she explores relationships among people, public space, time, and value. In her work, found objects are integrated into precarious new systems that challenge hierarchies of matter, recontextualizing local histories and sites' material life with play and resilience. She graduated with an MFA from Columbia University School of the Arts in 2023. Caldiera's work has been in group shows at Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Entrance Gallery, Half Gallery, Wallach Gallery, Yeh Art Gallery, EFA 20/20 Gallery, and The Rhizome Center. She recently had solo exhibitions at Astor Weeks and Subtitled.NYC. Caldiera was a Neiman Center Fellow (2021-23), an Interdisciplinary Art and Theory Program Fellow (2023-24), and was awarded a grant to attend Anderson Ranch. Caldiera is currently a resident at the Hercules Art Studio Program and teaches at Pratt Institute and the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop.

Katie Chin (b. 1990, Columbus, OH) is a New York based interdisciplinary artist anchored in sculpture. Often using ceramic and metal, her work is concerned with the cultural implications of economics and explores themes of precarity, ideology, collectivity, and structures of alienation. She often uses sculpture as an archive, either by engaging audience participation, using laborious casting processes that complicate value, or by crafting performative objects of emergence. She graduated in 2023 from Parsons School of Design with an MFA in Fine Arts. She is a recent participant in the Interdisciplinary Art and Theory Program, completed residencies at Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, and Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild. She has exhibited throughout the United States including at Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Gallery, Collar Works, Root Division, The Midway Gallery, and Gallery MC.

Adriana Furlong (b. Oakland, CA) is an interdisciplinary artist living and working in New York. She received her BFA from Parsons School of Design in 2022, and was a participant in the Interdisciplinary Art and Theory Program in New York in 2024. Her work is a personal inquiry into the symbolologies that allegorize labor and how it gets translated into urban space. Utilizing imagery from bas-reliefs around New York City, she fragments the fantasies of control and mobility. She combines digital and traditional modes of making, working between computational modeling processes, 3D modeling, printing, and painting to reflect the contemporary experience of labor, exhaustion and desire. Recent group and solo exhibitions include 'Hundreds Do Things, Island Gallery, New York, 'On the Shoulders of Giants', The Border Project Space, Brooklyn; 'It is Always Spring Above the Frost Line', Laundry Room, Chicago; 'as-built/as-made', Undercurrent, New York and 'Ideal Acre', Island Gallery, New York. Forthcoming exhibitions include Barbati, Venice, IT.

Elisheva Gavra is an artist, photographer and writer based in New York. Her work has been exhibited at the Jewish Museum in New York, The Broad Art Center in Los Angeles, and elsewhere. She is an MFA graduate in photography from Columbia University (2023) as well as a participant of the Interdisciplinary Art and Theory Program in Manhattan, NY (2024). Her practice involves photography and performance treated as systems of designation. She is interested in photography as a belief system, and in the possibility for an audience to question beliefs as well as explicate them, her work demonstrates a participation in reality and its mechanisms of meaning.

Marty Koelsch is living, reading, thinking, learning, writing, teaching, making art, and studying landscapes in Baltimore, Maryland. Working in sculpture and place-based/time-based mediums, her practice engages the relationship between humans and the environment through ecological, object-oriented, and queer lenses. Marty holds a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture from The Ohio State University and a Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the Maryland Institute College of Art.

Kara Springer is particularly concerned with armature—the underlying structure that holds the flesh of a body in place. She works with photography, sculpture, and site-specific interventions to explore systems of structural support through engagement with architecture, urban infrastructure, and systems of institutional and political power. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Toronto, Artists Space in New York, the Philadelphia Institute of Contemporary Art, the National Gallery of the Bahamas, and the National Gallery of Jamaica. She is an alum of the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston Core Program.



Adriana Furlong, *I can't quit you*, 2024, concrete, oxidized brass and iron dust on wool panel, 38 x 29 in

Masha (Mariia Usova) is a Russian-Ukrainian visual artist. Her work investigates fundamental theoretical concepts and their precise artistic expression. The central themes of her research include psychoanalysis, theology, and continental philosophy. In her practice, Masha combines nuanced sensibilities with a devoutly disciplined aesthetic to create a reverently strict visual style. Her artwork presents the capacity of form to overwhelm with subtlety as it conveys discretion, and characterizes her investigations of the concepts of the temporal and corporeal. Masha holds Liberal Arts degrees in Literature with highest honors from Smolny College and Bard College. She is currently pursuing an MFA in Intermedia and Digital Arts at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, concurrently enhancing her theoretical research at the European Graduate School.

Yiying Wang is an artist and aspiring thereminist based in New York and Yunnan, China. Her work—often combinations of diagram, note, and video documentation—questions how abstract notions of identity and order materialize in the speaking body. She received her BFA from Parsons School of Design in 2023. She attended Yale Norfolk School of Art in summer 2022 and participated in the Art Dialog 2022 symposium in Gallery Klenová, Czech Republic. She is currently a participant in the Interdisciplinary Art and Theory Program in Manhattan, NY.

Eunsoo Yi (b. 1985, Seoul, South Korea) is a curator and writer based in New York and Seoul. Her research interests focus on the performance, reenactment, and linguistic articulation of the experiences of diasporic Asian women, and how they can be inscribed in the collective memory. She curated *Oozing: Islands in Islands* (2023), *Water Womxn Jeju Island* (2022) at Unlearning Space in Jeju and received Creative Academy Funds from the Arts Council Korea and the Artwork Production and Exhibition Grant from the Danish Arts Foundation for her exhibition *Effaced Faces* (2020). She organized the International Fellowship Program at the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea and contributed to the 12th Gwangju Biennale: *Imagined Borders* (2018) and *Beyond Line: The Art of Korean Writing* (2017) at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. She holds an MA in History of Art from the Courtauld Institute of Art, London.

Press

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All images courtesy of the artist and Karen Jenkins-Johnson.

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