

For immediate release: 12/5/2020

On view: January 16 – February 21, 2021

Opening Reception: Sat, Jan. 16 from 5:30 to 8 pm

Works. . . four artists

Kathleen Maximin, Michael Filan, Gerard McCarthy, Gunnar Theel

Co-curated by **Charlotta Kotik** and **Hanne Tierney**

This un-dogmatic exhibition presents work by two sculptors and two painters for the pleasure of seeing the physical manifestation of the process of art making. This is especially apparent with the carefully worked small sculptures by Gunnar Theel and Gerard McCarthy. The two painters, Kathleen Maximin and Michael Filan, explore abstraction in full. Their work is informed by heroic gestures as well as by the poetic line in calligraphy.

Kathleen Maximin, a largely self-taught painter, equates her painting method with music making. “I’m creating music on a canvas, while I focus my thoughts on color.” Her paintings show an unerring sense of when to stop her hand and herself from applying yet one more stroke.

Although **Michael Filan’s** recent paintings have become more brushless, the gestures, drips and splashes that unite his work are intricate, even intimate and self-referential. Special planes are created on the surfaces that become resting points for the eyes, and at the same time, a showplace for the color.

Gerard McCarthy’s work in the exhibition consists of several groups of monochromatic stoneware sculptures, dense, solid and small in scale. The figures have a monolithic heft to them, and a sturdy Paleolithic look. Women gossip, dancers sway, and some others might be engaged in political protest. It is impossible not to be aware of the hand-built in the work.

Gunnar Theel’s *Beach Houses* reveal his long-standing interest in architecture. This series of small welded and painted steel sculptures is partly inspired by de Chirico’s cityscapes and partly adheres to the artist’s vision of habitable sculptures. Hi work is guided by the Bauhaus economy of “simplification of design and refinement of proportions”.

Bios

Kathleen Maximin was born on the island of St. Lucia and raised in St. Croix. She began drawing and painting at the age of five. As a young child she was overawed by watching a man paint beautiful landscapes of the island and decided to be an artist. Her work has been show at Berkely College 2012, YMCA Group Exhibition 2009, Next Thursday Live Art Show 2013, Terra Firma Live Art Show, Sonoma, CA 2016, Chelsea Art Exhibition, New York, NY 2017

Michael Filan's paintings have been featured in solo and group exhibitions in galleries and museums, including the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum of Rutgers University, the JMS Gallery in Philadelphia; the Nicholas F. Rizzo Gallery in Chatham, New Jersey; and the Berlin Kunstproject in Germany. In New York City he has had exhibitions at Artist Space; the Bronx Museum of the Arts; the Atrium Gallery of LaGuardia Community College; the Landmark Gallery, the Lobby Gallery of the Durst Corporation; the Mary Anthony Gallery; and the Shirley Eitteman Gallery of City College University of New York.

Gerard McCarthy studied at Goldsmiths College, London and the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program. He has most recently exhibited at The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, Skoto Gallery/New York and at Capella Orsini, Rome and Galerie Punto G, Pietrasanta, Tuscany, Italy. Additionally he has written numerous catalogue essays as well as articles for various publications including *Art in America*. He has worked with clay for many years.

Selected shows for **GunnarTheel** exhibitions at New Hope Arts, New Hope, PA; A New Leaf Gallery, Berkeley, CA; the Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA; the Shanghai Spring Art Salon, Shanghai, China; The Madison Mile at The Hollycroft Foundation, Madison, CT; Pier Walk, Chicago, IL; ART/OMI, Omi, NY; Pratt Institute Sculpture Park, Brooklyn, NY; and Contemporary Sculpture at Chesterwood, Stockbridge, MA.

Concurrent Exhibition in the Plus/Space adjoining the gallery

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Into the Maelstrom

Installation by **Etty Yaniv**

This site-specific sculptural installation by **Etty Yaniv** is made of highly textured clusters of painted repurposed materials taken from her art studio and her everyday life: mainly assorted paper and plastic. These disjointed material fragments coalesce into sculptures of varied scales that are all lightweight and ephemeral yet by grouping them in dense clusters of detailed textured layers, they appear massive or even monumental. From afar they seem like tactile segments of satellite images or abstracted seascapes, predominantly in whites, grays, and blues, but from close-up they reveal tiny narrative documenting vignettes from the artist's daily experiences.

The clustered dimensional structures, and not less important the breathing space in between, create an overall rhythmic flow in the enclosed gallery space, activating walls, air, and floor into a visceral environment where the visitor is prompted to walk through and observe from different perspectives. The notions of a simultaneous perpetual movement, shifting vantage points, and intra-connectivity between all the fragments, are equally central in this installation as well as in Yaniv's overall work.

Bio

Etty Yaniv exhibited in solo and group shows at galleries and museums nationally and internationally, including The Haifa Museum of Art, Israel, State Silk Museum, Tbilisi, Georgia, Newark Museum of Art, NJ, Monmouth Museum of Art, NJ, Torrance Art Museum, CA, AIR gallery, Brooklyn, Sheen Cultural Center, NYC, Long Island University, Brooklyn, Purdue University, IN, UCONN University, Stamford, CT, Helen Day, VT, Musée Héritage Museum, St. Albert, CA, Zero1 Biennial in San Francisco, and Leipziger Baumwollspinnerei, Leipzig, Germany.

Gallery Hours: Thursday through Sunday, from 1pm to 6pm

Directions: Take the 2,3,4 or 5 train to Franklin Ave. in Brooklyn. Walk two blocks against the traffic on Franklin, turn left into St. Johns Place, walk ½ block to FiveMyles.

For more information please contact Hanne Tierney: 347-534-6776 hanne@fivemyles.org

[FiveMyles](#)

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