

MEDIA

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INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE CENTER ANNOUNCES HER:HERE, ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE EXHIBITION & WELCOMING 2017'S NEW RESIDENTS AT MANA CONTEMPORARY

(Hamilton, NJ) The **International Sculpture Center (ISC)** is pleased to announce **HER:HERE**, an exhibition with the organization's first artists-in-residence at **Mana Contemporary** (Mana), **Katie Hovencamp** and **Emily Nelms Perez**. With these new bodies of work, the artists have taken various sculptural approaches including assemblage, digital fabrication, installation, and drawing to discuss pressurized conformity in relation to the body, land, and identity.

HER:HERE exhibits Hovencamp's twelve part Patriarchal Collar series constructed of steel, aluminum, and lace, as well as Nelms Perez's *Divisoria*, an 8 x 28' landscape of government satellite images of the U.S./Mexico border

Katie Hovencamp's work displaces traditional constructs of gender, "beauty" culture, and expectations on the female body, shattering their implications on contemporary society. With the use of folklore, fairy tale, and fantasy, she employs humor to discuss the damaging effects of imposed gender roles on the human psyche. Hovencamp often enters into the work, engaging her own body as a part of the sculpture's form and content. In this way, she invites the viewer to join her in the emotional spaces of performative sculpture. Hovencamp's visions infiltrate and disrupt societal structures of what it means to be a woman, liberating both male and female, while encouraging conversations on equality and the feminine. Katie Hovencamp has exhibited throughout the United States, United Kingdom, and Latvia. She currently teaches at Keystone College and Harrisburg Area Community College. **Emily Nelms Perez's** practice focuses on ethnic ambiguity and cultural diversity, driven by the desire to feel, taste, and reconnect to an invisible and denied history. With these works she discusses a lost vision of land, voice, and agriculture, translating politically and personally compelling narratives into forms that question misperceptions of belonging in the United States. The natural world is an essential symbol throughout her work and is seen in her material choices, such as red clay, maize, okra, and spices. She uses these terrestrial elements to connect the viewer to place and provide a presence for marginal experiences. Nelms Perez's work considers the uncertainty of the half-blooded and the social pressure to assimilate into dominant and often mono-cultural modes of living. Nelms Perez has shown in Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, France, and the United States. She is a participant in *Debtfair*, a project of Occupy Museums, for this year's Whitney Biennial.

Please join us for an opening reception on **Sunday, April 30th, from 1 - 6 PM** at MANA Contemporary, 888 Newark Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07306, on the 5th floor, **studio #547**. [RSVP HERE](#). The artists will also be in conversation with Johannah Hutchison, ISC's Executive Director. This event will take place at 888 Newark Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07306, on the 5th floor, studio #547. Date TBD. To find out more about Hovencamp & Nelms Perez visit www.sculpture.org/residency

ISC in collaboration with Mana contemporary developed the residency program in Mana's BSMT and it is open to all current ISC members. Mana BSMT project is an open community of artists working in collaborative space. The ISC is excited to announce the new 2017 spring recipients **Olga Alexander**, MFA University of Tennessee, Knoxville & **Gina Miccinilli**, MFA William Patterson. They will be moving in May 1st and working at Mana until August 2017.

Olga Alexander works in many materials and formats including abstract drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, installation and sculpture. Her art practice is experimental and recombinant, and makes use of whatever media best accommodates her reference to popular culture, science and architecture to engage viewers in thought provoking ways and present a body of work in which a dialogue emerges generally, about the fluidity of identity, the power of fashion and art or the hybridization of the urban landscape. **Gina Miccinilli** is enamored with the myriad of ways that energy transforms matter and can redefine space not only informal aesthetic approaches but in the expansion of new social paradigms. Her work incorporates both approaches; taking form as site specific installation and social sculpture. Albeit in very different ways, both reflect the transformative effects of energy and shifting notions of space. Her installations consist of recycled materials: predominantly iron and glass. To find out more about ISC's residency program, visit www.sculpture.org/residency.

The **International Sculpture Center** is a member-supported, nonprofit organization founded in 1960 to champion the creation and understanding of sculpture and its unique, vital contribution to society. Members include sculptors, collectors, patrons, architects, developers, journalists, curators, historians, critics, educators, foundries, galleries, and museums-anyone with an interest in and commitment to the field of sculpture. Please visit www.sculpture.org for further details.

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