

# nancy margolis gallery

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## FIGURATION *INSIDE/OUT*

Heidi Howard, Meghan Howland, Aubrey Levinthal, Sylvia Naimark

November 5 - December 19, 2015

Reception: Thursday November 5, 6-8pm

Nancy Margolis Gallery is pleased to announce FIGURATION: INSIDE/OUT will open to the public Thursday, November 5 from 6-8pm through December 19, 2015. In this group show FIGURATION INSIDE/OUT examines portraiture through the depiction of the body, mind, and spirit. The paintings by the five accomplished artists in this exhibition were selected for their engaging personal expression, and styles. Their genre, unlike and varied, runs from realism, abstraction, narration, symbolism, patterning, and adornment.



**HEIDI HOWARD** paints portraits of friends, rendering and reflecting their close symbiotic relationship. The structure of each painting is based on the color feelings, style, and images inherent to the sitter. Through this approach each sitter is reflected not only in an outward likeness, but also via the paint application. The occasion of painting a particular person, for Howard, is an occasion to create a new abstract space. She reexamines the concept behind traditional portrait painting: the relationship to the sitter throughout the process, the construction of a single space with imagery and ideas, sometimes text and iconography, and finally the application of paint on the canvas. The core of Howard's portraits is the collaborative personal flow she has with her subject.

HEIDI HOWARD, New York NY, received a MFA in 2014 from Columbia University and a BA in 2008 from Sarah Lawrence College. She has also studied at Scuola Internazionale di Grafica, Venice, Italy in 2006, Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici, Florence, Italy in 2005, Reed College, Portland, OR in 2004, and Yale University, New Haven, CT in 2003. She is the recipient of many awards and residencies, including 2013 Rose Biller Scholarship, 2013

Andrew Fisher Fellowship, 2011 Vermont Studio Center Residency, and 2014 Byrdcliffe Artist in Residence. Her work has been reviewed by Art F City, The Brooklyn Rail, Wild Magazine, and Artcritical: The Review Panel: David Cohen, Vincent Katz, Christopher Stackhouse, Martha Schwendener Feb. 13, 2015. She has participated in numerous exhibitions, including the solo exhibition "Painting for Love" at Con Artist Gallery, and group exhibitions at Nathan A. Bernstein Fine Art NY, Elga Wimmer PCC, NY, and Outlet Gallery, Brooklyn. Howard is represented by Nancy Margolis Gallery. In December 2014 the gallery featured her work at MIAMI PROJECT during Miami Basel week. Howard had her first solo exhibition with the gallery January/February 2015 titled "Portrait and Dream".



**MEGHAN HOWLAND's** paintings offer a unique range of styles and observations, and while often personal in their meaning, venture to examine larger cultural and emotional issues. Through a haze of oil paint, and sometimes flora and fauna, we are confronted by situations that are at once disarmingly beautiful, yet are infused with an implied sense of yearning, loss, or disaster. In recent work, subjects are bathed in nature in a subtle unnatural way. Naive to or unaffected by what is happening around them, figures are often used to explore issues of fragility, identity, and our individual understandings of nature in regard to our own personal, somewhat obscure relationship to it.

MEGHAN HOWLAND Portland, Maine, received her BFA from New Hampshire Institute of Art, and is currently an MFA 2017 Candidate at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA. Recent exhibitions include Friends of Leon Gallery Sydney, Abend Gallery Denver, Roq La Rue Gallery Seattle, P+C Portland, Bowersock Gallery Provincetown, and the Boston International Fine Art Fair. Her work has been featured in numerous publications including Hi-Fructose, Southwest Art Magazine, Lone Wolf Magazine, The Corner Magazine, Juxtapoz, Beautiful.Bizarre, Empty Magazine, The Jealous Curator, Colossal, Beautiful/Decay, and BOOOOOOOM!



**AUBREY LEVINTHAL** subject's come from Levinthal's personal experiences grandiose or mundane; a trip to Paris, a gallery opening, eating, sleeping. Any visual experience is on the table as a point of departure. Through the process of making the painting, pulling from distorted memory and attempting to satisfy formal concerns of composition, color and structure invariably arrive at some new, unforeseen place. Space might be flattened, color deepened, multiple experiences layered. When the imagery is heightened by these formal shifts, when form and content seem somehow equally present and aware of each other that is the stopping point. The artist's comment, "when the paintings possess their own bizarre, visual moment much like the initial visual spark that implored me to make a painting in the first place, I am satisfied."

AUBREY LEVINTHAL, Philadelphia PA, received a B.A. in Visual Arts and Sociology at Pennsylvania State University in 2008 and an M.F.A. at Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA) in 2011. Recent shows include NOVELLA gallery NYC, Trestle Projects Brooklyn, Woodmere Art Museum, Gross McCleaf Gallery Phila, New Hope Arts Center, Cerulean Art Gallery Phila, and the University of the Arts Phila. Levinthal's work has been featured in the Philadelphia Inquirer, Title Magazine, Painters' Table, and New American Paintings. She has received notable awards such as the Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant, Elizabeth Coyne Memorial Prize: Woodmere Art Museum, Merit Scholarship: PAFA, and the Academy Scholarship: PAFA. She continues to live and work in Philadelphia where she has a studio and teaches at PAFA and Rowan University.



**SYLVIA NAIMARK**'s paintings, dark and moody, search to describe the emotions trapped in-between a collective consciousness and the personal self. They reflect everything that feels inevitable, something implicit that she can't let go of and needs to be visualized. There is no predisposed program. The initial idea is rarely presented in the outcome and if so, it has been filtered through a tumultuous untraceable maze. Collected items, drawings, documents and photos, can all be distilled down into an integral part of Naimark's painting process. The figures are all residents of the borderland where abstraction meets actuality. One work adds to the next in an unorganized stream of thought and experience. They bear different messages and represent spiritual possibilities and new meanings to established episodes that were, will and will never be. There might be a hidden narrative in the works and the artist says might because they are undefined to even to her. Animals appear as bearers of serene messages. They represent our inner and most intimate way of handling others and ourselves. A transient memory of another memory can describe life, death, and

everything in between in natural way as if they never happened.

SYLVIA NAIMARK, Stockholm, Sweden studied at Konstfack, University College of Arts Crafts and Design, Stockholm (BFA 1983), and Bezalel Academy of Art, Jerusalem (BFA 1987). Naimark has exhibited internationally with Konstrnärshuset, Stockholm, Kaz Gallery, Västerås, Gallery Bergman, Stockholm and Malmö, Astley Gallery, Uttersberg, Cité des Arts, Paris, Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York, and O Street Studio, Washington D.C. She has had numerous solo exhibitions in 2015 including with PS Gallery, Gothenburg 2014, Härnösands Konsthall 2013, and Landskrona Konsthall 2011. Naimark was an artist in residence with the Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris 2013, Villa San Michele, Capri 2011, and Institut Suédois Paris 2007.



**VICTORIA ROTH** makes large abstract paintings that are of the body. Roth paints to articulate a new subjective body that is pulpous, beastly, active. The making process mobilizes her physicality intensely— Roth adds, rubs, sands, brushes, and erases to activate the surfaces into beings. A sense of urgency through movement and rhythm pulsates within a structured play between color, line and anthropomorphic shapes. Suffused with inner light, Roth's language of amassed marks and traces releases a temperature and a sense of mood specific in each work.

VICTORIA ROTH born in Paris France, currently lives and works in Queens, NY. Roth received her Bachelor of Arts in History of Art & Visual Arts from Brown University, Providence RI in 2008. In 2014 Roth received her Master of Fine Arts from Columbia University, New York NY. Roth has exhibited her work at Show Room Gowanus Brooklyn NY, Fisher Landau Center for Art Long Island City NY, 200 Livingston, Brooklyn NY, Wallach Gallery New York NY, Tape Modern Berlin DE, Program Gallery Berlin DE, New Bedford Art Museum MA, Sarah Doyle Women's Center Gallery Providence RI, and Bell Gallery Providence RI. She has received a number of awards including the

Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program Residency 2015, Emily Fisher Landau Fellowship 2013, Pincus Kossow Fellowship 2012, Reberta Joslin Award for Excellence in Art 2008.

**IMAGES LISTED IN ORDER OF DOCUMENT:** HEIDI HOWARD: Brie Ruais, 2015, oil on canvas, 42x48"; MEGHAN HOWLAND: Gathering Storm, Oil on canvas, 40x48"; AUBREY LEVINTHAL: Bed's Edge, 2015, Oil on panel, 24x24"; SYLVIA NAIMARK: Hold On, 2014, Oil on canvas 19x19"; VICTORIA ROTH: Silver, 2015, Oil on canvas, 60x72"