



Hyemi Kim, *City Collage 8*, still image from video, 1 channel 4k video, 03:00, 2022

Principles of Existence

February 25 – March 22

With works by Chris Agnew, Giovanni Chiamenti, Eun Young Cho, Barnett Cohen, Katie Hubbell,
Liva Isakson Lundin, Hyemi Kim, and Amber Helene Müller St. Thomas

Opening Reception: Friday, February 25, 6-8 pm

NARS Main Gallery

Principles of Existence brings together a series of explorations on how relationships are organized and experienced. The insistence on coming together and on subverting the ways in which touch and connection can happen in our current days, prevail as essential needs.

The works in this exhibition stem from the observation of encounters -human and not human-, and from the negotiation between tensions, languages, forms of communication, imbalances, and losses that can come from these interactions.

Mostly research based, the processes of these artists consist of collecting and analyzing words, stories, places, objects, textures, landscapes, species and experiences that are meaningful, and question our need for coexistence, in order to reaffirm ourselves. The results are translated into painting, sculpture, installation, video, textiles, drawings and performance.

About the artists:

Chris Agnew is a British artist living and working in London. He was awarded an MFA in Fine Art by Wimbledon College of Art, and a BA in Contemporary Art Practice by the University of Leeds. His work has won and been shortlisted for numerous prizes including the Axisweb Artist Award, the Derwent Art Prize, the Jerwood Drawing Prize and Saatchi's New Sensations amongst others. Works are held in public collections including the V&A Museum, London, and the Hearst Corporation, New York. He has worked as an Associate Lecturer in Fine Art at Lancaster University, and is also an Art Director for Film and TV productions. Agnew's participation at NARS has been generously supported by Arts Council England.

Giovanni Chiamenti (Verona, 1992) lives and works in Milan. He obtained his MFA at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera in Milan in 2017. In 2016/17 he undertook the Erasmus + program at the Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts de Brussels. He exhibited in group exhibitions in Italy and abroad at the Museo delle Mura (Rome), Atelier 34zèro Muzeum (Bruxelles), Galería Fran Reus (Palma di Maiorca), Art Noble Gallery (Milan). He has been artist-in-residence at School of Visual Arts (New York), VIR viafarini-in-residence (Milan), VIAINDUSTRIAE (Foligno) and The Blank Contemporary Art (Bergamo). In 2020 he was one of the winners of COMBAT Prize. In 2021 he had two solo exhibitions at Galleria Daniele Agostini (Lugano) and at Galleria Marrocco (Naples).

Eun Young Cho (Choey) is a visual artist based in US and S. Korea. She works with drawing, installation, poetry, and photography and is inspired by conflicting cultural and societal values surrounding her everyday. The central framework of her practice is translation theory and her editing projects include a retrospective exhibition catalog for National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea (MMCA) and a publication for Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture (SFAC). Her recent shows include Roy G Biv Gallery, the Center for Epigraphical and Paleographical studies and fellowships and residencies include Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in Canada and Vermont Studio Center and Studios at MASS MoCA (forthcoming). She holds an MFA from the Ohio State University and a BFA from Univ. of Nebraska at Omaha.

Barnett Cohen is a poet, painter, performance maker, and political activist based in Los Angeles. He has exhibited his work, staged performances, and read his writing at numerous venues across the United States including REDCAT, JOAN, LAXART, Pieter Space, 356 Mission, Human Resources, The Box (Los Angeles), The International Center For Photography, Beverly's, JDJ (New York), Vox Populi (Philadelphia), and City Limits, Open Space/SFMOMA (Oakland & San Francisco.) A graduate of Vassar College and CalArts, he has been in-residence at SVA, Skowhegan, and MacDowell. In 2017, Cohen founded the Mutual Aid Immigration Network (MAIN), a multilingual free assistance hotline for people detained in immigration detention centers across the US. MAIN connects individuals in detention with bond funds and legal services that can accelerate their freedom from incarceration.

Katie Hubbell's multimedia practice examines mass-media aesthetization, highlighting the tensions and comforts embedded within sensuous images. Hubbell's work reveals the flirtations and repulsions, states of boredom and states of obsession, parallels and contradictions which inhabit twenty-first century advertisement culture and self-help models of care. Hubbell currently lives and works in Philadelphia.

Liva Isakson Lundin, born 1990, earned her masters degree from the Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm 2016. Her work has been exhibited frequently in Sweden, for instance at Moderna Museet, Bonniers Konsthall and Royal Swedish academy of Fine Arts. She is represented by Wetterling Gallery in Stockholm, with whom she participated at The Armory Show in New York in 2020. She has completed a number of public commissions, including a permanent installation for the city theatre in Gothenburg, Sweden, as well as a sculptural commission for the main square in Eslöv, Sweden. She is represented in the collections of Moderna Museet in Stockholm amongst others.

Hyemi Kim is a South Korean multi-media artist based in New York and Seoul. She received her MFA in Photography, Video, and Related Media from the School of Visual Arts and got her first MFA and BFA in Painting from South Korea. Her video works were shown at Time Square, the ZAZ corner and several group shows in NYC. She is also active in South Korea participating in the 2021 CICA New Media Art

Conference, 2017 Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism, and 2016 ASYAF (Asian Student & Young Artist Art Fair).

Amber Helene Müller St. Thomas is a Canadian artist based in Toronto. They completed their MFA at York University (2017). They were a beneficiary of the Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Master's Scholarship (2016). Exhibitions include: A National Test Market, (Artspace, 2017) curated by Jonathan Lockyer, Hamilton Now: Subject, (Art Gallery of Hamilton, 2018) curated by Melissa Bennett, Presently (Art Gallery of Peterborough, 2020) a juried exhibition, and art(i f)ACTS (Gales Gallery in affiliation with the AGYU, 2017) curated by Belinda Kwan. They were a participating artist for the 2018 Hamilton Supercrawl Arts Festival and for the 2020 Venice International Performance Art Week organized by VestAndPage with the generous support of the European Cultural Centre (ECC) Italy.

The NARS Galleries are open Monday - Friday from 12 to 5 pm. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we require visitors to make an appointment to visit the exhibitions, by calling the office: 718-768-2765 or by emailing info@narsfoundation.org, and bring proof of vaccination.

The New York Art Residency and Studios (NARS) Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit arts organization committed to supporting artists and curators on an international level as well as engaging the local community in Brooklyn and the Greater New York area. Our mission is to present diverse platforms on which to nurture creative inspiration and innovative cross-pollination of ideas.

For further information, please contact us at www.narsfoundation.org / info@narsfoundation.org / 718-768-2765.



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