

A.I.R.

Forever is Composed of Nows

Curated by Natasha Becker, Paola Gallio, and Yulia Topchiy,
Co-Founders of Assembly Room NYC

Hend Al-Mansour, Diane Cionni, d'Ann de Simone, Robin Dintiman, Kathryn Hart, Marlana Stoddard Hayes, Jody Joldersma, Katherine Tzu-Lan Mann, Jennifer McCandless, Carola Miles, Mimi Oritsky, Ruth Owens, Simone Paterson, Allison Paschke, Martha Sedgwick, Ann Stoddard, Vicky Tomayko, Ellyn Weiss, Holly Wong, Mineko Yoshida, Alice Pixley Young



Carola Miles, *Mirjana*, 2019. Oil on canvas. 14 x 11 inches.

February 14 – March 15, 2020

Opening Reception: Friday, February 14, 6-8pm

A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to present *Forever is Composed of Nows*, a group exhibition curated by Assembly Room NYC, a curatorial collective founded by Natasha Becker, Paola Gallio, and Yulia Topchiy. The exhibition features A.I.R. National Artist Members Hend Al-Mansour, Diane Cionni, d'Ann de Simone, Robin Dintiman, Kathryn Hart, Marlana Stoddard Hayes, Jody Joldersma, Katherine Tzu-Lan Mann, Jennifer McCandless, Carola Miles, Mimi Oritsky, Ruth Owens, Simone Paterson, Allison Paschke, Martha Sedgwick, Ann Stoddard, Vicky Tomayko, Ellyn Weiss, Holly Wong, Mineko Yoshida, and Alice Pixley Young

The title of the exhibition is inspired by Emily Dickinson's iconic poem, *Forever is Composed of Nows*, which presents the idea that every small moment is happening "now" and collectively adds up to "forever," or a lifetime. What seems so intangible and distant is actually being created out of the experiences we have every day.

Similarly, regardless of space or time or context, the artists in the exhibition explore recurring moments—centered around home, family, relationships, work, nature, technology, play, adventure, joy, and trauma. These are the "nows" that appear, throughout our lives, in unexpected ways, if we but stop to notice. Like beads on a string, they make up our "forevers."

The artists draw on a range of experiences, methods, and styles to present moments in which hope and optimism mingle with death and decay, and joy and humanism flirt with escape and disaster. It is a fragile forever now. But in their brave and compassionate responses to our contemporary world, their work offers hope and promise for the future.

On February 19th, 2020, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, the curators of the exhibition will host a curatorial meet-up at A.I.R. Assembly Room NYC was founded in New York City's Lower East Side by three curators to grow a community of female curators across the country and the globe, gathering together to work, connect, and thrive. Prior to this, the founders provided each other with encouragement at times when they needed it. From their humble circle, they expanded and founded an informal monthly gathering, inviting freelance independent female curators to join their monthly meetings. Since 2018, Assembly Room has aimed to carry on this tradition of support and generosity that has fueled so many women-centered movements before them. At the February 19th gathering, Becker, Gallio, and Topchiy will present the exhibition and open a critical dialogue with the curators in attendance.

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On Sunday, March 8, 2020 from 1-3PM, in conjunction with the NADA New York Gallery Open, A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to present a Gallery Hop from Assembly Room's location on the Lower East Side to A.I.R. Gallery in DUMBO. Beginning at Assembly Room (191 Henry St, New York, NY 10002) at 1PM, Yulia Topchiy will present her most recent curatorial project, *It's all Chemical*, a solo exhibition of new paintings and sculptures by Julia Colavita. At A.I.R. Gallery (155 Plymouth St, Brooklyn, NY 11201), Natasha Becker and Paola Gallio will introduce *Forever is composed of Nows*. Coffee with the curators will be offered at A.I.R. after the tour.

A.I.R. Gallery is wheelchair accessible via ramp. There are accessible toilets in the venue. There is comfortable seating with backs. Free tap water is available. The venue is nearest to the F train at York St (0.2 miles) and the A train at High St (0.5 miles). The nearest wheelchair accessible trains are the B, Q, R at Dekalb Av (1.1 miles) and the 2, 3 at Borough Hall (0.8 miles). The roads immediately surrounding the gallery are cobblestone. The nearest accessible parking garage (for an hourly fee) is two blocks away at 100 Jay St. No ID necessary for entry. Please contact info@airgallery.org for more information.



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