

signs and symbols

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Over the past two weeks, amidst the uncertainty and worries, we have wondered how to adapt to our new socially-distanced reality. We believe that it is not only our responsibility as a gallery to continue championing our artists but also that art is vitally important in these times. While we have been heartened to see the art world embrace new virtual formats and online platforms, we also felt it was important for us to stay true to the nature of our program and to the integrity of our artists' mediums, to not compromise their installations and two-dimensional works. signs and symbols has always focused on the live arts, the in-person experiences in real time and space, and we have always believed that the works of our artists are more than an image or an idea that can be represented digitally. After speaking with each of our artists and carefully considering our strengths, we realized how we can best embrace who we are and what we stand for – our artists are already primarily devoted to time-based media and performance.

We are delighted to announce **a forthcoming series of two-week online solo video exhibitions by our artists**, each featuring one work that speaks to our current precarious situation. This new series will launch this week on **Thursday, April 2** with **Jen DeNike**, followed by **Ornella Fieres**, **Broomberg & Chanarin**, **Tony Orrico** and **Michelle Handelman**. Some of these video works were meant to be part of our artists' forthcoming exhibitions at the gallery, so those will be shown for the first time, while others will make their "New York" debuts. None of these videos were ever necessarily intended or required to be shown as an installation, so we firmly believe that viewing them online does not jeopardize the work or the experience in any way – rather than viewing these works on a screen with headphones or sitting on a bench at the gallery, you can do the same from your own home. Each artist's exhibition will become publicly available on our website at 6pm on their opening date, and remain online until 6pm on their closing date; passwords will be re-activated when the exhibition closes. We truly trust that given our current circumstances, everyone will act in good faith and good will, understanding that these are primary artworks by our artists that are collected and which would otherwise be password protected.

In addition to our online video exhibition program, we will also present **a livestreamed performance by signs and symbols artists once a month via our Instagram @signssymbols**. **Annabel Daou** will perform on **April 3**, and **Tony Orrico** will perform later in May.

Our current site-specific installation by Shaqayeq Arabi will resume once we can safely re-open the gallery, followed by the first New York solo exhibition of South African painter Zander Blom in partnership with Stevenson Gallery. We believe that these works are best encountered in person rather than online, and to be fair to our artists, we will simply pick up where we left off in our program timeline, rather than outright canceling any exhibition. We know the day will come when we will return to our physical gallery space at 102 Forsyth. **Until then, please see our new program details below and mark your calendars for these video exhibitions and performance livestreams.**

I am deeply grateful for my incredible artists who have revealed themselves to be even more adaptive, creative and supportive than I ever knew. I thank them for taking this leap to the online world, for standing beside the gallery as we embark on this journey through the virtual unknown. Together, we will navigate our way through these unprecedented times as a collective.

I hope you will join us online. We count on your support in this venture, and we hope to (virtually) see everyone soon.

—Mitra Khorasheh

video exhibitions (online)

Jen DeNike | *Queen of Narwhals* | April 2 - April 15, 2020

Ornella Fieres | *An Algorithm for Snowfall* | April 16 - April 29, 2020

Broomberg & Chanarin | *Bureaucracy of Angels* | April 30 - May 13, 2020

Tony Orrico | *Leveraging sound from sensation with every in and out breath until the heart becomes a tender object* | May 14 - May 27, 2020

Michelle Handelman | *These Unruly and Ungovernable Selves* | May 28 - June 10, 2020

performance program (livestreamed)

Annabel Daou | *I will worry for you (from dusk till dawn)* | April 3, 6pm - April 4, 6am, 2020

Tony Orrico | May 2020, exact date to be announced