

## **auxilium continuum: reframing**

May 16 - June 29, 2024

Reception: May 31<sup>st</sup> 7-9pm

Honfleur Gallery presents *auxilium continuum: reframing*, a group exhibition (re)constructing support as a fluid and matriarchal practice that relies on collaboration and generativity.

For this exhibition, five contemporary women-identifying artists practicing in the greater Washington DC area were each provided stipends to create an artwork of their choosing – without any creative, conceptual, or practical limitations – in exchange for their participation in unfiltered conversations about their experiences with support (and lack thereof), inequality, and discrimination in their art careers, and how they imagine/desire art spaces and publics to evolve in the future.

Curated by Marta Lola Staudinger, *auxilium continuum: reframing* is both a seed and a field study. It initiates dialogue around under-investigated aspects of feminine energy (creation, intuition, fluidity) in the arts marketplace by gifting the participating artists time, space, and financial compensation to create freely. As a result, with deep reverence for practice and process, artists Ceci Cole McInturff, Leah Lewis, Jean Jinho Kim, Rania Hassan, and Nicole Salimbene respond using a variety of media to present individual expressions of current needs and/or themes in their practices.

Concepts that intersect across the artists' artworks and the exhibition's composite offering include radical unity, hospitality, nourishment and collective care, rest and regeneration, matriarchs and mother lines, traditions of craft (predominantly created by women), resilience, women gathering, exchange, and the need for boundaries and protection.

This exhibition is sponsored by the 2023 Honfleur Women in Arts Program Curator Grant and ARCH Development Corporation.

---

## **ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES:**

### **Ceci Cole McInturff**

@artistceccolemcinturff

<http://87-florida.clickbooq.com/>

Ceci Cole McInturff is a sculptor, member of the Otis Street Arts Project, and founder of the former 87FLORIDA non-profit exhibit and performance space in Washington, D.C. Her work uses plant and animal material to suggest natural world wisdoms of alternative beauty, impermanence and species interdependence. She also often casts in monochromatic white for its clarity, purity, and clinical focus on a highly unitive view, and to suggest transcendence. She holds an MFA in Art and Visual Technology from George Mason University, completed two years of MA/Art and the Book studies at the Corcoran College of Art+Design, is a former executive with the CBS Television Network, and the mother of two sons.

### **Jean Jinho Kim**

@jeanjinhokim

<https://www.jeanjinhokim.com/>

Jean Jinho Kim was born in Seoul, Korea, and moved to the United States after graduating from high school. Her studio is currently based in Washington, D.C. Kim uses a wide range of materials, from acrylic paint to found objects, to create 2-dimensional paintings and 3-dimensional installations. Her work constantly evolves throughout her career. Innovative and forward-thinking, Jean Kim's work of art reflects ideas of interconnectivity, community, and cultural dialogue that challenge social norms and boundaries.

She earned her BFA in painting from West Virginia University in Morgantown and her MFA in studio art at American University in Washington, D.C. She participated in Berlin, Germany, and Seravezza, Italy residency programs. Kim has exhibited her work in several solos and numerous group exhibitions in the U.S., Germany, Italy, Hong Kong, and South Korea. She is the current president of the Han-Mee Artist Association of Greater Washington and a member of the Washington Sculptors Group. Her work has been reviewed by The Washington Post, The Korean Times, and Korea Daily.

### **Leah Lewis**

@leahleww

Leah Lewis is an artist and mother from Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania who is currently based in Washington, DC. She is a past participant of The Artist's Mother's Studio at the Washington Project for the Arts and has been commissioned for public art projects through DC's Department of General Services. She is a current resident of Stable Arts.

### **Rania Hassan**

@goshdarnknit

<https://raniahassan.com/>

Rania Hassan is a Lebanese-American artist who knits threads to weave sculptural stories about our connections to time, place, and circumstance. Her large-scale installations span public art, performance, and sculpture and include site-responsive and interactive kinetic works. The five main themes she works with embody ideas of community, synchronicity, identity, time, and memory. Her greatest inspiration is knitting itself—with one line of thread and the same stitch as every generation that came before, anything is possible. The thread represents our lives and all the different interpretations and paths we may follow. Through a single thread, we are all connected. Her work ranges in scale from modular arrangements of 3 x 4 inch drawings to 40 x 40 x 40 foot suspended installations and materials vary from delicate combinations of the finest threads to 1,500 pounds of curved sheets of cut steel. Recent projects include *Liminality* at the Kreeger Museum, a hand knit suspended installation activating the museum's grand three level staircase for the very first time. *Marker*, a 15 foot tall bright pink sculpture made of steel, has been present at the highly visible intersection of Connecticut Ave and K Street NW in downtown Washington, DC since October 2020. Commissioned by the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District and the Smithsonian Institution, *Marker* represents a beacon for the Smithsonian's Women's History Initiative and helps expand their visibility to the streets of DC. Rania's artwork is included in the permanent collections of the National Institutes of Health (Bethesda, MD), Amazon Web Services (Herndon, VA), and the District of Columbia's Art Bank Collection (Washington, DC). She has been featured in numerous publications worldwide including *Smithsonian Magazine*, a cover story for *TextielPlus* (Netherlands), and the *Washington Post*. In 2009, she received a Craft Award of Excellence from the James Renwick Alliance and has been awarded multiple Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program Grant Awards from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

**Nicole Salimbene**

@nicolesalimbene

<http://www.nicolesalimbene.com/>

Nicole Salimbene (b. Trinidad, CO) is an interdisciplinary artist working at the intersection of poetics, psychology, environmentalism and contemplative practice. Her art has been exhibited nationally and internationally and has been reproduced for publications and purchased for private collections. Her work has received recognition from *The Art Newspaper*, *Washington Post*, *Al Tashkeel*, *Contemporary Identities International Art Magazine*, *The Smithsonian Art Museum Blog: Eye Level*, and *Sculpture Magazine*. The Maryland State Arts Council granted her an Individual Artist Award in 2021 and in 2017 for Sculpture/Installation. She was awarded the Tom Rooney Prize in Washington Sculptors Group's Sculpture Now 2012 exhibit and Second Place for the 2018 Trawick Prize. Additionally, she leads workshops in Opening to Your Creativity: Art as Contemplative Practice in affiliation with various social, spiritual, environmental, and academic communities.

**CURATOR BIOGRAPHY:****Marta Staudinger**

@martastaudinger

<https://www.martastaudinger.com/>

Marta Staudinger is a curator, arts organizer and artist living and exhibiting between Washington DC, Italy and Spain. She holds a master's degree in Curatorial Studies from the Universidad de Ramon Lull (Barcelona, Spain) and a triple undergraduate degree in Art History, Sociology and Communications from George Mason University (Fairfax, VA). She has worked in multiple fine art capacities to include prominent art historical institutions such as the National Bargello Museum in Florence, Italy; the Antoni Tàpies Foundation in Barcelona, Spain; the Art Museum of the Americas and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

Her work focuses on building generative avenues for artists and advocating for the labor and essence artists contribute to society via artwork sales, exhibitions, public art, space creating, and programming. In 2015, Marta created Latela Curatorial: a full-service art advisory studio based in Washington DC that specializes in weaving together conceptual fine art projects and artist support via a holistic approach to art collecting and placemaking. In early 2020, at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Marta initiated the GLB Memorial Fund for the Arts which provides financial support to woman-identifying artists and curators who reside in Washington DC, Maryland or Virginia to further advance women-led contemporary art initiatives. The same year, she also launched the *See Support Collect* Initiative, which is an intersectional placemaking and gap-filling initiative that focuses on collectorship of art by women and non-binary artists. In 2021, Marta opened the Silva Gallery in partnership with Eastbanc, to provide additional exhibition opportunities and curated promotion to artists based in the Greater Washington DC area.

Marta's curatorial projects have been featured in the *Washington Post*, *Washingtonian*, *DC Modern Luxury*, *East City Art* and *BmoreArt*. She is a recipient of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Fellowship Grant, the Honfleur Women in Arts Program Curator Grant, and a Curatorial Participant of DE.a.RE (Deconstruct and Rebuild) by BJCEM (*Biennale des Jeunes Créateurs de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée*) and co-funded by the *European Union*.