ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

CAROLYN SALAS
Ms. Salas received her B.F.A from The College of Santa Fe in 1999 and her M.F.A from Hunter College in 2005. She has exhibited works widely in the USA as well as internationally at Urbis City Center, Manchester, Gallery Nordine Zidoun, Luxembourg, Priska Juschk Assen Fine Art, New York, Art Space, Connecticut, Silly Thing Gallery, Hong Kong, The Hudson Valley for Contemporary Art, New York, Parisian Laundry, Montreal, the Berkshire Museum, Massachusetts and The Elizabeth Foundation Gallery, New York. Ms. Salas has attended the Vermont Studio Center, Santa Fe Art Institute, Blue Mountain Center, Jentel Artist Residency, Djerassi Art Residency and was a two year recipient of the Chashama Studio Program. She was an artist in residence at Franconia Sculpture Park, Minnesota (2011), and is a recipient of the studio residency program at the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York (2011-2013) and the Abrons AIRSpace Residency (2011-2012). Ms. Salas is a 2013 Rema Hort Mann Foundation grant nominee. She was appointed lecturer in sculpture at Yale in 2011. Recent exhibitions include: (2014) Fixing a Hole, Koenig & Clinton, New York, NY, Showtime, Johannes Vogt Gallery, New York, NY, Alpenliebe, Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-höhe, curated by Julia Stoff, Austria, (Upcoming) BAM Next Wave, Rachel Beach, Katie Bell, Carolyn Salas, curated by Holly Shen, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY Paint Me Sculpturally, curated by Boshko Boskovic, Artopia Gallery, Milan, Italy.

RACHEL MICA WEISS
Weiss received her B.A. in psychology from Oberlin College and her M.F.A. from the San Francisco Art Institute. She is a 2011 recipient of the San Francisco Foundation Murphy and Cadogan Fellowship in the Fine Arts, awarded to Bay Area graduate students of exceptional promise, and she has been a resident at the Vermont Studio Center (2013) and at Village des Arts in Dakar, Senegal (2006). Solo exhibitions include “In Place“ at Fridman Gallery in 2014 and “Engulfing the Elusory” at the San Francisco Arts Commission in 2013. She has also exhibited her work at venues such as Storefront Ten Eyck, SOMArts Cultural Center, and the Fiber Philadelphia Biennial. Her work has appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, the Bad at Sports blog, China’s Contemporary Artists Magazine, and Peru’s El Grito magazine. Weiss is represented by Fridman Gallery in New York. She currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY as a resident of the chashama Studio Program.

MONIKA ZARZECZNA
Monika Zarzeczna was born in Warsaw, Poland, grew up in the Netherlands and moved to New York in 2002. Her work has been shown in Europe and the United States, in among other venues the Sculpture Center in NYC, David Castillo Gallery in Miami, the Spencer Brownstone gallery and Lesley Heller Workspace in New York. She has enjoyed the Skowhegan Residency, was a resident artist at the WCC Center for the Arts and holds currently a residency at the chashama Studio program. Monika Zarzeczna is also part of the ZUP artists collective issuing posters that are or were on view at Printed Matter, Moma Library, Bowery Poetry Club among other venues. She lives and works in Brooklyn.
Monika Zarzeczna

Monika Zarzeczna is fascinated by the reverence and value we assign to mundane objects: how we perceive value or create a feeling of meaning by collecting, tying together, or arranging them in certain ways. Her work reflects impressions of her daily encounters with discarded and devalued objects and makeshift structures in her Brooklyn neighborhood. She often works in series and 'Containing Tenaciousness' is a follow up to the 2011/12 'Hardnekkig' installation. Made almost entirely of discarded materials and inspired by electricity towers, staircases and sidewalk gardens 'Containing Tenaciousness' combines suspended descending and rising elements that add up to a fragile, ramshackle structure, a 3D drawing that is looking for balance, weight and weightlessness.

Containing Tenaciousness, 2014

Carolyn Salas

Exploring paradoxical current affairs and our tendency to feel powerless to confront the crises of our existing surroundings, Carolyn Salas uses a wide array of materials including found objects, photography, moldmaking, collage and recycled items to create sculptural platforms where material and concept meet to transform space and the way we view it. The work speaks to interactions between human civilizations, hierarchical powers of societal success, relationships, and nature with an emotional resonance that takes the works beyond any one of these single issues and into a universal realm. In a culture obsessed with mass production and disposability her work is a conduit of her opposition to this standard. With laborious craft and a handmade touch, the imperfections and human attributes of burdens, failures and achievements of our everyday are exposed. Salas looks at the work as a self-exploration of the subconscious, where she tries to physically create a state of mind. Responding to Carl Jung’s idea of artists and alchemists projecting part of their psyche into matter or inanimate objects, possessing in a sense a secret soul, the objects eventually live out a life of their own.

Untitled, 2012

Rachel Mica Weiss

Rachel Mica Weiss combines textile languages with density of stone, cast forms, and wood constructions to create sculptures and installations embedded with gravity. Her practice is rooted in the craft of weaving: its technical processes, its historical use, and its relationship to architecture. Her sculptures and installations are microcosms of tension in which stable structures unravel and barriers-real, self-imposed, and imaginary-are set askew. Using an environment’s unique architectural elements as her framework, Weiss creates lurching architectural interventions: bold blockades that confront the viewer and engender feelings of vulnerability. Hand-strung on site, these labor-intensive installations are a reference to the repetitious act of warping: the measuring, threading, and tensioning of thousands of threads into the loom.

Six-Planed Scaffolding, 2014

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