

BAM's 2018 Next Wave Art exhibition, *Towards a New Archaeology* transforms spaces with site-specific installations and new and commissioned works

Featured artists include Amy Brener, Leeza Meksin, Ioanna Pantazopoulou, Ester Partegàs, Sheila Pepe, Jean Shin, and Rachel Eulena Williams

BAM Fisher lower lobby hosts *Moving Body, Moving Study*, a collection of time- and movement-based works

Featured artists include Lauren Bakst, Patty Chang, Jesse Chun, Kerry Downey and Joanna Seitz, Kevin Jerome Everson, Jibade-Khalil Huffman, Freya Powell, and Sable Elyse Smith

Next Wave Art

***Towards a New Archaeology*
*Moving Body, Moving Study***

Peter Jay Sharp Building (30 Lafayette Ave)

BAM Harvey Theater (651 Fulton St.)

BAM Fisher (321 Ashland Ave)

Works on view Sep 13—Jan 6, 2019

Opening reception Oct 9, 6—8:30pm, free

August 15, 2018/Brooklyn, NY—Next Wave Art returns for its 17th season with two exhibitions: *Towards a New Archaeology* and *Moving Body, Moving Study*. Both exhibitions will activate and uniquely engage with BAM's spaces, allowing visitors to experience a range of newly commissioned and site-specific works.

To commemorate the vision and leadership of BAM's departing Executive Producer, Joseph V. Melillo, the Next Wave BAMbill cover art features Roy Lichtenstein's "Reflections on Hair" (1990)—generously donated by the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation. Lichtenstein created the poster art for BAM's inaugural Next Wave Festival, produced by Melillo, in 1983. Three Next Wave Art alumni (Ester Partegàs, Sheila Pepe, and Jean Shin) also join this year's exhibition to honor Melillo's ongoing support of visual artists, encouraging their invaluable contributions to BAM's legacy.

Towards a New Archaeology

This exhibition brings together a group of artists working to reevaluate the history of material culture—presenting installation and sculptural works that speak to a mystical, transcendent, and visionary future.

Amy Brener

Brooklyn-based artist Amy Brener creates works by embedding various objects found in daily life within silicon tunics and large resin and/or foam-based sculptures. Within these large mechanically molded forms, the objects are transformed and take on new, elevated meanings. The translucent layers of resin and silicon give an impression of preserving technological artifacts for the current day. Her new oversized hanging silicone work will hang in the BAM Fisher lobby light well.

A native of Canada, Amy Brener was recently included in Greater New York 2015 at MoMA PS1 in New York. Her work has exhibited internationally at institutions and galleries such as Wentrup Gallery in Berlin, Derek Eller Gallery and the Katonah Museum of Art in New York, and Susan Hobbs Gallery in Toronto. Brener received the NYFA Fellowship for Crafts/Sculpture in 2015, attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in 2011, and graduated with an MFA in Sculpture from Hunter College in 2010.

Leeza Meksin

Known for her inventive and unconventional public art works, Leeza Meksin will create a site-specific installation covering the inner archways of BAM's Lepercq Space using an assemblage of mesh, synthetic textiles, plastic, string, and other materials. The work incorporates her interpretations of binary systems (male/female, hard/soft, dressed/naked, public/private) and highlights parallels between conventions of painting, architecture, and our bodies.

Meksin is a New York-based interdisciplinary artist working in painting, installation, and public art. Born in the former Soviet Union, she immigrated to the United States with her family in 1989. She has created site-specific installations for The Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, NYC's The Kitchen and BRIC Media Arts, Brandeis University, the former Donnell branch of the New York Public Library, and in a National Endowment for the Arts funded project in New Haven, CT for Artspace. She is the recipient of the Rema Hort Mann Emerging Artist grant and in 2013 co-founded Ortega y Gasset Projects, an artist-run gallery and curatorial collective in Brooklyn. Meksin received a MFA from The Yale School of Art, a BFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a BA/MA in Comparative Literature from The University of Chicago. She teaches at Columbia University.

Ioanna Pantazopoulou

Part of BAM and the Onassis Cultural Center New York's "Speaking Truth to Power" series, two of Ioanna Pantazopoulou's site-specific spontaneous sculptures will be on view in BAM's Harvey Theater and Howard Gilman Opera House lobbies. By re-examining the concept of participation and experience, her works appear as suspended tableaux, turning architectural principles inside out while simultaneously communicating a fragile ephemerality that forges connections between past and present cultures.

Originally from Athens, Pantazopoulou currently lives and works in New York City. She received her BA and MA in Fine Art from Chelsea College of Art and Design in London. Pantazopoulou is represented in Athens by the Ileana Tounta Contemporary Art Center and has exhibited widely throughout Europe. She has shown her work at Grand Union Gallery in Birmingham, UK Primetime Gallery in New York, and Hydra School Projects and NEON Foundation's "Flying over the Abyss" exhibition, both in Athens. Her work is also included in Athens' Dimitris Daskalopoulos Collection.

Ester Partegàs

Strategically placed around BAM's campus, Ester Partegàs' collection of paper "street flyers" will present a canny articulation of consumer lifestyle and excess. Inspired by discarded domestic remnants, urban street culture, and the intersectionality of public and private existences, this Street Flyers series will focus on the Fort Greene neighborhood surrounding BAM, offering a meditation on over-consumption by recreating these familiar bulletin board and light-post fixtures through a darkly absurd lens.

Partegàs was born in Barcelona and lives and works in Richmond, VA. Her work has been shown nationally and internationally in venues such as the Sculpture Center, NYC; the

Whitney Museum of American Art at Altria, NY; Columbus Museum of Art; Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona; Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid; the Arnolfini Bristol; as well as the Moscow, Athens, and Busan Biennials. She has two permanent public works: one in Plaza de las Americas, in upper Manhattan, and one at the Montenmedio Arte Contemporáneo Collection in Spain. Partegàs has done several temporary public works at the Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT; MetroTech in Brooklyn; and at Socrates Sculpture Park among others. She was part of BAM's Next Wave Art exhibition in 2009.

Sheila Pepe

Sheila Pepe will create a new site specific fiber work spanning the full length of the Opera House Lobby that incorporates hanging fiber sculpture and drawings made with light and shadows. The shadow drawings will be found in each of the lobby's four recessed arch pediments. Pepe is best known for her large-scale, ephemeral installations and sculpture made from domestic and industrial materials.

Pepe uses feminist and craft traditions to investigate notions concerning the production of canonical artwork as well as artists' relationships to museum displays and the art institution itself. Pepe has exhibited widely throughout the US and abroad in solo and group exhibitions as well as collaborative projects. Venues for Pepe's solo exhibitions include the Smith College Museum of Art and the Weatherspoon Art Museum in North Carolina. Her work has been included in group exhibitions at PS1/MoMA; the Contemporary Art Museum Houston; Artisterium, Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia; and Diverseworks, Houston. Pepe's work was featured in the exhibition *Queer Threads* at the Leslie Lohman Museum of Lesbian and Gay Art in New York, the eighth Shenzhen Sculpture Biennale, and the ICA/Boston's exhibition *Fiber: Sculpture 1960-present*. She's taught at Brandeis University, Bard College, RISD, VCU, and Williams College and was the assistant chair of fine arts at the Pratt Institute. Pepe was a resident faculty member at Skowhegan School, 2013. She is now a Core Critic in the Painting + Printmaking Department at Yale University. Pepe participated in BAM's inaugural Next Wave Art exhibition in 2002.

Jean Shin

Exhibited in the BAMcafé/Diker Gallery, Jean Shin's elegant site-specific chandelier installation will utilize decommissioned slides from the BAM Hamm Archives. Through her meticulous and labor intensive process, Shin's work transforms everyday objects into breathtaking expressions of identity and community.

Born in Seoul, South Korea and raised in the United States, Shin attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and received a BFA and MS from Brooklyn's Pratt Institute. Her work has appeared at MoMA; the Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia; the Smithsonian American Art Museum; the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art; and the Crow Collection in Dallas. Her works have been on view at the New Museum; Museum of Fine Arts Houston; the Museum of Fine Art Boston; the Asia Society Museum; the Brooklyn Museum; the Queens Museum; the Museum of Art and Design; and the Barnes Foundation among many others. She recently completed a landmark commission for the MTA's Second Ave Subway at the 63rd Street Station in New York City. She is a professor of Fine Art at Pratt Institute and received Pratt's 2017 Alumni Achievement Award. Her work appeared in BAM's Next Wave Art exhibition in 2007.

Rachel Eulena Williams

Rachel Eulena Williams will bring her signature use of canvas, ink, paint, and clothesline rope to the Natman Room. Breaking free of the traditional square, her strokes are replaced by ropes that visually and structurally hold together layered fragments of loose canvas. By

blurring the lines between masculinity and femininity, she interprets a culture of novelty, objectification, and mass consumption. Williams' process combines decisive blunt cuts with tenderly sewn structures that reclaim canvas as fabric.

Born in Miami, Williams earned her BFA from NY's Cooper Union in 2013. Her work has been exhibited at New York galleries Ceysson & Bénétier; Derek Eller Gallery; The Journal Gallery; Turn Gallery; and Sleep Center, as well as Ceysson & Bénétière in Luxembourg; MASS Gallery in Austin, TX; and San Francisco's SomeTime Salon.

Moving Body, Moving Study

Engaging the BAM Fisher Lower Lobby as a space for reflection and refuge, *Moving Body, Moving Study* is an exhibition presenting time- and movement-based work that explores the body's capacity for remembering.

The exhibition features three video artworks rotated monthly, a curated reading space featuring newly commissioned print publications produced by Wendy's Subway, a series of monthly readings, and additional events tied to Next Wave productions.

A collaboration between BAM Visual Art and BAM Humanities, this exhibition is co-curated by Rachel Valinsky and features the works of Lauren Bakst, Patty Chang, Jesse Chun, Kerry Downey and Joanna Seitz, Kevin Jerome Everson, Jibade-Khalil Huffman, Freya Powell, and Sable Elyse Smith. Design objects and furniture in the space are generously presented in partnership with Colony. Founded by Jean Lin, Colony is a community of independent furniture, lighting, textiles and objects designers coming together on a New York City stage to celebrate American design with an international audience.

For press information: Sarah Garvey, BAM, 718.724.8025, sgarvey@BAM.org.

Credits

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General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for information.

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org