



I'll take you to an honest place

Kenlee Danner / Meg Farrar / Juliette Fratto / Amal Flower Kay / Isla de Luca / Sabina Paellmann

Opening reception Friday, April 22nd, 7pm–midnight* on view through Saturday, April 30th

Gallery hours: Fridays 7pm–midnight and Saturdays 3pm–8pm

Beverly's 5 Eldridge St, New York, NY

We walk towards a mirage together, fooled by the light refraction. Time whispers in and out of sync with our steps, gently urging us forward. Memory is revisited, language and material interwoven, fantasy horror is embraced, site history retrieved, and touch is an encounter between sharp and skin. *I'll take you to an honest place* showcases work from the inaugural class of the BFA in Design History and Practice major at Parsons School of Design. With a focus on the importance of making alongside theory, this group engages art and design research through transdisciplinary and experimental practices.

Meg Farrar's *Continuance* explores the torment of sleeping disorders and experiences of an insomniac navigating hallucination, anxiety, and medication overload. The installation gathers repurposed clocks that have been manipulated, rendered useless, and visually transformed to represent the multitude of delusions one experiences when deprived of sleep. *Continuance* is inspired by the research of 17th through 19th-century artworks that illustrate the complex relationship between rest and work, the passing of time, and exhaustion.

Greetings from Little Africa is an ongoing project by Sabina Paellmann based on the lesser-known Black history of her neighborhood, Greenwich Village. The first iteration took the form of a video essay wherein she researched real estate records to create a map of this history, and the current installment features 100 postcards in the style of classic New York City tourist memorabilia. The postcards are made from current and archival images sourced from the New York Public Library and the Library of Congress, focusing on the lives of notable Black artists, writers, and intellectuals associated with Greenwich Village.

Amal Flower Kay approaches essay film and research through his background as a professional chef in New York. His archival practice explores family, generational stories, and the ways in which food carries this history. *Lack of memory is nothing, weightless* is an experimental short documentary about reincarnation and the transnational migration of the artist's great-grandfather. The memory of his life in Chiang Mai, Thailand is told through the voices of his daughters, granddaughter, and great-grandson. **With a nod to relational aesthetics and the sensory experience, Khao Mok Gai (chicken biryani) will be served on the opening night beginning at 7 pm.*

Juliette Fratto's fiber piece *Familiare* is an exploration of language, visual communication, and textiles. Influenced by her family's Italian American history, the machine knit panels are distorted and layered, displaying culturally specific language and slang used to describe Italian Americans in popular media. Phrases like "paisano", "guido", and "alien" are stamped onto the naturally dyed surface and reinscribed through embroidery. Once derogatory, these reclaimed terms chart the Italian American experience of immigration, assimilation, and cultural reclamation.

Skorn—inspired by Fluxus propositions of the 1960s—is a game by Kenlee Danner meant to encourage play and tactility in response to the immateriality and flatness of digital hegemony. Both playful and precarious, event scorecards are coated with shards of glass, game miniatures are made from sharp silver knucklebones and plaster cast lambs, and satin participatory ribbons are unattainable, mounted completely out of reach. Emerging from the drastic experience of losing over a year's worth of digital content online after Danner's account was permanently deleted due to censorship, and losing all the data on her phone shortly thereafter, *Skorn* is a speculative system that is designed to center the body in relationship to storytelling and memory.

Isla de Luca premieres a lush, innovative, and experimental teaser for their debut short film, *She-Wolf*. Featuring famous classical movie monsters such as *Frankenstein* and *The Creature From The Black Lagoon* reimagined as pageant girls in "camp" stylings, the film is a fresh and imaginative commentary on the shifting perception of women in horror films. De Luca has been obsessed with horror and unique female characters since their teenage years, producing a body of work across multiple mediums that juxtaposes archetypal fantasies with a raw, feminine gaze, framing narratives unique and familiar with an unprecedented empathy.

Exhibition is organized by Mev Luna, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Art Practice and Theory