



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Woodstock Artists Association & Museum presents
FAR & WIDE National
June 4 – July 18, 2021**



(Woodstock, NY) - The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM) announces its third annual *FAR & WIDE National* exhibition, on view in the Main Gallery from Friday, June 4th through Sunday, July 18th, 2021. This timely presentation is organized around the concept of Art Brut, a theme associated with a distancing from the mainstream. The exhibition comprises work by twenty-five artists, selected through a national call and juried by Nicelle Beauchene and Franklin Parrasch, co-founders of Parts & Labor in Beacon, NY.

FAR & WIDE National attracted 196 entries from artists across the nation and includes work in a range of media. For this year's iteration the jurors focused on the theme of Art Brut, a French term translating to 'raw art', to describe works made outside the academic tradition of art making. Also referred to as 'outsider art,' this movement was created by Jean Dubuffet to focus on the raw expression of a vision or emotions. For this exhibition, the jurors sought works that incorporate a unique use of materiality and modes of expression, as well as works outside the conventional dictates of the art world.

In a time of a global pandemic, the selection on view is fitting in its exploration of work that accentuates isolation and originates from solitude. For example, Andrea Santos' work, *Bloom*,

is informed by extreme vulnerability. Julia Whitney Barnes' *Covid Collage (Wildflowers)*, speaks to a historical moment of upheaval while also pointing to resilience. Colleen Smiley's *Skull and Bones Alchemy 3*, a work from 2018, uses fabric and patterns that actively forge the connection between art and comfort. Most fundamentally, all twenty-five works on view emphasize a singularity of style.

Exhibiting Artists

Artists exhibiting work in *FAR & WIDE National* include: Grace Troxell, Andrea Santos, Irit Rosenberg, Bela Shayevich, Jill Ziccardi, Julia Whitney Barnes, Charlie Smith, Ann Cofta, Daniel Schroeder, Stacy Bogdonoff, Mary Nash, Alaina Enslin, Jason Mones, Shawn Powell, Hayden Maltese, Yura Adams, Barbara Smith, Colleen Smiley, Claire Watson, Susan Berger, Julia Muench, Carmen Li, Jacinta Bunnell, Alyssa McClenaghan and Rosalie Smith.

About the Jurors

Nicelle Beauchene and Franklin Parrasch: Co-founders of Parts & Labor in Beacon, NY.

Nicelle Beauchene opened her eponymous gallery on the Lower East Side of Manhattan in 2008 to promote the work of emerging local and international artists. In mounting over 12 years of exhibitions across multiple venues, Nicelle Beauchene has remained dedicated to championing emerging practices, building the careers of mid-career and historic artists, and contributing to the cultural dialogue in the US and abroad. Nicelle Beauchene was the President of the New Art Dealers Alliance from 2010-2017.

Franklin Parrasch Gallery began in 1986 with a program guided by a conscious reflection upon the process of creativity as it relates to human evolution. Over the past two decades, the gallery has established a profile of exhibiting Los Angeles artists whose careers emerged in the 1960s. The gallery consistently organizes shows that consider diverse evolutionary theories, with a focused sensitivity to the migration of ideas and aesthetic development as expressed by a wide range of artists who employ innovative practices.

In 2019, Nicelle Beauchene and Franklin Parrasch co-founded Parts & Labor Beacon, an exhibition space dedicated to staging two-person exhibitions. Creating specific conversations between younger, mid-career artists and their historically recognized predecessors, Parts & Labor Beacon's intimate framing re-contextualizes standard histories of art. The project has worked with a range of artists including Lois Dodd, Shara Hughes, Xylor Jane, Ray Johnson, Al Loving, John McAllister, and Deborah Remington.

Woodstock Artists Association & Museum

Founded in 1919, the Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM) is a not-for-profit membership organization featuring an historic Permanent Collection of regional art, contemporary art galleries, a dynamic Education Program and an Archives & Library of materials associated with artists of the Woodstock region.

General Information

The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM) is located at 28 Tinker Street, Woodstock, NY. Gallery hours: Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon-3pm. WAAM is closed during the major holidays. For general information please call: 845.679.2940 or visit our website at: woodstockart.org.

Image Captions (left to right): Andrea Santos, *Bloom*, 2020, resin, hand-cut Xerox prints, chain, fake flowers, acrylic on wood panel, 20x24 inches; Julia Whitney Barnes, *Covid Collage (Wildflowers)*, 2020, acrylic, watercolor, paper, PVC and paper on wood panel, 9x12 inches; Colleen Rae Smiley, *Skull and Bones Alchemy 3*, 2018, quilted vintage, remnant, re-claimed, re-contextualized fabrics, 58x55 inches.'