The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum Announces

**FOCUS: Art & Social Justice**

Juried by Nina Stritzler Levine, Bard Graduate Center

January 28 – March 13, 2022

Artists’ Reception: Saturday, February 19, 4-6pm

(Woodstock, NY) – The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum is pleased to announce **FOCUS: Art & Social Justice**, on view from January 28 through March 13, 2022. The exhibition includes work by a selection of Hudson Valley artists who address themes of political or social justice. WAAM is tentatively scheduled to hold an opening reception on Saturday, February 19 from 4–6pm.

For this exhibition, juror Nina Stritzler Levine, Bard Graduate Center Professor of Curatorial Practice, selected 12 artists out of 54 entries. The artists cover a wide range of topics, including women’s rights, the Black Lives Matter movement, political freedom, immigration, and migrant farm work. In making her selections, Stritzler Levine was particularly inspired by the work of Hannah Arendt, a major political thinker of the 20th century. Arendt is best known for her theory on the “banality of evil,” which questions the forces and motivations behind acts of atrocity and heinous crimes against humanity.

The presentation encompasses a range of media including drawing, painting, sculpture and photography, and unites them in its aim to encourage dialogue, build community, and motivate individuals to promote social change. The show also provides WAAM with a welcome opportunity to examine its own role and responsibility within the socio-cultural landscape. By better understanding questions of equity and diversity that arise from calling for work of this kind, WAAM gains further insight into its own efforts at outreach, community-building, and harnessing the power of art to do good.
EXHIBITING ARTISTS
Nic Abramson  Barbara Esmark  Norm Magnusson
Joan Barker  Poet Gold  Barbara Masterson
Samantha Brinkley  Dan Goldman  Jason Mones
Dorothy Brodhead  Diane King  Suprina

PUBLIC PROGRAMS
Artists’ Reception
Saturday, February 19 | 4-6pm
WAAM will hold an artists’ reception, open to the public, to celebrate the opening of this and 4 other new exhibitions throughout its galleries.

Artists & Juror Panel
Saturday, March 5 | 4-5:30pm
The 12 artists in the exhibition, along with juror Nina Stritzler Levine, will discuss art and contemporary issues of social justice.

ABOUT THE JUROR
Nina Stritzler Levine is a Bard Graduate Center Professor of Curatorial Practice and Director of the Focus Project. She is the former director of Bard Graduate Center Gallery where she also served as director of curatorial affairs and head of Gallery publications. She works in the fields of modern and contemporary architecture and design, and curatorial theory and practice with a particular focus on alternative modernisms, gender, race, class and sexuality and the intersections of architecture and contemporary art. Many of her exhibitions and publications have received critical acclaim including Eileen Gray, Artek and the Aaltos, Sheila Hicks: Weaving as Metaphor, and Josef Frank: An Alternative Vision of the Modern Home. She was also co-director of the groundbreaking project Waterweavers: The River in Colombian Art, Craft and Design that questioned conventional art classifications and was curator of the exhibition Steven Holl: Making Architecture organized by the Dorsky Museum. Currently she is working on an alternative history of the Department of Architecture at MoMA.

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 exhibited in the Towbin Wing, three contemporary art galleries, a dynamic Education Program and an Archives 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 are Thursday thru Sunday from noon-5pm. WAAM is closed during major holidays. For general information please call: 845.679.2940 or visit our website at: woodstockart.org.

Images: Samantha Brinkley, A-CUP CUTIE, 2020, Digital inkjet print, 36 x 24 inches; Jason Mones, Relentless Compassion, 2020, gouache on canvas, 20 x 16 inches; Diane King, Revolution, 2018, Blackened steel, rotation device, retroreflective vinyl, 45 record, uv ink on Baryta paper, iPhone Flash for reveal [supplied by viewer], 18 x 21.5 inches.