

About the Artist

Shelby Head is an American sculptor born in Bronxville, NY and educated at the Pratt Institute (MFA) and Adams State University in Colorado (MA in Sculpture). As an artist, Head has extensive technical experience working as a professional mold maker and wax technician for several art foundries in New Mexico. For a time she worked as a technician for sculptor Tom Otterness in New York City. She has also built models and supervised model makers for stop motion animated television commercials and music videos.

Beyond Indifference is Head's second exhibition at the Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery. The works in this show seek to explore concepts of gender, identity and power. As a series, these pieces cannot be divorced from their root causes: toxic masculinity and Trumpian politics, but also the more uplifting new wave of intersectional feminism. While Beyond Indifference reflects upon the objectification of the female body in very literal ways, it also brings forth questions of agency and the body as a political instrument. Throughout her work, while the artist seeks to give life to a common language of feminine identity, Head is aware of how her position as a white, female artist offers her a certain privilege of creative speech. She deftly uses this particular position to shed light on the broad spectrum of female existence.

As a collection, Beyond Indifference is a series of mixed media works assembled from decorative and domestic objects commonly associated with the "feminine." Materials and medium, through personal association, evoke memory and emotion. However, the series is not a memorial but rather moves with the subject of misogyny and the questions of gender. By incorporating materials of lived-experience - cookware, appliances, and décor - the work challenges a purist aesthetic hierarchy that privileges one set of materials over another based on gender association. This is an exhibition of history, of politics, and of lived life.

Head has exhibited recently at CONTEXT New York, Choate Rosemary Hall, and the Hilles Gallery. Her first exhibition at the Gallery, In Measured Line, featured a series of sculptures that used paper and light to display the very real decisions, misgivings and alterations that mark how humans attempt to embrace, reverse or otherwise encounter the aging body. The artist currently lives and works in Madison, Connecticut.

EDUCATION

M.F.A. Studies, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
M.A. Sculpture, Adams State University, Alamosa,
Colorado
B.A. Visual Arts, Adams State University, Alamosa,
Colorado

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

2005 - KHN Center for the Arts, Nebraska City, NE
2005 - Artcroft, Carlisle, KY
2004 - Red Cinder Creativity Center, Na´alehu, HI

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015 - *In Measured Line*, Fernando Luis Alvarez
Gallery, Stamford, CT
2014 - Paul Mellon Arts Center, Choate Rosemary
Hall, Wallingford, CT
2014 - Hilles Gallery, Creative Arts Workshop, New
Haven, CT
2014 - A-Space Gallery, West Haven, CT
2013 - Cloyde Snook Gallery, Alamosa, CO
2013 - City Gallery, New Haven, CT
2011 - City Gallery, New Haven, CT
2011 - The New Haven Lawn Club, New Haven, CT

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2014 - *Studio Artist, Over-Looked: The Reveal*,
Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
2014 - *Thank You CT!*, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery,
Stamford, CT
2014 - *Guild Group Show*, Silvermine Arts Center,
New Canaan, CT
2013 - *Where are WE (going)?*, Silvermine Arts
Center, New Canaan, CT
2013 - Lyman Center, Southern Connecticut State
University, New Haven, CT
2013 - *New Members*, Silvermine Guild of Artists,
New Canaan, CT
2012 - *Thank You, CT!*, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery,
Stamford, CT
2012 - Rockwell Gallery, Ridgefield, CT
2012 - *Local Builders*, West Cove A-Space Gallery,
West Haven, CT
2010 - *Give Art*, City Gallery, New Haven, CT

2006 - Khaki Gallery, Wellesley, MA
2006 - *Micro/Macro*, City Gallery, New Haven, CT
2004 - *Conceptual People*, City Gallery, New Haven,
CT
2004 - *State of Mind*, Small Space Gallery, New
Haven, CT
2003 - *Cold*, Arts and Literature Laboratory, New
Haven, CT
2003 - Arts Connecticut, Mill Gallery, Guilford, CT
2002 - *Beyond Care*, Branford, CT
2001 - Open Studios, New Haven, CT
2001 - Connecticut Woman Arts, Bridgeport, CT
2000 - *Beyond Care*, Branford, CT
1999 - Open Studios, New Haven, CT
1998 - Open Studios, New Haven, CT
1998 - Chester Gallery, Chester, CT
1997 - Stonington Vineyards Gallery, Stonington, CT
1997 - *Object of Desire*, Mill Gallery, Guilford, CT

SELECTED AWARDS

Judith Tannenbaum, Curator of Contemporary Art at
RISD Museum Received Top sculpture Award,
juried by Gullian Forrester and Deta Reid,
curator of The British Art Museum
Jerry's Artarama Award, juried by Judith
Tannenbaum, Curator of Contemporary Art at
RISD Museum
Sculpture award Juried by William Zimmer,
Contribution Art Critic, New York Times;
James Rondeau, Associate Curator of
Contemporary Art, The Wadsworth
Athenaeum

INSTALLATION

2012 - United Illuminating Headquarters, Orange, CT,
2012, Articulation I and Articulation II

CONTACT

Fernando Luis Alvarez

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alvarezgallery.com

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Monday: by appointment

Tuesday - Saturday: 11AM - 6PM