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Fountain House Gallery Presents “Our People”

On view: March 7 – April 17, 2019

Reception: March 7, 6-8 p.m.

Curated by Ruth Adams

NEW YORK CITY – Fountain House Gallery, located at 702 Ninth Avenue and representing artists living with mental illness, announces the upcoming group show *Our People*. The exhibition will open with a Reception on March 7, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and will remain on view through April 17, 2019.

Our People is curated by Ruth Adams, Executive Director of Art Omi, a not-for-profit arts center located in Ghent, NY. Said Adams, “For this show, the artists of Fountain House Gallery were asked to explore what ‘community’ means to them in a time of deep division. The artwork reflects a spectrum from positivity and hope to disunity and chaos.”

Commenting on individual works in *Our People*, Adams continued, “Included are representations of specific communities such as the women’s march in “Girls Stronger Together” by Alyson Vega and an underground metal music community in “NYC Music Scene II” by Ariella Kadosh, alongside others that appear wholly personal. Some pieces strike me as universal. I like the idea of community as personal and intimate as well as a big picture of the time. Issa Ibrahim’s “Super Supper” derives from an image that is ingrained in our psyche from art history and Christianity. In this piece, superheroes are caught and entangled with each other in a drama, and their humanity and struggle bring us into the context of these fantasy/religious archetypes. Building community is an act of transformation as we gather individuals to create a whole, as seen in the sea of faces or buildings in “New York City Democracy” by Mercedes Kelly or in “People in Buildings” by Roger Jones. Even in the more abstracted images we experience emotional states that are common shared reactions to the times. We’re seeing ourselves and each other.”

This program is funded, in part, by generous support from the Hearst Foundation, Inc., the Renate, Hans and Maria Hofmann Trust, the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, the David Rockefeller Fund, and the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund.

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About Fountain House Gallery

Fountain House Gallery and Studio provides an environment in which artists living with mental illness can express their creative visions and exhibit their work. Founded by Fountain House in 2000 as a not-for-profit exhibition space for its member-artists living and working with mental illness, the Gallery sells original artworks and collaborates with a wide network of artists, curators and cultural institutions. Embracing artists who are emerging or established, trained or self-taught, Fountain House Gallery cultivates artistic growth, makes a vital contribution to the New York arts community, and challenges the stigma surrounding mental illness.

www.fountainhousegallery.org

Fountain House Gallery

702 Ninth Avenue at 48th Street

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Hours: Tues.-Sat. 11-7; Sun. 1-5

More than a gallery. A movement.

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