



CITY OF SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART APPLICATION

All applications for the installation of public art will be evaluated based on the seven (7) criteria enumerated below. It is understood that some criteria will have more relevance than others depending on the proposed artwork. This will be taken into account and the criteria weighted accordingly.

- Artistic merit and quality, as substantiated by an artist's past history of exhibitions or sales, awards or other recognition, or an outstanding first work, as well as the inherent quality in terms of timelessness of vision, design, aesthetics and excellence;
- Intentionality of the artist, concerning the meaning and proposed or desired effect of the work as Public Art upon the viewing public, as rationalized and elaborated upon in the project description;
- Local significance, creating a sense of excitement in public spaces and presenting fresh ways of seeing the community and city reflected;
- Representation of styles and tastes within the public art collection, acknowledging existing works in the public art collection and striving for diversity of style, scale and media;
- Safety and durability, including the ability of the artwork to withstand weather conditions, as well as structural and surface integrity;
- Unrestricted public viewing, primarily the opportunity for public access, but also suitability for public participation, social and political attitudes, and functional considerations; and
- Installation and maintenance of the work, from practicality of fabrication and transport, to installation and long-term care.

PROJECT NAME: *HOLD/RELEASE*, Jennifer Reeder, Kelly Sears, and Lauren Wolkstein

PROJECT TYPE: Temporary installation, November 7 – December 21, 2019 (Thursday- Saturday, dusk-11pm)

LOCATION: Urban Video Project, Everson Museum of Art (permissions have been granted)

ARTWORK TYPE: Looping video projection

ARTWORK DESCRIPTION:

Light Work's Urban Video Project presents this application for *Hold/Release*, a group exhibition featuring the work of three radical feminist filmmakers. The short films in this program investigate the female body through tropes and traps of cinematic production, growing out of conversations (both recent and historical) about assault in the filmmaking industry. The results boldly reframe the gaze, the body, and representations of desire through resistance and the reclamation of film language. The works all come from a longer program co-curated by Reeder,

Sears, and Wolkstein for *The Eyeslicer Presents* titled "[Marlon said to me, 'Maria, don't worry, it's just a movie,'](#)" which was created in the aftermath of 2017's revelations about Harvey Weinstein and the subsequent #MeToo movement.

In conjunction with the exhibition, Jennifer Reeder will be present for a Screening and Q&A of her feature film [Knives and Skin](#) on November 7 at Light Work. The complete program for *The Eyeslicer Presents* "[Marlon said to me, 'Maria, don't worry, it's just a movie,'](#)" will also be screened on November 21 inside the Everson Museum with participating filmmaker Kelly Gallagher in attendance.

I Dream You Dream of Me

dir. Jennifer Reeder

2018 | 10 min

A lone woman (Angelica Ross) marks her trail and sheds some excess baggage along the way. Reeder's feminist horror fever dream offers a fresh take on the modern Western.

Applied Pressure

dir. Kelly Sears

2018 | 6 mins.

Ease the pain from past physical and mental distress. The body remembers. Aches may linger. Lie prone, breathe deeply, release tension. Instructional massage images sourced from dozens of bodywork books are altered, reordered, and overlaid to shift the emphasis from the actions on the body to reception of the touch. The tone of the animation changes from one of relaxation and healing to the dissociative and traumatic, reflecting on conversations from this past year surrounding bodies, massage, and assault.

Takako vs. Nine Lives

dir. Lauren Wolkstein

2018 | 9 mins.

This short experimental dance for screen tells a story using a visual language that juxtaposes classical ballet and masked professional wrestling in the lucha libre style.

ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHIES:

Jennifer Reeder constructs personal fiction films about relationships, trauma, and coping. Her award-winning narratives borrow from a range of forms including after-school specials, amateur music videos, and magical realism. These films have shown around the world, including at the Sundance Film Festival, Berlinale, the International Film Festival of Rotterdam, SXSW, the Wexner Center, and in The Whitney Biennial. She is the recipient of Rockefeller and

Creative Capital grants. She currently teaches in the School of Art and Art History at the University of Illinois in Chicago. **More info:** thejenniferreeder.com

Kelly Sears is an experimental animator that recasts and reframes American archetypes and institutions to reimagine our own social and political legacy. She views animation as a critical practice, cutting out and collaging as a way to intervene and expand the context of appropriated source materials. Her award-winning films have screened at festivals such as Sundance, SXSW, American Film Institute, Los Angeles Film Festival. Programs of her short work have shown at the Pacific Film Archives in Berkeley, Anthology Film Archives in NYC, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, The Portland Art Museum, and the SF Cinematheque. She has been awarded residencies by The MacDowell Artist Colony, Yaddo, Djerassi, The Core Program at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the Galveston Artist Residency. She is the Associate Faculty Director for Undergraduate Studio Arts in Cinema Studies and Moving Image Arts at the University of Colorado, Boulder. **More info:** kellysears.com

Lauren Wolkstein is an American film director, writer, and editor. She is known for directing the 2017 drama-thriller *The Strange Ones* with Christopher Radcliff and serving on the directorial team for the third season of Ava DuVernay's *Queen Sugar*. A 2017-2018 Women at Sundance fellow and 2018 MacDowell Colony Fellow. Wolkstein has been named a "New Face of Independent Film" by *Filmmaker Magazine*. Her films have screened at festivals, internationally including Cannes Film Festival, Outfest LGBT Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival, and SXSW. She is an Assistant Professor of Film and Media at Temple University in Philadelphia. **More info:** laurenwolkstein.com

LINK TO VIEW WORKS:

Jennifer Reeder, *I Dream You Dream of Me*

<https://vimeo.com/249971783>

pw: dream

Kelly Sears, *Applied Pressure*

<https://vimeo.com/357661908/b900771de2>

Lauren Wolkstein, *Takako vs. Nine Lives:*

<https://vimeo.com/357665442/1a6f2e3c90>

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