project gallery v

New Light

July 7th - August 31st, 2022 Project Gallery V

New York City, N.Y., July 1st, 2022 | New Light is an online group exhibition curated by Mills Brown.

Featuring work from Andrea Bagdon, MK Bailey, Sarah Baldwin, Asha Elana Casey, Mandy Cooper, Khadija Jahmila, Katrina Jurjans, Isabel Manalo, Sarah Norman, Jessica Rubin, Julie-Ann Simpson, and Salomé Wu.

"The glowing works in this exhibition portray isolated figures and pairs of two. Some move through strange light in solitude, resting among elongated and distorted shadows. Others exist in intimate company as duos, bathing in pattern, sharing a secret, or sharing a name. Some feel lost in daydreams or trapped in time. And still others confront the viewer directly in courageous acts of honesty and reclamation. They are lit by yellow moons, ethereal orbs, illusory pools of water, glittering mosaic stone, and joyful shapes dancing through window panes. Their bodies insist upon being viewed with the female gaze. Not in an effort to privilege any identity of viewer or figure, but rather as a testimony in direct opposition to the male gaze. Whether brushing her teeth or harnessing the moon, each figure is equipped with an indomitable sense agency that refuses to be objectified.

The impulse towards luminescence in these works feels terrestrial and fertile, as if artists are being drawn back to the natural world. And at the same time, as light erupts into neon and otherworldly settings, these works begin to feel unnatural, uncanny, and even unsettling, a tension which mirrors that of our contemporary moment. Our world continues to become increasingly globalized, and yet we feel increasingly disconnected. We are wearied by years of global pandemic, civic unrest, weakened democracies, corporate greed, the apocalyptic threat of climate change, and senseless violence. And

yet, as these figures move steadfastly through a multitude of lights, so too do we move toward the new light of the future. Through sensitive and varied use of light, each artist confronts isolation with tenderness and hope. They remind us of our connection to ourselves, to one another, and to the earth. In doing so, they remind us of the resilience of the human spirit."

- Mills Brown

You can view the exhibition by visiting our website here.

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