



Gender Violence Pandemic is Focus of ReflectSpace Gallery

(June 25, 2019) GLENDALE, CA – 1 in 3 women in the world have or will experience sexual violence during their lifetime. This is a staggering statistic. Staggering as well is the fact that nearly 1 in 5 women and 1 in 33 men have experienced completed or attempted rape. And that every 92 seconds another American is sexually assaulted. This can happen in private and public spaces, during war and peace, by family members and strangers, young and old. Sexual violence is a human rights violation of pandemic proportions: a vicious disease impacting the health and reproductive abilities of all of humanity.

1 in 3: Sexual Violence Pandemic at ReflectSpace Gallery addresses this global violence with an international cast of artists from South Korea and the US. Headlined by a massive 23 feet mural by Leslie Labowitz Starus, ***1 in 3*** considers the historical sweep of this violence with works and performance addressing the Asian Comfort Women of WWII, the anti-sexual violence efforts of the 1970's and the current #metoo movement.

The exhibition runs from July 12 to September 1, 2019 with an opening reception on Friday July 12, 7-9 pm. ***1 in 3*** is curated by Ara & Anahid Oshagan with guest curator Monica Hye Yoen Jun from S. Korea and is done in collaboration with Glenn Ruga of Social Documentary Network (socialdocumentary.net).

Artists in ***1 in 3: Sexual Violence Pandemic***: Leslie Labowitz Starus and Suzanne Lacy, Han Ho, Jungbae Seo, Seoung Woo Kim (aka Moogie), Ji An Kwon (aka Solbi), Alyssa Meadows, Lee Nam Lee.

Leslie Labowitz Starus is a Los Angeles-based artist and entrepreneur best known for her public performance work in collaboration with Suzanne Lacy on violence against women, in the 70s and 80s. For ***1 in 3***, Starus displays a massive 23-foot wide mural that is a reproduction of a photographic collage created before digitalization of two well-known performances from 1977: 1) *In Mourning and In Rage*, a ritual memorial for the 12 raped and murdered victims of the “Hillside Strangler” and 2) *Record Companies Drag Their Feet*, media event to boycott record companies for their use of violent and degrading images of women to sell records. The original mural is being exhibited at SFMOMA, part of Suzanne Lacy’s retrospective.

Suzanne Lacy is an internationally recognized artist living in Los Angeles. Her early works, *Three Weeks in May* (that included performances by Labowitz) and *In Mourning and In Rage* (a collaboration with Labowitz) are models for Social Practice artworks that integrate activism, community organizing and performance. Her productions now involve hundreds of people and use live performance, projections and installations in New York, Spain, Ecuador, and the UK. Her collaboration with Labowitz Starus is documented in the mural and on the archival website www.againstviolence.art.

Han Ho is a visual artist and performer who works with the illusion of space, creating an atmosphere in his work through the movement of light and time. Working with two portraits of a comfort woman—one young, another much older—Ho casts a net across the whole timespan of recent Korean history

and expresses a deep feeling of loss. Ho also brings his intimate and imaginative performance art to ReflectSpace.

Jung Bae Seo employs a fictional character named “Kiki” to express complex internal emotions of women. Constructed as an oversized scroll, her work is figurative and narrative to tell a story through drawing, painting and text.

Seoung Woo Kim (aka Moogie) is a photographer and installation artist. Sourced from recent portraits of comfort women in Korea, his work places them into contemporary contexts. His digital collage work embeds comfort women in the middle of busy urban streets beneath massive electronic news billboards and his installation with light casts them into an otherworldly dimension.

Ji-An Kwon (aka Solbi) is a Korean artist, musician, painter, TV broadcaster, performer and lead vocalist for K-POP group “Typhoon”. Her work wavers between painting and performance and is marked by two colors: red (resurrection) and black (wound). She blends and mixes these colors and media to create a process and space for healing.

Alyssa Meadows’ portrait series depicts every woman she personally knows who has been a victim of sexual violence. Photographed first anonymously, then for those who consent, with faces in light, her work speaks from the core of the #metoo movement and challenges us to know who the “1 in 3” women may be in our lives. Meadows’ work comes via Social Documentary Network. Social Documentary Network (SDN) is a documentary photography and visual storytelling platform to explore global social justice and human rights themes.

Lee Lee Nam re-interprets existing artworks by transforming them with moving digital visualization. A young woman’s portrait is slowly metamorphosed into an elderly one, bit by bit, via digital falling teardrops. The teardrops allude to a history of sadness and the universal status of women's rights.

1 in 3: Sexual Violence Pandemic

Dates: July 12 to September 1, 2019

Address:

Glendale Central Library

ReflectSpace Gallery

222 E. Harvard St.

Glendale CA 91205

Opening Reception: Friday, July 12 from 7 – 9 pm

Curators:

Monica Hye Yoen Jun from S. Korea and Ara & Anahid Oshagan

Collaborator: Glenn Ruga, Social Documentary Network

Associated Programs:

1. Comfort Women Commemoration Day 2019

Saturday, July 27

Central Library Auditorium

- Seminar: 1-4 pm
- Cultural program and commemoration: 5-7 pm
- Performance by artist Han Ho @ 7 pm

Library Contact

Hala Shonouda

818-548-2030

hshonouda@glendaleca.gov

Curator Contact

Ara & Anahid Oshagan

818-548-2030

aoshagan@glendaleca.gov

anoshagan@glendaleca.gov