

Will You Be There?

Launching Thursday, May 7, 2020 at macp.sva.edu/will-you-be-there

Artists: Danni Bellando, Las Hermanas Iglesias, Kristen Jensen, Super Critical Mass, Post-Museum, Ana Prvački and Joy O. Ude

Curated by Isabella Anastasio, Ashlin Ballif, Angelica Maria Fuentes, David Hanlon, Minji Lee, Clifford Loh, Adeola Olakiitan, Marley C. Smit, Yuan Zhi, and Xiao Zong under the supervision of Noam Segal

MA Curatorial Practice at the School of Visual Arts is pleased to present *Will You Be There?*, a virtual exhibition curated by the SVA MA Curatorial Practice class of 2021, exploring the precariousness and necessity of togetherness, particularly in moments of exigency. Concepts of community are often defined by shared space—whether in physical space or in the metaphysical space of common ideas—but in the interest of social distancing, the exhibition *Will You Be There?* will not occupy a physical space. *Will You Be There?* utilizes a digital platform as a means to sustain community in the absence of physical gathering.

Will You Be There? asks: How do we conceive of community in a climate in which social distancing and self-quarantine become necessary? How can we come together in shared space when it is essential we all stay home? The COVID-19 outbreak has brought these questions to the front of social consciousness and, as a response, the exhibition brings a roster of international artists who explore ways of giving and receiving care, of sacrifice and responsibility within our symbiotic relationships in the face of uncertainty.

Crises tend to bring out both the best and the worst in people. While panic buying, hoarding, and xenophobia have surfaced as ugly reactions to the pandemic, people have also exhibited an immense measure of unity and cooperation in the face of the outbreak. Even young, healthy people who may not be at high risk for the virus are taking it upon themselves to self-quarantine for the benefit of the elderly and immunocompromised. If one thing has become abundantly clear in all of the chaos, it is how entirely interdependent we are as living beings to survive—and to thrive.

ABOUT MA CURATORIAL PRACTICE, THE SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS, NEW YORK

The Master of Arts degree in Curatorial Practice at the School of Visual Arts is a two-year program that focuses on intensive professional training, with a thorough grounding in the study of art and exhibition history, research, and theory. Students work with leading experts in an academic setting and in

internships around the world, providing continuous opportunities to gain practical experience, acquire intellectual breadth, and develop a professional network in the field. The program takes full advantage of the vast number of arts institutions in New York City and the professionals working here and visiting, who constitute our distinguished faculty and weekly guest speakers. Go to macp.sva.edu to find out more.