

Fountain House Gallery & Studio: Outside Outsider/ In Honor of Mental Health Awareness Month

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on behalf of

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Tue 3/2/2021 9:53 AM

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Outside/Outsider

An open call to New York artists confronting mental health

Curated by Karen Gormandy & Issa Ibrahim

Outside Outsider (Art Exhibition and Film Screening) proposes to blur the lines of established and preconceived ideas of art created by the "mentally ill." Outside Outsider will feature work that moves the boundary lines and disposes of the term "naïve" or unschooled and explores the complexity and sophistication of many people who have disclosed their diagnosis but refuse to be defined by it. We will include work by artists who are intentional, worldly, knowledgeable, aware and woke.

This is an open call to all artists confronting mental illness. Work will be considered in all genres from artists who ruminate on the suffering, healing and the stigma associated with mental health.

Please include in the Artist Statement section a one paragraph description of you and your work and why you believe it qualifies for this show.

On View (Virtual and in person): May 1 – May 30, 2021

Opening Reception: May 1, 2021 Timed Tickets will be available 5-9pm

Tentative Venue (Covid Permitting): The Factory, 30-30 47th Avenue, Long Island City, NY

Media: All

Submission Fee: \$20.00 (all LiC-A members receive a \$5.00 discount)

Submission Deadline: March 31, 2021

Notice of Acceptance: April 10, 2021

Dates for Reading/Music Performance, Film Screening, Curator Talk, Panel Discussion:

TBD

Application fee: \$20 & \$15 for LIC-A Members

(Covid-19 health conditions permitting)

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Background of Curators:

Karen Gormandy is the Director for Fountain House Studio. She began as a volunteer with the gallery 10 years ago when her son, a Fountain House member, introduced her to the gallery. Along with an intrepid group of determined artists she saw the growth of the studio program from two trays of markers, pens, pencils and a few tubes of acrylic paint to a full blown fully equipped art studio in Long Island City.

She is a former board member for NAMI New York City, NAMI New York state and NAMI Harlem and is also a literary agent at Harold Ober Associates who proudly represent the estate of Langston Hughes.

She attended the High School of Art & Design, has a bachelor's degree in film from Montana State University and received her master's degree in creative writing at Manhattanville College, all of these disciplines now serve to enrich the experience of offering guidance, support and education to the artists of Fountain House. She currently facilitates Fountain House's virtual studio program which includes art history, technique and lively artists discussions.

Issa Ibrahim is a graduate of New York City's High School of Art and Design, and studied at the School of Visual Arts and the Art Students League. He was institutionalized at Creedmoor Psychiatric Center's Living Museum, where he reclaimed his life and found meaning as an artist, musician, writer, activist, and 25-year artist-in-residence. Issa is the author of *The Hospital Always Wins: A Memoir*, published in 2016 by Chicago Review Press. The book was met with laudatory reviews leading to interviews on NPR

and other radio outlets, international press, and features including coverage in O, the Oprah Winfrey Magazine. He is an active member-artist of Fountain House Gallery.



Karen Gormandy / Studio Director

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Fountain House Gallery & Studio

www.fountainhousegallery.org

www.fountainhousegallery.org

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