

A.I.R.

For immediate release

MASKING POWER

Joan Ryan

February 11 - March 13, 2016

Opening Reception: February 11th, 6-8pm
DUMBO First Thursday Art Walk: March 3rd, 6-8pm

Brooklyn, NY - January 2016

A.I.R. Gallery presents *MASKING POWER*, an exhibition of new work paintings and sculptures by Joan Ryan.

This body of work came from Ryan image searching the term: “mask of power/girls” on the Google search engine. The result of these findings highlighted the difference from the artist’s visual understanding of female power and how that is presented through mediated technology. Through this exhibition, Ryan seeks to redefine images of power within pop-culture, media technology and gender.

On view are two distinct bodies of work, an installation of small sculptural masks and large formatted paintings of pop-cultural fetishes relating to gender identity. The paintings and sculptures in this exhibition are a bridge from fine art to visual culture, inviting viewers to see works of art and toys move into a dialogue around gender, body image, and aesthetics.

Each body of work examines the social concept of female power, presenting the viewer with these works in relationship to what is presented online.

Joan Ryan is an artist based in Boston whose work has been exhibited worldwide. She has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, The Puffin Foundation, George Sugarman Foundation and the Berkshire Taconic Foundation. In 2011 she was awarded the Lillian Orłowsky and William Freed Grant from the Provincetown Art Association and Museum. She received her MFA in Painting from Boston University studying with James Weeks and John Wilson. Her “O King” project was included in 2006 Women’s Caucus for Art National Conference panel on “Public Memory” and exhibited as a solo exhibition at The Cambridge Multi Cultural Center in Cambridge, MA. She has been an active member of WCA for more than twenty years. Most recently she was Artist in Residence at DADA Post, Berlin Germany where she exhibited her work. She is affiliated The Drawing Center in New York, NY, The Drawing Project in Boston, MA. and Lesley University College of Art and Design Cambridge MA.



Power Mask (detail), 2015, Installation, 8 x 15 inches (each)



Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc.

For all press inquiries, please contact; Jamie Sterns, Exhibitions Director.

The gallery is wheelchair accessible.

A.I.R. GALLERY | 155 Plymouth St. | Brooklyn, NY 11201 | airgallery.org | info@airgallery.org | (212) 255 6651 | Wed - Sun 12-6pm