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Kingston Gallery
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The Main Gallery

Drawing in Air
Kledia Spiro

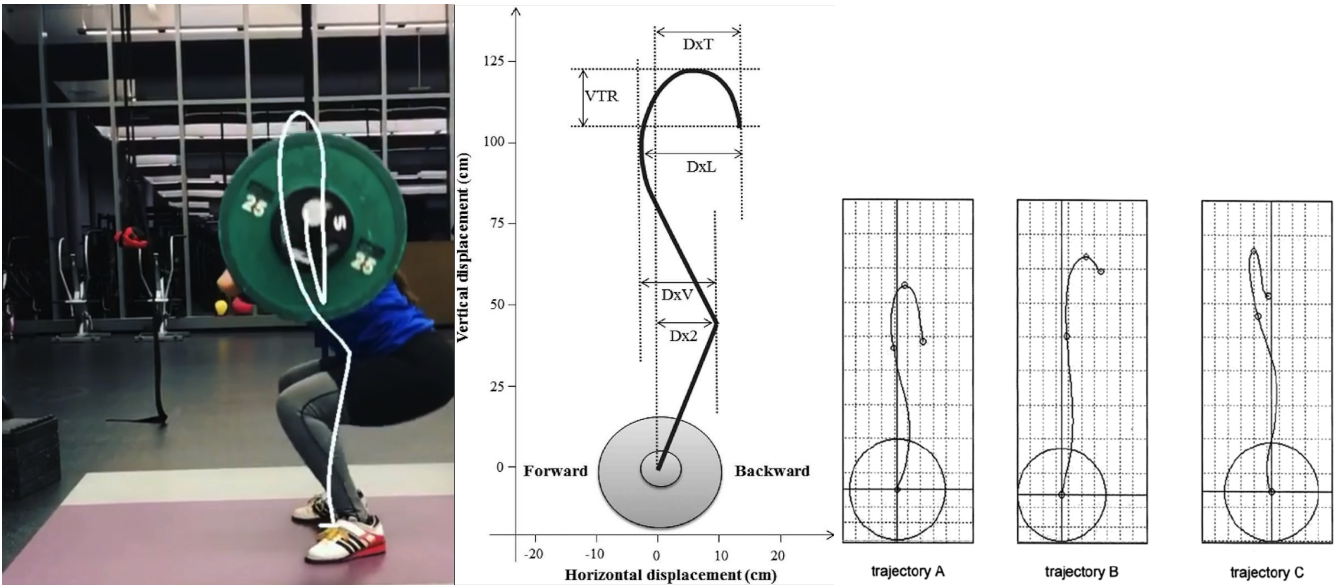
The Center Gallery

Free Standards
Andrew Neumann

On View from January 5th thru January 28th, 2024
Opening Reception January 5th, 5:00 - 8:00 pm
Performance Dates will be announced in December 2023

SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (October 29th, 2023) As 2024 dawns at Kingston Gallery, our January artists are exploring the concepts of societal weight, creating our own unique mark as individuals, and the role of cinematic technology in controlling the narrative of our lived experience. In the Main Gallery, **Kledia Spiro** will create a multisensory installation experience that asks the viewer to ponder the relationship between the motion of our bodies in air (our mark) as we carry the cultural weight of both personal and societal expectations throughout our lives. ***Drawing in Air*** promises to be an unforgettable exploration of weight, legacy, and the profound connections between art and human experience. The installation uses the metaphor of olympic weightlifting, and a sonic soundscape unique to each piece, which will be celebrated by a live performance by Spiro to illustrate how we experience ***Drawing in Air***. In the Center Gallery, **Andrew Neumann's** sculptures give new life to the technologies of the cinematic apparatus in ***Free Standards***. Neumann uses the work to create negative spaces that seek to ask hard questions about how technology and the corporate forces behind its development shape our lives in the 21st century.

Main Gallery



Conceptual Images, Drawing in Air, Kledia Spiro, Multimedia Installation, 2018-2023

Drawing in Air: A Multisensory Exploration of Weight and Legacy

Kledia Spiro's solo exhibition, ***Drawing in Air***, delves into the fascinating interplay of weight, legacy, and the human experience. Over the last decade, Spiro has embarked on a quest to understand the meaning of "weight" in people's lives.

In 2018, Spiro set out on a journey to explore the concept of weight with middle school students from the prestigious Groton School. During her Mudge Fellowship as Artist-in-Residence at the school, she integrated Olympic weightlifting into their curriculum, teaching them complex athletic movements that extended beyond the gym into their English, Physics, art, and biology classes. Spiro recorded their lifts

and transformed the data into signature light drawings, capturing a unique essence of each student's journey. In 2023, Spiro extended her project to students from Boston Public School's Bridge to Calculus program. Their perspectives on weight, shaped by underprivileged backgrounds, provide a compelling contrast to the Groton students' experiences.

Spiro has collaborated with two diverse musicians, Lianna Sylvan and Kevin Baldwin, to translate her light drawings into a captivating music composition. In the gallery, Spiro will physically paint signature light drawings in mid-air. Using sensors placed throughout the exhibition, each drawing triggers a unique sound experience for the visitor. When a visitor interacts with a drawing, they will hear the music created from that student's unique bar path, offering a multisensory exploration of weight.

Spiro's project blurs the lines between information design and art, using drawings to create data for music production. The exhibition will also feature a live performance where Kevin Baldwin translates Spiro's movements into real-time sound, providing an immersive experience for the audience. Attendees will have the chance to learn Olympic lifts, creating their own unique drawings in air and sound pieces as part of the performance.

Kledia Spiro (1987, Tirana, Albania) As a multimedia, interdisciplinary artist, creating immersive videos, performances, and installations, Spiro's work has captivated audiences with its unique exploration of the human experience. Her innovative projects continually challenge the boundaries of art, daily life and data. Born in Albania, Spiro trained with an Olympic weightlifting team. She explores the connection between strength, weightlifting, and daily life as a new celebratory ritual for understanding the relationship between the artist and the audience, as well as the present and the past. By experimenting with indeterminate methods, Spiro wants the viewer to access the otherwise inaccessible spaces. Her works are based on Freudian and Piagetian behavioral concepts: visions that reflect psycho-analysis, behavioral psychology, and a sensation of indisputability, combined with details of odd, eccentric, absurd, totemic, and humoristic elements. By questioning where one is and the concept of movement, Spiro investigates the manipulation of lifting objects overhead and its effects.

Spiro's work has been featured internationally at Stratosphere, NFT Art Week Beijing, in addition to national exhibitions at the SAIC Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, Museum of Art, University of New Hampshire, Satellite Art Show, Miami Art Week, and the ProArts Gallery in Oakland, California. Spiro's video-performance "Which Way" was featured in Times Square for NFT.NYC 2023. Spiro has performed in New York at the Queens Museum, Clio Art Fair: Armory Week, Grace Exhibition Space, Rosekill, Panoply Performance Lab, Java Studios and Le Petit Versailles. Her Boston performances include the Museum of Fine Arts, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Mobius, Piano Craft Gallery, BauHaus, Tufts University, and the New England Conservatory.

Spiro received her MFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University. She also received the Museum Studies Certificate from Tufts University in 2015. She has a BA from the College of the Holy Cross in Studio Art and Psychology with an Asian Studies Concentration. In 2018, Spiro was the Keynote Speaker at the Centennial New England Museum Association Conference. In 2017, she was selected as a TEDx speaker and performer for "The Pursuit of Creativity." In 2016, Spiro was the video director that received the Massachusetts Cultural Council Award for the Mayor's Art Challenge. In 2015, Spiro was also selected as one of five artists for the New England Media Symposium on the panel "Gender, Technology and Media: Hypothetical Schematics" at Emerson College. In 2014, Spiro was appointed as the MFA Graduate representative for Exhibitions at the SMFA. Spiro was a visiting artist and guest lecturer at the College of the Holy Cross in 2014. She is currently a Post Graduate Teaching Fellow at Northeastern University and Assistant Professor of Design at Northeastern University London.

More Information about **Kledia Spiro** is available here:

[Kledia Spiro \(She/Her\) \(@klediastudios\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

<https://linktr.ee/klediaspiro>

[KLEDIA SPIRO](#)

Center Gallery



Cover Shot, Andrew Neuman, Mixed Media Sculpture , 2023

Free Standards

Guest artist **Andrew Neumann's** exhibition ***Free Standards*** explores the cinematic apparatus through a series of sculptures. Neumann is interested in technology and its use as a representational model. With this work he attempts to develop a specific iconography that reflects upon the evolution of technology and its dependency on capital institutions, while at the same time pulling the technology out of context, questioning its main function as a reflection of alignment with corporate powers and authoritative powers, who support its development and use in society.

Coming from a technical filmmaking background, Neumann, as the technician, has a bevy of components to use that help the cinematic apparatus function in a myriad of ways. For these works, he has stripped away the camera itself, and let these pieces act as ghosts. By deconstructing these technologies, and reorganizing specific objects and components, Neumann aims to question the value of the objects, disregarding any existing protocols and exploring the relationship between technology and the world it is meant to serve.

Andrew Neumann is an American artist. He works mainly with time based forms, including video, (single/multiple projections and installation), mixed media electronic music performance, as well as static sculptural modes, text panels, and conceptual photography. He was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2004, a Harvestworks New Works Grant, a LEF Foundation Grant and other awards. He has performed his music/multimedia performances at Experimental Intermedia Foundation, Roulette, Issue Project Room, The Rose Art Museum, Artist Space, Microscope Gallery, as well as numerous "black box" basement venues. He has had one person shows at bitforms Gallery, The Center for Photography at Woodstock, The DeCordova Museum, and has been in numerous group shows. He has been awarded residencies at The MacDowell Colony, YADDO, Ucross Foundation,

STEIM, Djerassi, and many others. He is currently preparing two CD's of solo electronic improvised music systems.

More information about Andrew Neuman is available here:

[Andrew Neumann \(@neumann58\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

<https://www.adneumann.com/>

<https://andrewneumann.bandcamp.com/album/false-electronic-alert>

Project Space

Jennifer Liston Munson - More Information Coming Soon

Kingston Gallery is a distinguished Artist-Cooperative gallery, founded in 1982. The gallery exhibits the work of notable Boston-area contemporary artists, and features a diverse range of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, and installation. Located in the SoWa arts district in the South End, exhibitions are free and open to the public.

Gallery hours are Wednesday–Sunday 12–5 pm, and by appointment.

Contact Kingston Gallery at marketing@kingstongallery.com

More information available at [Kingston Gallery](#)

And on Instagram [Kingston Gallery \(@kingstongallery\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)