

Press Contact: marketing@kingstongallery.com Kingston Gallery 450 Harrison Ave, No. 43 Boston, MA 02118 617-423-4113

The Main and Center Galleries

DIG

Mira Cantor

The Project Space
My Mind's Eye
Phyllis Ewen

On View from February 28th thru March 31st, 2024 Opening Reception March 1st, 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Gallery Talk with Artist Mira Cantor & Martina Tanga
Curatorial Research and Interpretation Associate, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Kingston Gallery, 2pm March 9th, 2024

**SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (January 8th, 2023)** To look below the surface and explore the mysteries of life is an artist's mandate. In the Main and Center Galleries, <u>Mira Cantor's</u> exhibition <u>DIG</u> will explore her ruminations on the world below our feet by symbolically depicting the strata of The Burren in Western Ireland. Seeking to understand our place in the evolution of nature, Cantor brings a sense of history to each painting. Large abstract paintings reflect traces of decaying objects caught below the surface and preserved in the layers of soil. In the Project Space, <u>Phyllis Ewen</u> will exhibit <u>My Mind's Eye</u>, a lithographic exploration of MRI images of the brain, conceived during the isolation of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Main and Center Galleries** 



Pink Cloud, Mira Cantor, Acrylic on Canvas, 42" x 52", 2023

## DIG

The Burren in Western Ireland has given *Mira Cantor* clues to the everchanging evolution of natural phenomena. In her pilgrimages to the area over the years, Cantor had an urge to see what lay underground, thinking that it would help her make more sense of our humanity. In her new paintings she is imagining "evolutants" stuck in the mud, from remains of the flora and fauna of the smallest cell-like creatures to the evolution of our present human form, painted as staggered layers of history. In the exhibition *DIG*, Cantor brings a sense of history to each painting, weaving imagined worlds and time into a single space-time concept. They are created in colorful, animated patterns of biological and imaginary forms.

Cantor understands that all life runs out of time, but it never disappears. It is hidden in the depths of the soil. Beneath our feet, the residue of life remains; decomposition preserved over hundreds of thousands of years like a memory bank. Strata by strata information is defined, where flesh, organs, hair, nails, clothing survive along with pollen grain, yew root, eel bone, wolf skin and single celled organisms, insects, fossils, are all left embedded in the bog. Through archeology, anthropology and geology we can piece together new knowledge as technology shows us new ways to explore the earth underneath our feet.

Using this knowledge, Cantor wanted to make paintings that the viewer can look at and hear - not literally but in its essence of meaning, singing with the silence of all the generations that preceded us. The exhibition will include works created in oils and acrylics, and sand mixed media drawings that are eroding slowly.

*Mira Cantor* was born in New York City and graduated with an MFA from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. Her career was established in painting, drawing and mixed media sculpture while teaching at the University of Hawaii in 1970. She became a fellow at the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at MIT from 1978-80, where she taught drawing in the Dept. of Architecture. In 1994-95, she was awarded a Fulbright to Alexandria, Egypt where she taught and exhibited her work at the American Center.

Cantor's solo shows include the Tokyo American Center in Japan, the BWA Gallery in Krakow, Poland, Hampshire College, De Cordova Museum, Fitchburg Art Museum, The Contemporary Arts Center,

Honolulu, Gallery Löhrl in Dusseldorf, to name a few. Cantor is included in the collections of the Danforth Museum, Rose Art Museum at Brandeis(drawing) and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (drawing), the Honolulu Academy of Arts and the Contemporary Arts Center of Honolulu. Her drawings have been exhibited at the Vienna Biennale, Norwegian Internationale Print Biennale as well as biennales in Yugoslavia, Krakow and Venice. She has works in many private collections here and abroad. There is a permanent exhibition of her police drawings at the Police Headquarters in Boston.

Currently, Mira Cantor is a professor at Northeastern University where she has been teaching art for 30 years. Until 2004, Cantor was represented by the Genovese Sullivan Gallery in Boston. She has been a member of the Kingston Gallery in Boston since 2013. Her drawings have been curated in group exhibitions by William Stover "Passion" in 2003, "The Boston Drawing Show" curated by Carl Belz in 1998 and in 1993 curated by Cliff Ackley. She has spent several residencies in Banff, Canada, and Ballyvaughan, Ireland where her interest in nature, history and contemporary culture continues to seep into her work.

More Information about *Mira Cantor* is available here:

Mira Cantor (@m.cantor2020) • Instagram photos and videos

Mira Cantor | Facebook

Main: Cantor 2024 — Kingston Gallery

Mira Cantor — Kingston Gallery

Mira Cantor - CAMD Northeastern University

<u>On Edge – Paintings and Drawings by Mira Cantor – Burren College of Art | Newtown Castle | Ballyvaughan | Co. Clare | Ireland</u>

## **Project Space**



Gold Kernel, Phyllis Ewen, Lithograph on Paper, 19"x 16", 2022. Developed & printed in collaboration with Muskat Studios.

## My Mind's Eye

As the Covid-19 pandemic continued and morphed, *Phyllis Ewen* opened new avenues of exploration and expression in her studio practice, turning inward, departing from her traditional 3D work on the climate crisis. In this new series of lithographs, *My Mind's Eye*, Ewen reflects on her changing state of mind during that time. The lithographs, which change in color and texture throughout the series, were created from drawings done interpreting MRI images of a brain. This work brought quiet and solace during isolation, sparking new thoughts and insights.

Phyllis Ewen lives in Massachusetts, with studios in Somerville and Wellfleet. Her art is in public collections, including the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the DeCordova Museum, the Boston Public Library, Harvard University, the Reykjanes Museum of Art, and numerous corporate and private collections. Ewen's work has been shown widely. She is a gallery artist at Kingston gallery in Boston and AIR in Brooklyn. Her recent show, Shifting Currents/Deep Water Rising was shown at the Kingston Gallery. In 2017, Ewen's work was in a well-received 3-artist exhibit at the Reykjanes Museum of Art in Iceland, Við Sjónarrönd/Above And Below The Horizon, a two-person show, Imprint, in York Maine, and a solo, Land and Water, at the Lesley University Spotlight Gallery. In 2018. Her work was included in HOW'S YOUR WEATHER? 7 Artists Respond to Climate Change, at the Grimshaw-Gudewicz Art Gallery, Bristol Community College, Fall River. She has had several solo shows in Cuba and at the A.I.R Gallery, where she has been a member since 2005.

More information about Phyllis Ewen is available here:

Project Space: Ewen 2024 - Kingston Gallery

Phyllis Ewen (@phylewen) • Instagram photos and videos

Phyllis Ewen

<u>Phyllis Ewen – Kingston Gallery</u>

**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 <u>marketing@kingstongallery.com</u>
More information available at <u>Kingston Gallery</u>
And on Instagram <u>Kingston Gallery (@kingstongallery) • Instagram photos and videos</u>