

BEVERLY FISHMAN

11 OCTOBER – 10 NOVEMBER 2018

NEW YORK, NEW YORK – MILES MCENERY GALLERY is pleased to present an exhibition of works by Beverly Fishman, on view 11 October through 10 November at 520 West 21st Street. A public reception will be held for the artist on Thursday 11 October from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated publication, featuring an essay by Dawn Chan.

Beverly Fishman's bold, polychromatic wall works meditate on the many parallels that can be drawn between pharmaceuticals and art. Like taking a pill, an experience with art is often brief yet has the ability to induce a response that runs deep within in one's being. Fishman's vivid geometric reliefs may not take on the overt physical appearance of pills, but are representative of how pharmaceutical companies utilize aesthetic appeal in their products to offer the promise of a better reality. Each optically alluring and carefully crafted shape stacked within her compositions is assigned an ailment denoted in the titles of the works.

The inviting, and deeply intriguing wall reliefs on view at Miles McEnery Gallery are a continuation of a series Fishman began in 2012, using urethane paint on cut wood panels. With their often large size and bright color palette, the works are confrontational and bursting with tensions that beguile the viewer's senses. By painting the edges of the pieces with gleaming fluorescent tones, Fishman allows the colors to interact with the white of the walls behind them, giving the illusion of a neon glow. In some of her compositions, the push and pull between the flat and glossy finishes toys with the viewer's perception of space and reality. The flawless, pristine surfaces of Fishman's work additionally mimic the clean and technologically precise expanses of research labs and operating tables, further linking them to pharmaceuticals.



Fishman's art invites the viewer to contemplate not only the ways in which pharmaceutical companies use aesthetics to market their products, but also how they can produce varying versions of reality. As Fishman wrote in an essay for *Cultural Politics*, our contemporary world is one in which "drugs construct and contest our identities and ... the production and consumption of art can seem like an addiction."

BEVERLY FISHMAN (b. 1955, Philadelphia, PA) received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1977 from Philadelphia College of Art, and her Master of Fine Arts degree in 1980 from Yale University.

Recent solo exhibitions include "Chemical Sublime," Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, IL; "T.N.N.," Kravets Wehby Gallery, New York, NY; "DOSE" (curated by Nick Cave), CUE Art Foundation, New York, NY; "Another Day in Paradise," Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL; "Pain Management," Library Street Collective, Detroit, MI; "Big Pharma," Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, OH; "Beverly Fishman: In Sickness and in Health," Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA; "Living Networks," Wasserman Projects, Birmingham, MI; "Focus: Beverly Fishman," Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, East Lansing, MI; "Artificial Paradise," Wasserman Projects, Birmingham, MI; "Pill Spill," Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI; Galerie Richard, New York, NY; "Pharmako," Galerie Richard, Paris, France; and "Pill Spill," Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH.

Recent group exhibitions include "Grafik," Harper's Books, East Hampton, NY; "Xeriscape - Nina Chanel Abney, Rosson Crow, Beverly Fishman, Tschabalala Self and Wendy White," Library Street Collective, Detroit, MI; "Front International" (curated by

Miles McEnery Gallery

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Michelle Grabner), Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH; “Public Matter,” Library Street Collective, Detroit, MI; “Primary,” Korn Gallery, Dorothy Young Center for the Arts, Drew University, Madison, NJ; “‘Spieltrieb’: Polly Apfelbaum, Beverly Fishman, Ryan Mrozowski, Kathleen Ryan,” Jack Hanley Gallery, New York, NY; “Remains of the Days,” Borusan Contemporary, Istanbul, Turkey; “Paper,” Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, IL; “A Dazzling Decade,” Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS; “The Coffins of Paa Joe and the Pursuit of Happiness,” Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY; “She Rocks,” Kravets Wehby Gallery, New York, NY; “Sensuous/Pensive: At Odds and Overlapping” (curated by Donald Kuspit and Casey Gleghorn), Booth Gallery, New York, NY; “Painting/Object,” Library Street Collective, Los Angeles, CA; “Super Sketchy,” DCTV, New York, NY; “New Works by Daniel Brice, Tim Forcum, Beverly Fishman, Dion Johnson, Joe Lloyd, John Schlue, Christian Tedeschi, and Wayne White,” Western Project @ JAUS, Los Angeles, CA; “Going Big, Central Booking,” New York, NY; “Compendium,” The Islip Art Museum, East Islip, NY; “The Brain,” Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Ketchum, ID; and “Post-Op: The Responsive Eye Fifty Years After,” David Richard Gallery, Santa Fe, NM.

Her work is included in many public and private collections including Borusan Contemporary Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey; Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA; Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio; Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI; Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI; Hallmark Art Collection, Kansas City, MO; MacArthur Foundation Collection, Chicago, IL; Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, Kansas; Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH; Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, OH; Queens College Art Collection, Queens, NY; Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH; United Nations Embassy in Istanbul, Turkey; United States Embassy, Burundi; United States Embassy, Mauritius; and University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, MI.

She is the recipient of many awards, including Hassam, Speicher, Betts, and Symons Purchase Award, American Academy of Arts and Letters; John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship; Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award; Artist Space Exhibition Grant; and NEA Fellowship Grant, among others.

Beverly Fishman lives and works in Detroit, MI.

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Miles McEnergy Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM and by appointment.

Press Contact: Ainslie Jamerson at ainslie@milesmcenergy.com

 @miles.mcenergy.gallery

Image: Beverly Fishman, *Untitled (Insomnia)*, 2017, Urethane paint on wood, 38 x 38 x 2 inches, 96.5 x 96.5 x 5.1 cm

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