

Richmond, VA – **artspace** will open five new gallery exhibitions, featuring a mixed media installation of large scale work by Baltimore artist **Kim Rice**, abstract oil paintings by Virginia artist **Kathleen Craig**, a painting and installation collection by Baltimore artist **Giulia Piera Livi**, 1,461 oil pastel on paper drawings by St. Louis artist **Martin Brief**, and a group exhibition of work by **artspace Artist Members**, entitled *Decisions, Decisions*. Exhibition dates are September 27 – October 20, 2019. An Opening Reception for the Artists will take place on Friday, September 27, 2019, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This event will be Free and Open to the Public. A closing talk by the artists will take place on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. This event will also be Free and Open to the Public.

Presented in the Main Gallery is **Kim Rice's** mixed media installation, *Inheritance*. Using common materials, Rice creates large-scale works as a meditation on institutional racism and the policies that continue to affect American society today. Materials found around her home, such as academic references, photographs, redlining maps, court documents, and furniture create a space where both the past and present reside. Her installations dismantle and reconstruct the dissonance we experience in our engagement with truth. Kim earned her BFA in Sculpture and MFA in Printmaking from the University of Oklahoma. Her work has been shown throughout the country including the Alexandria Museum of Art, the Fred Jones Museum of Art, the Northern Illinois Art Museum, the Delaware Museum of Art, the 22ndNo Dead Artists at Jonathan Ferrara Gallery, and Prospect.4 Satellite. She has received multiple awards, including the McNeese Grant for Socially Engaged Practice. Born in Kentucky, raised in California, educated in Oklahoma, loved in New Orleans and now home in Baltimore, Kim's work is influenced by her two children and the pile of books by her bed.



"Inheritance" mixed media by Kim Rice

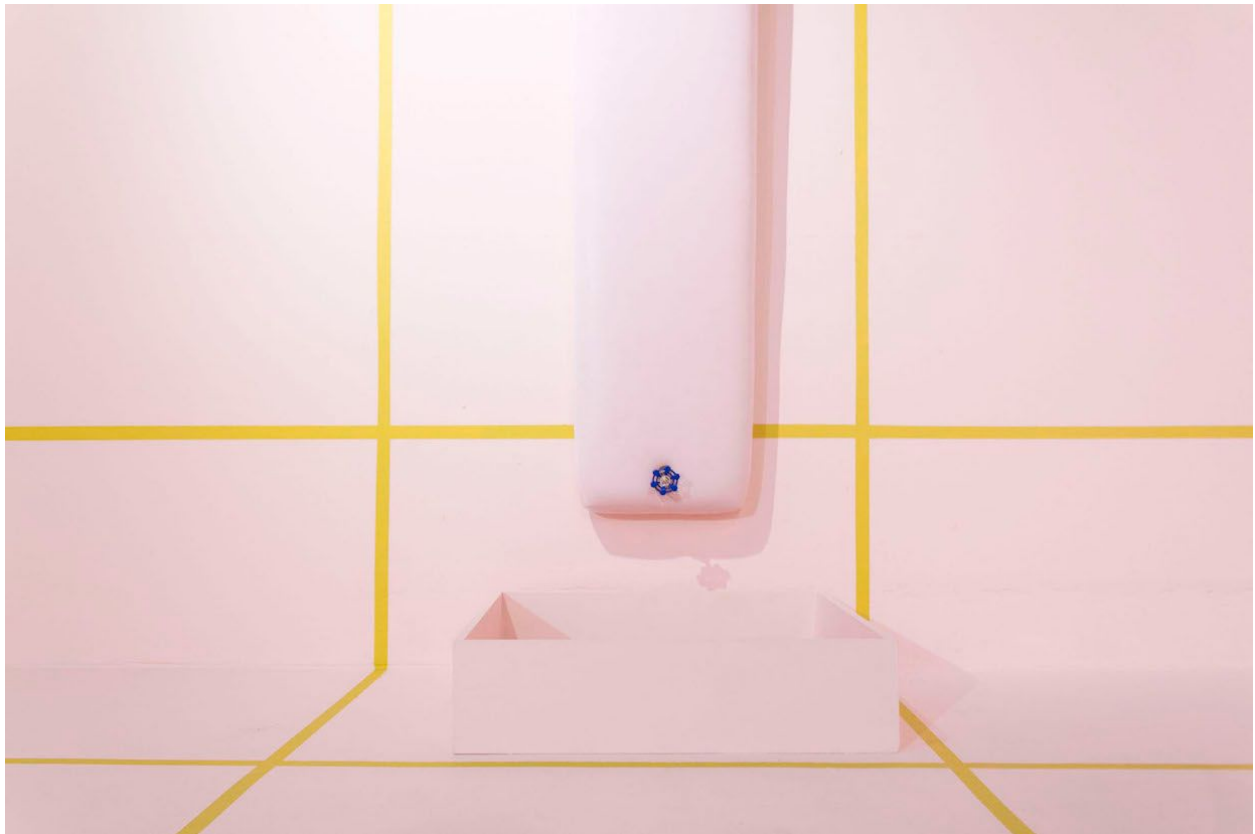
Featured in the Helena Davis Gallery is *Abstract Imagery*, oil paintings by **Kathleen Craig**. Kathleen says, "Today, I would like to develop my work in two directions – complexity and darkness - without losing sight of what I am already doing." She loves the way each painting suggests not only a new direction, but also seems to tell her to do it better next time. Her process starts with some loose, expressive drawing keeping the basic tenets of composition in mind. When time allows, she tries to reach a resolution of the whole painting in one go, and then she revises and revises. Craig originally earned a living working as an editor. She didn't get started as an artist until finally being persuaded to try a drawing class at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore. She soon found herself enamoured with all aspects of the art world. Shortly after moving to Virginia, she swapped out her day job in order to dedicate herself to the practice and her children. Now, with her children grown, she can spend all her free time in her studio.



"Checkers Still Life" 16x20 inch oil painting by Kathleen Craig

In the Frable Gallery, **Giulia Piera Livi** presents *Come Sit*, a painting & installation collection. Livi's work focuses on the acute and the polite, the domestic and the utilitarian. She works to understand how we find art objects to be aesthetically pleasing, and how we choose to live

among them. She interposes objects of the everyday to distort our sense of space, explore our ability to inhabit rooms, and merge the dreamlike with the rigid. Her geometric objects and paintings focus on materiality to investigate light, form, and the weirdly functional. Giulia earned a BFA from Penn State University and an MFA from the Mount Royal School at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA). She has exhibited both nationally and internationally with recent solo shows at 13|U Art Windows, VAE Gallery, Arlington Arts Center, and School 33 Art Center's Project Space. Livi received an Individual Artist Grant from the Maryland State Arts Council in 2019 and the Trawick Young Artist Prize from the Bethesda Contemporary Art Awards in 2017. Currently, she is a Gallery Manager at C. Grimaldis and an Adjunct Professor at MICA. Originally from Philadelphia, she now lives and works in Baltimore.



Installation by Giulia Piera Livi

smallspace Gallery features *Hope (2017–2019)*, 1,461 oil pastel on paper drawings by **Martin Brief**. Brief defines hope as “a thought process that removes us from this moment and clouds our ability to clearly see what is right in front of us.” These drawings allude to the idea that hope is accepting and appreciating the unknown future while still acting in the present. Each piece begins as a carefully executed drawing of the word “hope”. It is then smudged until the word is transformed. By physically reworking the oil pastel, the drawing remains materially the same but visually different. Martin’s work has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions nationally and internationally including exhibitions in New York, Paris, Zurich, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Chicago, and St. Louis. He also has work in several public collections, including the Joan Flasch Artist Book Collection at the Art Institute of Chicago, Center for Creative Photography in Tucson, Arizona, and the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts in Honolulu, Hawaii. He recently

received fellowships from the Howard Foundation and the MacDowell Colony. Brief was born and raised in Chicago and he currently lives and works in St. Louis where he is an Associate Professor at Saint Louis University.



"36" oil pastel by Martin Brief

The Suzanne Foley Gallery will show *Decisions, Decisions*, works in all media by **artspace Artist Members**.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 12-4 p.m. Please contact the gallery administrator at artspaceorg@gmail.com, or phone the gallery at 804-232-6464 for additional information. The gallery is located at Zero East 4th Street in Richmond, Virginia 23224, with a second door at 31 E. 3rd St., and online at www.artspacegallery.org.

-- News Release by Aaron Stein, PR Volunteer