## Press Release Aesthetics of Bliss Exhibition

31<sup>st</sup> of July – 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2023 67 York Street Gallery, 67A York St, London W1H 1QB

Aesthetics of Bliss will be taking over the 67 York Street Gallery to debut its new show concept, the feeling of happiness and their relationship with the concept of aesthetics in visual and philosophical aspects.

Aesthetics of bliss is to show the reintroduction of love, happiness and bliss in everyday life, and how we consider the feeling of happiness as a universal understanding, and challenging to accept amidst the everchanging social, political and environmental moments in today's world, presenting the artworks of 18 Artists with ample cultural histories with different art subjects in their artistic demonstration with multitude of mediums including painting, ceramics, metal sculptures and paper print works. The exhibition also gives a new space to consider our feelings with how.

we receive the artworks in today's society.

Alice Zakharenko and Yula Kim, the curators of the exhibition comment: 'The exhibition will provide a new perspective to see how we receive the feeling of happiness in everyday life, and how contemporary art forms from various ethical, cultural and critical backgrounds are presenting an individual's unique demonstration upon it.'

Aesthetics of Bliss 31<sup>st</sup> of July – 4<sup>th</sup> of August: 10 am – 6 pm Private View 31<sup>st</sup> of July: 6 pm – 8 pm 67 York Street Gallery, 67a York Street, London W1H 1QB <u>https://www.67yorkstreet.com/rca-collective-summer-2023/</u> Images can be accessed <u>here</u>

Participating artists include:



Katrina Nzegwu works as an artist researcher for Hannah Barry Gallery and its sister non-for-profit space Bold Tendencies, and hosts a monthly interview radio show on RTM FM, entitled MP3 4 Bois.
She has written for platforms including 3rd World zine, Carrion Press, and Studio West Gallery, and published her first "poetry" collection, Mixtape, with Em-Dash Press in January.



Art Sokoloff uses unique compositions of geometric shapes in his artworks. Art has been shortlisted for the Signature Art Prize 2021 and Visual Art Open in 2020 and 2021. His works have been exhibited in notable shows including London Grads Now. 21 at Saatchi, London; Intaglio at Megalo Print Gallery, Canberra; AAIP in Burg Giebichenstein, Halle; Perspectives at CICA Museum, Gimpo; Dry Floor at Hoxton253 in London.



Jihyun Kim, a Franz Rising Star Scholarship winner, is a ceramic designer who produces exquisitely crafted ceramic pieces with various vivid colours and textures based on slip-casting techniques and innovative glaze. Jihyun's ceramic works have been shown in notable international exhibitions including Milan Design Week, Clerkenwell Design Week, and the Seoul Hand-made Fair.



**Yula Kim** visually portrays the connection between human cultures and nature through birds within her paintings of figurative abstractions. Yula's works have been presented in significant art exhibitions including World of Light Festival at Auckland University of Technology during Auckland Art Week 2021, Tate Modern Late March 2023, and the Coronation Concert for Charlie III at Windsor Castle.



Ava Tribuson Ovseni is a member of the Ljubljana Fine Artists Society DLUL. Ava's work comes to life in the ambivalent space between the daily anguish of being static and longing for a home. Her art practice encourages a conversation between tangible and intangible environments we occupy simultaneously while testing the scopes of hybrid temporalities within image-making and story-telling.



Alice Zakharenko works in print media, papermaking, painting, artist books and writing. Alice curated her first show *Experiential Play* in 2023 at Fine Liquids Gallery, *Monophony, Bliss,* and *Aesthetics of Bliss*. Zakharenko has published her first set of writings and images of her work in *The Pluralist*.

## **About Aesthetics of Bliss**

Aesthetics of Bliss represents and showcases selected collections of artworks that consists distinctive cultural and ethnic backgrounds of artists with different practices from ceramic, paintings, to print in contemporary art formats, which followed by the thesis:

'Happiness is universally understood and accepted by many, it is incredibly challenging to accept amidst the everchanging social, political and environmental movements. For many artists, depicting joy in everyday life is a statement serving as a reminder that amor vincit omnia- that love conquers all. And if love conquers all, there is one moment of joy filled with crises and turmoil.

Acts of joy often are not always grand gestures, but an act of appreciation for the seemingly mundane. Several artists approach their works in this show with childlike innocence and wonder. Others describe personal relationships of their everyday lives with joy and platonic love before corruption takes hold in daily perception. Aesthetics of bliss is a reintroduction of love, happiness and bliss in everyday life.'

The collection has been selected based on the visual, philosophical and conceptual appeal of artists from different parts of national, cultural and philosophical backgrounds, and with social-art experiences.

## About the Curators: Alice Zakharenko and Yula Kim

This exhibition is co-curated by Alice Zakahrenko and Yula Kim.

Alice Zakharenko (b. 2000, New York City) is an interdisciplinary artist who works in print media, painting, papermaking, and artist books. Interested in the ordinary, Alice explores how the everyday establishes itself through a series of repetitions: systems of transportation, routinely walks, decorative adornments, and the general passive emotions felt during these moments of waiting. Curious about exploring stillness within the constant buzz of a city; how infinite repeats give birth to differences. The patterns we find in the body and environment gives us a symbol of identity. Alice studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and is currently obtaining her MA in Print at the Royal College of Art. Instagram @zak.al

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Yula Kim (b.1996, South Korea) is a visual artist who employs her Third Cultural identity to create a new perception about the connection between human cultures and nature through birds and their historical connection to read the new perspective of decolonisation and

environmental concerns in the past and the present moment through her research and art practices of painting. Yula has presented in various significant art projects including Platinum Jubilee Collection 2022 at Kensington Council, the Tate Modern in Late March 2023, and the Coronation Concert for Charlie III at Windsor Castle for the opening part of *The Royal Collaboration* section. Yula obtained her MA Degree of Contemporary Art Practice (Public Sphere) at the Royal College of Art and had previously studied BA Fine Art at Goldsmiths University of London.

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