

PRESS RELEASE

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Opening reception First Thursday, July 2, 6-8pm

(Portland, OR)—SOCIETY's summer group show, MIKE JODIE DEREK SIDONY STEPHANIE TARYN, with work by Mike Bray, Jodie Cavalier, Derek Franklin, Sidony O'Neal, Stephanie Simek, and Taryn Tomasello, opens July 2 and runs through August 1, 2026.

Don't miss the opening reception First Thursday, July 2, 6-8pm. We'll hang in the gallery, the kitchen, and the lovely back patio of Mother Foucault's. Bring friends.

Mike Bray (b. Woodridge, Illinois) is based in Eugene, Oregon. Bray has exhibited at venues such as Fourteen30 Contemporary in Portland, Oregon, and the Institute of Visual Art at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Underscoring his commitment to fostering art communities, he co-founded and is now the Artistic Director of Ditch Projects, an artist-run space in Springfield, Oregon, and is a founding member of the Coast Time Artist Residency in Lincoln City, Oregon.

Jodie Cavalier is a conceptual artist living in Portland, OR. She earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley and an MFA from Pacific Northwest College of Art in Portland, OR. Her work has been exhibited with Converge 45's Portland's Monuments & Memorials Project in Portland, OR; the Schneider Museum in Ashland, OR; the deYoung Museum in San Francisco, CA; the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley, CA; CoCA in Seattle, WA; Practice in New York; and Städelschule in Frankfurt, Germany, among others. Cavalier has participated in residencies such as ONCA in Brighton, England; the Center for Land Use Interpretation in Wendover, UT; Wassaic in Wassaic, NY; and AZ West in Joshua Tree, CA.

Derek Franklin is an artist, that also works in the curatorial field. Selected solo presentations of his work include Meditation Furniture for Ten Minute Breaks (Document Gallery); grief is on my calendar everyday at 2pm, (Elizabeth Leach Gallery); The Shadows That Haunt the Rooms Behind Our Eyes (Freight and Volume); and Mending Capers (Thierry Goldberg). Franklin's recent work has also been presented in group exhibitions at Simone Subal, Rawson Projects, Y gallery. Performa Biennial, Melanie Flood Projects, and The Center for Creative Research.

Sidony O'Neal is an artist and writer based in Portland, OR. Recent solo exhibitions include Lewis Center for the Arts (, The Pudding Butcher), Princeton University; Dracula's Revenge (NOT TALKING UNTIL BAD COMPANY JOINS),

NY; Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (Enchiridion: Aisle, Spline, Resort), Portland, OR; and Veronica (AuguRing), Seattle, WA. Group exhibitions include ICA at Maine College of Art and Design (ENTER:) and SculptureCenter (In Practice: Total Disbelief), NY. O'Neal has participated in residencies at Mass MoCA and Banff Centre, among others. O'Neal is the co-founder of INFANT design firm. Performances as a part of DT have been presented with Kunstverein Düsseldorf, Volksbühne Berlin, and Performance Space New York. O'Neal is the recipient of awards and fellowships including the Oregon Arts Commission's Joan Shipley Award and a Hodder Fellowship at the Lewis Center for the Arts, Princeton University. In 2023, O'Neal was awarded a Hallie Ford Fellowship through the Ford Family Foundation.

Using a wide array of materials, **Stephanie Simek** makes works in two dimensions, three dimensions, sound, and performance. Select projects include a room-sized crystal radio, self-assembling keys, and an observatory tower in Corinth, Vermont. She has worked on several occasions with experimental violist and composer Jordan Dykstra, producing such collaborations as a long-distance performance involving a synchronized time-release candle and vinyl record, called a conversation between two pieces of wax, and the 2025 exhibition Binnenstebuiten (whole #33), which included a score for a video landscape made from the inside of a ceramic vessel with self-organizing glazes.

Over time, her background has evolved from building instruments from deconstructed, obsolete devices, to studying the physical properties of minerals, and later apprenticing with a physicist on the fabrication of ultrasonic sensors for the semiconductor industry. In recent years, Simek has been an artist in residence at Mass MoCA, where she received the Ford Family Foundation's Oregon Visual Arts Fellowship; Tobichi Art Museum (Japan); A.R.E. (Netherlands); Viborg Kunsthall (Denmark); and the Museum of Glass (Tacoma). In 2024, she was a recipient of the Oregon Arts Commission's Individual Artist Fellowship. She lives and works in Portland, Oregon.

Taryn Tomasello (b. 1982 Boston, MA) is an artist living and working in Portland, OR, whose work engages text, event, image, material and objects. She is concerned with witnessing and latency. Through collecting and handling forms and ideas, Tomasello's work functions as a critique of our history and our present, attempting to make sense of irreconcilable futures. Although research is an integral part of Tomasello's practice, she maintains a deep affinity with the uninvited and unexpected, often working spontaneously in response to a site or situation. Tomasello has shown her work in art spaces across the US and internationally as well as being included in publications both online and in print. However, her most meaningful work often exists outside the confines of traditional gallery settings and beyond the reach of conventional documentation strategies. Tomasello holds an MFA from the Milton Avery Graduate School of Arts at Bard College and a BFA from Pacific Northwest College of Art.

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SOCIETY

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