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For immediate release:

Hannah Levy: Surplus Tension

September 30, 2021 –January 29, 2022

The Arts Club of Chicago

New York-based artist Hannah Levy to present new works at The Arts Club of Chicago in her first solo institutional exhibition.

Hannah Levy's precisely-rendered sculptures exist between the realms of danger and corporeality. Crafted of such evocative materials as steel and cast silicone, her forms at once evoke inanimate decor and sensual beings. In *Hannah Levy: Surplus Tension*, Levy departs from the specificities of the Arts Club's Miesian aesthetic of shiny terrazzo, travertine cladding, or sumptuous silk and velvet drapery to reflect upon the underside of mid-century modern. She delves into the details of an architectural moment that is commonly held to be characterized by clean lines and white walls to find corset-like leather ties around tubular metal chairs or mirror surfaces in black marble akin to reflecting pools. Levy further calls into question the gendering of that aesthetic by acknowledging the contributions of Mies's longtime collaborator Lilly Reich, who early on used textile to inventively demarcate space as Mies did in his design for The Arts Club rooms. With hanging, pendulous works, grounded elements, and anthropomorphic details, Levy skirts the edges of risk to embody the gallery rooms from floor to ceiling.

The exhibition was curated by Janine Mileaf, Executive Director and Chief Curator at The Arts Club of Chicago. A full-color brochure will be available in November 2021 and for sale via The Arts Club of Chicago website www.artsclubchicago.org.

To celebrate the release of the exhibition catalogue, Levy joins Janine Mileaf for a discussion about her work and practice in the evening on **Wednesday, December 8th.**





Image courtesy of the artist and Casey Kaplan, New York

Hannah Levy (b. 1991, New York, New York) lives and works in New York, New York. Recent solo exhibitions include the High Line, New York (2021); Casey Kaplan, New York (2020); Mother's Tankstation, Dublin, Ireland (2018); Fourteen30 Contemporary, Portland, Oregon (2017); and White Flag Projects Library, St. Louis, Missouri (2016). Notable group exhibitions include *Wege zur Welt – Hildebrand Collection*, G2 Kunsthalle, Leipzig (2019); *Campi Magnetici (Magnetic Fields)*, Gió Marconi, Milan, Italy (2019); *The Artist is Present*, Yuz Museum, Shanghai, China (2018); *I See You*, Savannah College of Art and Design Museum, Savannah, Georgia (2018); *Being There*, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark (2017); *Past Skin*, MoMA PS1, New York, New York (2017); and *Things I Think I Want. Six Positions of Contemporary Art*, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany (2017).