

Canaries

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With presentations by: Danyel M Ferrari, Saralee Gallien and Roxanne Baker, Maggie Eighteen
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Cleopatra's is pleased to present Canaries , a multimedia group exhibition that investigates healing, survival and the scarcity of language around these issues.

Canaries is a support group of women artists in New York City living and working with autoimmune conditions. Together they navigate the misconceptions around autoimmunity and the rising autoimmune epidemic. Through their conversations and work, the Canaries confront the epistemological shortcomings of a culture that insists on the duality of mind and body. Moving between the realm of the healthy and the realm of the sick, they seek to carve out a new site from which to understand identity formation in today's world.

Please visit our event section for more information regarding scheduled readings, presentations, and performances.

Canaries

"When we speak of the outside, we are considering only half of the whole"

-Jung, Memories, Dreams, Reflections

"New shit's come to light"

-The Big Lebowski

We are the reluctant vanguard
registering modern imbalance and toxicity,
thermometers and first responders
gauging the Earth's wellbeing
through our own. We are canaries
in the coal mine seeking new forms
of address through the assertion of vulnerability.

We are women.

We are artists.

We are a support group.

Our malfunctioning parts are silenced
or replaced with approximations,
our growths are removed and irradiated
while we shrink in a discourse
that denies our experience and its cause.
Often our bodies defy positivist logic
when we find our own solutions to “invisible” problems.

We are bionic.

We are sick.

We are growing in number.

We inject ourselves with mouse proteins
and eat bugs engineered to regulate
endocrine and gastrointestinal function.
How can we be legible when dominant language
excludes us? Can there not be, in some way,
a new science for every person?

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