

with Wardrobe

11 February–9 April 2023

Opening Reception: Saturday, February 11, 4–6pm
Abrons Arts Center

CFGNY

Devin Kenny

Erika Ceruzzi

K8 Hardy

Keioui Keijaun Thomas

Ken Lum

Pope.L

Laura Serejo Genes & Kiyoto Koseki present *with Wardrobe*, a group exhibition featuring works by CFGNY, Devin Kenny, Erika Ceruzzi, K8 Hardy, Keioui Keijaun Thomas, Ken Lum, and Pope.L. *with Wardrobe* will be accompanied by a two-night performance event with Keioui Keijaun Thomas on [April 4](#) and Devin Kenny on [April 5](#).

With works spanning over thirty years, *with Wardrobe* reflects on the styling of self as an individual practice inevitably tied to a larger body-politic. The exhibition brings together sculptures and performances that incorporate elements of dress sourced from global systems of material trade, simultaneously exuding and undoing familiarity. Using techniques of assemblage, the artists featured hone in on the potential of garments to mediate between subjects and matter as they provide passage between private and public states.

Interjecting their hand in seemingly closed loops of manufacturing, each artist leaves a maker's mark. They compensate for the degradation of readymade forms—symbolic or physical—by holding countless associations together. Taken out of commercial circulation, ribbed knits, plastic beads, polyester blends, and shirt collars gain new meaning as they are cut and fused with industrial surplus. Visual cues of class, race, gender, and origin also serve as raw materials in critical acts of reuse and reappropriation. The aggregates on display emit signs of distress, presenting the formation and maintenance of appearance as a feat of endurance.

Drawn from a passage in [Lillian Wald](#)'s memoir, the exhibition title makes reference both to theatrical costume and the convention of providing hat and coat check with admission to a ball, a festivity enjoyed in the early days of the Henry Street Settlement. This long-standing amenity brings up the question of what we carry with what we wear: layers clad, shared, and shed as needed.

[Link to exhibition page and guide](#)