

Jessica Silverman Presents *Chelsea Ryoko Wong: Gravitational Pull*,  
the Artist's First Solo Exhibition with the Gallery, Opening March 11



Chelsea Ryoko Wong, *Musseling on a Foggy Day*, 2022

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA (March 1, 2022)** – Jessica Silverman is pleased to announce *Chelsea Ryoko Wong: Gravitational Pull*, on view from March 11 to April 23, 2022 in the gallery's second-floor space. This is the artist's first solo exhibition with the gallery and presents a series of new paintings—vibrant figurative compositions that reflect the diversity and style of her home in San Francisco. Her scenic vignettes demonstrate sociality and joy as forms of resistance and empowerment.

Wong's brightly colored and heavily stylized paintings beam with the beauty and vitality of interpersonal connections. Like a sequence of dreams, they depict figures swimming among fish in turquoise water, napping on hot rocks, watching the sunset, and delighting together in a feast of dungeness crab. Like in *Musseling on a Foggy Day* (2022), the natural landscape figures heavily

in her works. She draws inspiration from California landscapes: the Yuba River, Sea Ranch and the Joshua Tree National Park. As a backdrop, celebrating nature works to fortify the central theme of the exhibition—the gravitational pull, or invisible force, that grounds us on Earth.

While contemplative and serene, the works in *Gravitational Pull* portray energetic crowds, often praising sisterhood and community spirit. In works such as *A Modern Feast* (2022), the subjects are playful, strong and self-possessed, representing a collective of identities that defy political turbulence. Moving through the artist's own memory, heritage and a grand social and political vision for the world, Wong's layered compositions use a commanding sense of color and form to celebrate the most tranquil ideals of communal existence.

#### **ABOUT CHELSEA RYOKO WONG**

Chelsea Ryoko Wong is a painter and muralist. Her work is known for celebrating racial and cultural diversity, promoting working class communities and evoking a sense of curiosity and wonder. Wong began her studies at Parsons School of Design (New York, NY), and finished at California College of the Arts (Oakland, CA) with a B.F.A. in Printmaking in 2010. She is the first recipient of the Hamaguchi Emerging Artists Fellowship award at Kala (Berkeley, CA, 2010) and has recently completed murals for Asana (San Francisco, CA, 2021), La Cocina (San Francisco, CA, 2021) and the FB AIR Program (San Francisco, CA, 2019). She has exhibited across the United States, Europe and Asia. In February 2022 she was announced as a finalist for the SFMOMA 2022 SECA Art Award.

#### **ABOUT JESSICA SILVERMAN**

Jessica Silverman is an ambitious, innovative, and internationally renowned contemporary art gallery with a reputation for curating compelling exhibitions, building artists' careers, and collaborating with collectors who are keen on positive provenance.

Silverman founded her eponymous gallery in 2008 after obtaining an MA in Curatorial Practice from San Francisco's California College of the Arts on the heels of a BFA from Otis College in Los Angeles. Silverman sat on the San Francisco Arts Commission for nine years. She is a founding member of 8-bridges, a member of the Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) and a member of the Selection Committee of Expo Chicago. The gallery represents prominent Californian and international artists at all stages of their careers. Works by the gallery's artists have been acquired by museums all over the world including Tate (London), Centre Pompidou (Paris), Reina Sofia (Madrid), MoMA (New York), MCA Chicago, Art Institute of Chicago, the Dallas Museum of Art, the Nasher Sculpture Center (Dallas), Los Angeles County Museum of Art, National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, not to mention SFMOMA and the De Young Museum (San Francisco).

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