

MISHKIN GALLERY



Anna Ostoya, digital collage, 2024. Courtesy the artist.

Anna Ostoya: J M Z

September 13 – December 13, 2024

Gallery Hours: Monday – Friday, 11am – 6pm

Mishkin Gallery is pleased to present a series of 15 paintings by Anna Ostoya, on view from September 13 through December 13, 2024. The paintings on display are derived from sketches that Ostoya made upon her arrival in New York City in 2008 of fellow passengers on the J, M, and Z lines along her commute between Brooklyn and Manhattan. After more than a decade in a drawer, the sketches became the basis for kaleidoscopic digital compositions filled with motifs appearing in existing works, for a book with the political philosopher Chantal Mouffe. For this series, Ostoya translates the digital compositions to oil on canvas. The artist avoided creating illustrations by simply “repainting” the digital images. Rather, she likens her approach to painting a sitting model or a still life—a search to depict depth, flatness, and contrasts of colors and textures. They also display a range of references, all of which have appeared in her previous works as painted or collaged elements. The result is a series of portraits that are at once intimate and removed, representational and surreal. These multifaceted images of individuals, all of whom occupy the shared public space of the subway, contend with fundamental political dimensions of identity and democracy.

Accompanying the exhibition is a free booklet containing six newly commissioned texts. Throughout her career, Ostoya has often translated between media, integrating found texts and images and collaborating with writers and thinkers. Following that, several writers, artists, and musicians were invited to respond to Ostoya’s series of paintings *J M Z*. The result is a wide-ranging collection of texts that encompass essay, poetry, and science fiction. The booklet continues Ostoya’s longstanding tradition of creative collaborations across genre. The booklet is designed by Olya Domoradova and includes texts by Moyra Davey, Mónica de la Torre, Lamin Fofana, Angie Keefer, Mark von Schlegell, and Alaina Claire Feldman and Alexandra Tell.

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Baruch College, CUNY
135 E. 22nd st. at Lexington
New York, NY

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Anna Ostoya: J M Z is co-curated by Mishkin Gallery's Alaina Claire Feldman and Alexandra Tell. The exhibition is made possible by Friends of the Mishkin Gallery and the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College (CUNY).

About the Artist

Anna Ostoya (b. 1978 in Kraków, Poland) lives and works in New York. Her work has been shown at Kunsthaus Baselland, Muttentz, Switzerland; Tate St. Ives, United Kingdom; the 2015 Lyon Biennial, France; the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; the Power Plant Toronto, Canada; the CCS Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY; Manifesta 7 Rovereto, Italy; Lisson Gallery, London, United Kingdom; and the Second Athens Biennial, Greece.

Ostoya has had solo exhibitions at Zacheta National Gallery, Warsaw, Poland; La Kunsthalle Mulhouse, France; CCA Kronika, Bytom, Poland; and with galleries: Bortolami, New York; tegenboschvanvreden, Amsterdam; and Silberkuppe, Berlin. She studied at the Parsons School in Paris, the Städelschule in Frankfurt, and the Whitney Independent Study Program in New York.

About Mishkin Gallery

Mishkin Gallery at Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY) presents exhibitions and public programs dedicated to education and advancing the understanding of modern and contemporary art, interdisciplinary cultural activity, and innovative artistic practice from around the world. Extending Baruch beyond its campus, the Mishkin Gallery promotes projects by artists and intellectuals who demonstrate how and why creative practice is a crucial force in nurturing diversity, tolerance and shaping culture. Follow Mishkin Gallery on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Tiktok](#), and visit their [website here](#).

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