

Becca Albee, Philipp Farra, Erin Johnson, Kevin Kelly, Dave McKenzie, TJ Shin, Andréa Spartà

Origami

July 24 — Aug 31, 2025

Opening Reception Thursday July 24, 2025, 6-9PM

28 Varick Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11237

...the air is feverishly sticky. When she got home from the flower market she had to spend a good five minutes to wrestle herself out of her clothes. She turns the cold water in the shower all the way on and sits in the bathtub. She runs her fingers through her hair and rinses it. Delphinium petals fall out onto the shower stream. She watches the little blue pieces swirling around and eventually getting stuck around the drain. She tries to count how many there are, but gets easily distracted by her thoughts. She smells soil from her skin evaporating.

Joe was not at the market today. She wonders where he went. The last time she saw Joe she realized that her attraction to him was in fact mostly influenced by the hats he wears and not, as she previously suspected, by his plaid shirts that are always buttoned to the top. She's always a little flustered looking him straight in the eye, so her gaze wanders off down to his neck. She observes the movement of his Adam's apple as he goes on about his day while packing up her floral orders.

One time she caught a glimpse of a silver cross dangling out of Joe's collar. She jokingly commented on her surprise that he is a jewelry guy. Joe asked if any line from the Bible ever pops up in her mind. "No, never," she told him. He then tore off a corner of wrapping paper from his station and wrote something down:

"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things... For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face." —1 Corinthians 13:7 and 12

"Here you go!" Joe hands her his notes with enthusiasm. She awkwardly folds it and tuck the paper into her wallet. She couldn't tell if he was flirting or hoping to convert her. She walked away that day trying to recall when was the last time she opened a Bible and actually read it. Was she still in high school? Sitting on the dirty carpet that was never cleaned in the center of the living room at the house she grew up in? She could almost remember the smell of that house and the sound of the ceiling fans. They were always cracking and changing rhythms.

She's changed a lot since then, but some rhythms remained the same. She still does karaoke to the same songs when she's in the shower. She pinches the petals out of the drain and walks into the living room to put on some music. She leaves little puddles of water with every step on the wood floor. Her apartment dries up so fast in the Summer. When she turns back the puddles have already turned into little dewy bubbles. As the shampoo on her head begins to foam, she hears Bernard Sumner's voice singing: "...you believe in a land of love."

She starts to dance.

Becca Albee (b. Portland, ME) is an artist based in New York City. Albee's work has been presented in exhibitions at institutions including MIT List Visual Arts Center (Cambridge, MA), Portland Museum of Art (Portland, ME) and Irish Museum of Modern Art (Dublin). Fellowships and residencies include IASPIS (Stockholm), Emily Harvey Foundation (Venice), MacDowell (Peterborough NH), Yaddo (Saratoga Springs, NY), and LMCC (New York, NY).

Philipp Farra is an artist who works with photography, installation and video.

Erin Johnson is a video artist based in NYC. She is a 2024 Working Artist Fellow at Pioneer Works. She has attended residencies at Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, Jan van Eyck Academie, Lower Manhattan Community Council, Hidrante, and Lighthouse Works. Her videos have been exhibited or screened at e-flux, Rencontres Internationales de Paris/Berlin, BIENALSUR 2023, MOCA Toronto, Munchmuseet, Sanatorium, Times Square Arts, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Billytown (The Hague), and REDCAT. She is a faculty member and Undergraduate Director of the Studio Art Program at New York University.

Kevin Kelly is a video artist and writer who lives and works in NYC. He was a participant of the Whitney Museum of American Art Independent Study Program 19-20. He has an MFA from Hunter College. Kevin has screened and exhibited at 80WSE Gallery, Rockaway Film Festival, Aegean Film Festival, Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, Kassel Dokfest, Cecilia Jaime Gallery, Ghent, Belgium, KANSAS Gallery, NY, NY and Anthology Film Archives NY, NY.

Dave McKenzie was born in 1977 in Kingston, Jamaica, and lives and works in New York. In 2000, he earned a BFA in printmaking from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. McKenzie's recent solo exhibitions include *And sometimes y*, at Vielmetter Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA; *AEIOU*, Barbara Wien Berlin, Berlin, Germany; *The Story I Tell Myself*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; *Speeches*, *Speeches*, *Speeches*, Galerie Barbara Wien; *An Intermission*, University Art Museum, State University of New York, Albany; *Where the Good Lord Split You*, Vielmetter Los Angeles; *Dave McKenzie*, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado; *Screen Doors on Submarines*, REDCAT, Los Angeles; and *Momentum 8: Dave McKenzie*, ICA Boston.

TJ Shin is an artist and writer based in Los Angeles. Their multimedia practice, spanning film, video, installation, and sculpture, explores how structures of power discursively shape perception, form, and environment. Shin has exhibited at the MIT List Visual Arts Center, Queens Museum, Buffalo Institute of Contemporary Arts, Lewis Center for the Arts, Doosan Gallery, and more. Their writing has been published in *Asia Art Archive*, *C Magazine*, *Mousse Magazine*, and the *Vera List Center for Art and Politics*.

Andréa Spartà (b.1996, Chagny) lives and works in Paris. His work has been presented at institutions and venues including Kaiserwache, Freiburg (2025), Secondroom, Antwerp (2025), Rosière, Genillé (2024); *Le Théâtre*, Mâcon (2025); FRAC Bourgogne, Dijon (2024); FRAC Île-de-France/Le Plateau, Paris (2024); annex14, Zurich (2024); *Les Limbes*, Saint-Étienne (2024); *Le Consortium*, Dijon (2023); *Fondazione Zimei*, Pescara (2023); and *Cité Internationale des Arts*, Paris (2023). In 2022, he was an artist-in-residence at the *Fondazione Pistoletto* in Biella.

Benny's Video is a nomadic curatorial project conceived and operated by Craig Jun Li since March 2025. The current programming is generously hosted in the studio space of artist Grant Mooney.

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