

PRESS RELEASE

New York, January 27, 2026

Nancy Bowen
From A to Z and the Bodies In Between
June 5 – July 25, 2026
Opening reception: June 5, 2026, 6 – 8 PM



From the Deep, 2024, ceramic, wax, pigmented pulp paper, coral, and shells, 43 x 32 x 22 in | 109.2 x 81.3 x 5.1 cm

Nunu Fine Art New York is pleased to announce *From A to Z and the Bodies in Between*, the first solo exhibition of New York-based artist Nancy Bowen (b. 1955) with the gallery. The exhibition features recent collages and sculptural works that bring together an expansive range of materials, many drawn from nature and the artist's personal archive. Working with the sensibility of an "artist-archaeologist," Bowen excavates, recombines, and repurposes these elements to subvert long-held narratives surrounding the female body, craft traditions, language, and history.

Using historical materials as a starting point, Bowen's collages allow language sourced from text published decades ago to acquire new associations in the present. Since 2015, she has developed a series of collages made from early and mid-twentieth century dictionaries discovered in her parents' home. Combining materials and techniques associated with both fine art and craft, Bowen removes individual pages for each letter of the alphabet and collages them together, overlays the sheets with

geometric patterns, then embellishes them with paper, glitter, and pigment. Words like “naked,” “obedience,” “taboo,” and “zeal” surface within each composition, revealing no apparent rhyme or narrative. While viewers may instinctively search for a hidden message, Bowen emphasizes visual rhythm and association over literal reading. She has noted, however, that amid a shifting political climate, certain selections have begun to resonate differently for both herself and her audiences. Social and political concerns surface in a process shaped as much by intuition as by circumstance.

Bowen’s three-dimensional works extend her fragmentation of language and history to the body. She initially conceives her sculptures as bodies, gradually departing from that framework as she layers on new materials. Sculptures such as *From the Deep*, 2024, *Sentinel*, 2024, and *Venus Again*, 2022 evoke the female figure through their voluminous and sensuous forms but resist fixed or literal classifications. Conventional sculpting materials, most often ceramic, serve as a structural foundation, while porcupine quills, coral, and beads introduce texture, ornament, and associative meaning. As hand-made and found materials work in harmony and organic, body-referencing shapes co-exist with synthetic matter, normative constructions of the female body are subverted. Bowen’s sculptures make visible the interplay of material, form, and meaning, exploring how bodies—like language—can be reconstructed and reimagined.

What distinguishes Nancy Bowen’s work is her unique ability to not only seek out her own sources and invent her own parameters, but to reconfigure them simultaneously. Across her broad oeuvre, materials are reused and repurposed, words are transformed into images, bodies take on new shapes, and the personal becomes deeply resonant.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Nancy Bowen is a mixed media artist known for her eclectic mixtures of imagery and materials in both two and three dimensions. Her sculpture and drawing exist in a liminal zone between abstraction and representation and offers a poetic commentary on our quickly changing material culture. Like an artistic archeologist in this age of globalization and post-industrialization, she salvages (often disappearing) ornament and craft traditions and incorporates them into works at once whimsical and politically charged.

Bowen has been featured in solo exhibitions throughout the United States and Europe, including at the Provincetown Arts Museum, Catskill Arts Society, Peeler Art Galleries at DePauw University, Maass Gallery at Purchase College, and European Ceramic Work Center, among others. She has been included in group shows such as at Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C; White Columns, NY; The Queens Museum, NY; The Institute of Contemporary Arts, Richmond, VA; Centre d'Arte Contemporain, Geneva; Sculpture Center, NY; Tacoma Art Museum, WA; The Wallach Gallery at Columbia University, NY; Corning Museum of Glass, NY; Rockland Center for the Arts, NY; Neuberger Museum, NY; The Weatherspoon Museum, NC; Boston Center for the Arts, MA; Museum fur Angewandte Kunst; Museum of Arts & Design, NY; and Hyde Park Art Center, IL.

Her work has been reviewed widely in such journals as *Art in America*, *Artforum*, *Glass Magazine*, *Sculpture Magazine*, and has won awards from Anonymous was a Woman; the National Endowment for the Arts; the New York Foundation for the Arts; the MacDowell Colony; Yaddo; the Brown Foundation at the Dora Maar House in Menerbes, France; and the Jentel Foundation.

ABOUT NUNU FINE ART

Founded in 2014 by international art dealer Nunu Hung, Nunu Fine Art presents a cross section of both emerging and established artists. The first contemporary art gallery in Taipei with a broadly multicultural outlook, Nunu Fine Art combines an innate sensitivity to Asia's cultural heritage with seasoned insight into the global contemporary art scene. The gallery's multifaceted program includes both solo and group exhibitions by a wide range of artists from the Americas, Europe, and Asia. As a platform for multidisciplinary storytelling, Nunu Fine Art is committed to offering educational events and publications in tandem with its artistic projects.

In April 2023, Nunu Hung inaugurated a second gallery space, at 381 Broome Street, becoming the first Taiwanese gallery to expand its program to New York City. More recently, the NYC gallery expanded to include a lower-level project space designed to challenge and redefine conventional notions of exhibition while pushing the boundaries of artistic exploration.

MEDIA CONTACT

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Nunu Fine Art New York

381 Broome St, New York NY 10013
11am – 6pm | Tuesday – Saturday