

signs and symbols

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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signs and symbols announces new space on the Lower East Side

signs and symbols is delighted to announce the opening of our new permanent location at 249 East Houston Street. After operating out of our former space in the Lower East Side for three years, we look forward to expanding our physical presence and continuing our program dedicated to performance and time-based media.

The inaugural exhibition at our new space will be a group exhibition of gallery artists titled *That was then, this is now*, and will open to the public on Saturday, November 6th. A celebration of our growth and development over the past three years, artists include Adam Broomberg, Annabel Daou, Benoît Platéus, Carol Szymanski, Jen DeNike, Jonah Bokaer, Michelle Handelman, Mischa Leinkauf, Ornella Fieres, Paul Jacobsen, Pola Sieverding, Rachel Libeskind, Sarah Entwistle, Sharon Louden, Shaqayeq Arabi, Tony Orrico and Zander Blom. Additional details about this exhibition and accompanying events are forthcoming.

As part of our reopening, we are especially thrilled to announce the resumption of our in-person performance program, beginning with a performance by interdisciplinary artist and choreographer Jonah Bokaer on the day of the opening, November 6th. Performance is at the heart of signs and symbols, and we could not be happier to (safely) return to this essential aspect of our programming.

When we opened our first location on Forsyth Street in April 2018, our program was initially conceived as a curatorial platform featuring one-off projects by invited artists. We have since become defined by the idea of the collective and the career-long nurturing of artists who primarily work in performance and time-based media. We have thus begun representing artists and launched several programs to support their creative experimentation and exploration: since 2018, we have continued our annual summer program, *artists & allies*, a dynamic series of performances, screenings, talks and other happenings that place our artists in dialogue with their peers and predecessors. In 2019, we launched a performance-in-residence designed as a site-specific, ongoing workshop for developing new work. In 2020 and throughout Covid-19, we have maintained our performance program through digital means, while also launching an ongoing series of online-only video exhibitions. We remain committed to our experimental core and to fostering the community around time-based media, particularly performance, and look forward to what the future at 249 East Houston brings.

signs and symbols is curated and programmed by Mitra Khorasheh, an independent curator, and co-directed with Bridget Holyk Casey. The gallery's vision is informed and anchored by the work of three historic figures – Ulay, VALIE EXPORT and Vito Acconci – and thus encompasses performance, photography and architecture, with a focus on performative practices and time-based media.

For more information, please contact Mitra Khorasheh at 917.880.8953 or mitra.khorasheh@signsandsymbols.art or Bridget H. Casey at 310.741.2202 or bridget@signsandsymbols.art.