

For Immediate Release May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020



Looking Forward while Looking Back:

## Speculative Interiors

May 29 – June 11, 2020  
NARS Virtual Gallery

With works by **Alina Grasmann, Cathleen Clarke & Matthew Cronin.**

Curated by Elisa Gutiérrez Eriksen



**NARS Foundation** is pleased to present “Looking Forward while Looking Back”, a series of virtual exhibition featuring the works of NARS Alumni, curated by NARS Program Manager & Curator Elisa Gutiérrez Eriksen.

The new iteration of Looking Forward while Looking Back: *Speculative Interiors*, presents the works of NARS Alumni **Alina Grasmann, Cathleen Clarke** and **Matthew Cronin**.

What does memory mixed with visual archives become when these are constantly revisited in an effort to reconstruct a narrative?

The works of Cronin, Grasmann and Clarke become familiar, yet strange. They change, expand, and transform into a distant interior –stuck in impermanence.

As these artists converge, a dialogue connecting painting and photography arises. Their aesthetic qualities live in a threshold between a formal language and a vaguely kin fiction that triggers a synapse within the memories of the observer as it enters into a collective speculative interior.

From images from childhood to iconic events or places inserted in quotidian landscapes, interpretations of objects and images from old catalogues, these works redefine the meaning and feeling of an old souvenir, and capture the passage of time by mixing what was once with what could be. They can be seen as eternal moments where time and place become subjective segments, connected to a story that rises from an eternal interior place, stuck in memory.

While reconstructing a present –and even projecting a possible future– the works in this exhibition live in a multiplicity of dimensions. Places become content and the content becomes a place. (1)

(1) Emanuele Coccia, *The Life of Plants*

Image: Matthew Cronin, "Dwelling 6" 2018

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This exhibition is part of the NARS **Mutual Support Network**, a platform that will host a series of virtual initiatives, based on NARS' social media accounts with the aim to nurture creative inspiration and innovative cross-pollination of ideas between our Alumni and our virtual audiences.

With our social media platforms as meeting grounds for a creative dialogue, NARS will present these virtual exhibitions every two weeks with the work of 2 - 3 Alumni, and will be paired with written interviews with each showcased artist presented as a continuation in the second week of each exhibition.

About NARS: The New York Art Residency and Studios (NARS) Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit arts organization committed to supporting artists and curators on an international level as well engaging the local community in Brooklyn and the Greater New York area. NARS provides an array of creative support services and professional development opportunities for emerging and mid-career artists through short-term integrated residency programs, progressive exhibition programs, international exchanges, and engaging public programs that foster global understanding and dynamic cross-cultural dialogues. These services operate in conjunction with our community outreach initiatives to promote greater accessibility to contemporary art for the under-served local community in south Brooklyn. Our mission is to present diverse platforms on which to nurture creative inspiration and innovative cross-pollination of ideas.

Accessibility: NARS Foundation is only wheelchair accessible via prior arrangement - please contact [info@narsfoundation.org](mailto:info@narsfoundation.org) to arrange this. Free filtered water is available. Seating with backs is available. The closest train station is 0.3 miles away (R train at 45th Street). The closest wheelchair accessible train station is 3.2 miles away (Atlantic Avenue/ Barclays Center). On street parking is available. Please consider coming to this event scent free. For further questions regarding accessibility, please contact NARS directly at [info@narsfoundation.org](mailto:info@narsfoundation.org).



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