

GAZELLI ART HOUSE



Courtesy the artist and Ronald Feldman Gallery, New York

It's Not Me, It's You

Cassils, Zackary Drucker, Nan Goldin, Gray Wielebinski

Private View: Thursday 23rd May, 6–8pm

Exhibition: 24th May–29th June, 2019

#ItsNotMeItsYou

Gazelli Art House is delighted to present *It's Not Me, It's You*, a group exhibition exploring how one's physical body can be owned and dispossessed through intimate interaction.

The presenting artists experiment with ways to tackle the two-way dilemma of how to appear to others and how to see others -- with the dizzying sense that the positions of 'you' and 'me' might be exchangeable. As trans artists, Cassils, Zackary Drucker and Gray Wielebinski raise issues around marginalisation and violence, gender and gentleness, through formal invocations of hardness and softness, while Nan Goldin's work challenges the visual objectification of sex engaged by different kinds of lovers.

Through critical engagement with dominant ways of seeing and being seen, the multi-disciplinary display of film, photography, sculpture and performance seeks to empower communities that historically have been stigmatised. *It's Not Me, It's You* reminds us of the vulnerability of being physically present in the world and answers with radical tenderness.

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Born in Canada, **Cassils** graduated with MFA from California Institute of Arts. Listed by the Huffington Post as “one of ten transgender artists who are changing the landscape of contemporary art”, Cassils has achieved international recognition for a rigorous engagement with the body as a form of social sculpture.

Zackary Drucker, is a trans woman performance artist and a cultural producer who challenges the way gender and sexuality is understood. Having performed and exhibited at Whitney Biennial, MoMA PS1, Hammer Museum among others, she has also produced Emmy-nominated docu-series *This Is Me* and Golden Globe and Emmy-winning *Transparent*.

Since the age of 15, **Nan Goldin** started photographing her friends in the transgender community of Boston and after graduating from Tufts University, she started forming her seminal series *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency* (1980-86) portraying abuse in relationships (including her own) and drug addiction. Her personal relationship to the subjects who are often her friends, add the realness and genuineness to the scenes in the images.

Gray Wielebinski is a multi-disciplinary artist implementing collage, sculpture, installation and performance into their work. Gray explores gender, sexuality and control over the physical body through their work, often questioning modes of power and identity. Graduating from Slade in MFA in 2018, Wielebinski has been continuously vocalising the disagreement of physical and inner self and how creativity can be therapeutic in allowing artists to explore their own questions but also engage with a wider audience who can relate.

The exhibition will run alongside **Decorative Sacredness**, the first solo show of Fyodor Pavlov-Andreevich displayed on the ground floor of the gallery.

About

Gazelli Art House supports a wide range of international artists, presenting a broad and dynamic programme to a diverse audience through global public projects and exhibition spaces in London and Baku. Gazelli Art House was founded in 2003 in Baku, Azerbaijan where it held exhibitions with Azeri artists. Having hosted conceptually interlinked off-site exhibitions across London, founder and director of Gazelli Art House, Mila Askarova, opened a permanent space on Dover Street, London in March 2012. In 2017, the redesigned gallery space reopened in Baku, with an ambitious annual program showcasing both local and international artists. Representing artists like Aziz+Cucher, Derek Boshier, Stanley Casselman, Francesco Jodice, Recycle Group, Kalliopi Lemos, Niyaz Najafov and Saad Qureshi amongst others, the gallery has built a consistent and diverse program with artists working in sculpture, photography, painting, video, performance and virtual reality.

For further information on *It's Not Me, It's You*
please contact: press@gazelliarthouse.com