



For Immediate Release:

Aliza Shvarts: *Purported*

Opening

Thursday, February 20, 6–9pm

Exhibition

February 21–May 9, 2020

Art in General

145 Plymouth Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
www.artingeneral.com

Gallery Hours

Wednesday–Sunday 12–6pm



Aliza Shvarts, *Cite/Site*, 2018.

Purported presents the work of New York-based artist and theorist Aliza Shvarts (b. 1986) as part of Art in General's New Commissions program. Shvarts' performance, video, installation and text-based practice explores reproductive labor and its biological and societal maintenance through queer and feminist understandings. Read against the current climate of renewed anti-abortion laws and activism against sexual violence, the exhibition brings together over a decade of the artist's work, as well as newly commissioned work, that complexly questions the interrelated dynamics of gender, sexuality, consent and power as they play out inside contemporary culture. Shvarts famously drew widespread attention as an undergraduate student in 2008 when her *Untitled [Senior Thesis]*, consisting of a yearlong performance of self-induced miscarriages, was declared a fiction by Yale University and banned from public exhibition. This work will be on view for the first time in New York at Art in General and frames the areas of inquiry Shvarts has consistently continued to explore throughout her practice: how the body means and matters and how the subject consents and dissents. One of the most important American feminist artists of her generation, this is her first solo exhibition in New York City.

Aliza Shvarts is an artist and writer who takes a queer and feminist approach to reproductive labor and language. Her recent work focuses on testimony and circulations of speech in the digital age. She received a BA from Yale University and PhD in Performance Studies at New York University. She was a 2014–15 Helena Rubinstein Fellow in Critical Studies at the Whitney Independent Study Program, a 2017 Critical Writing Fellow at Recess Art and is currently a 2019–20 A.I.R. Gallery Artist Fellow and a Joan Tisch Teaching Fellow at the Whitney Museum of American Art. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally at Tate Modern in London; Kevin Kavanagh Gallery in Dublin; Athens Biennale in Greece; LOOP International Film Festival in Barcelona; Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Columbia; Universidad de Chile in Santiago; SculptureCenter, Participant Inc, Abrons Art Center, Lévy Gorvy, and Matthew Gallery in New York; the Slought Foundation in Philadelphia; and Artspace in New Haven, CT. Shvarts' writing has been published in *Whitechapel Documents in Contemporary Art: Practice*, *The Feminist and Queer Information Studies Reader*, *TDR/The Drama Review*, *Women & Performance*, and *The Brooklyn Rail*. She has taught at Barnard College, New York University, the Parsons School of Design, and the Pratt Institute and has given talks at a number of institutions, including The Whitney Museum, The Brooklyn Museum, The 8th Floor/Rubin Foundation, Harvard University, McGill University, Stanford University, and UCLA. In addition, she wrote liner notes for the drone metal band SunnO))) and appeared as a guest commentator on MTV.



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