

t r a n s f o r m e r

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Sticky Entanglements *Beth Yashnyk & Fanni Somogyi*

May 6 – June 17, 2023

Meet the Artists Reception at Transformer:
Sat. May 6, 2023, 2 - 4 PM

Artist Talk: Sat. May 20, 4 – 5 PM
3D Collage for Kids Workshop: Sat. June 3, 2 - 5 PM



Washington, DC: *Sticky Entanglements* at Transformer features multi-media works by Beth Yashnyk and Fanni Somogyi, who explore glitch as a point of metamorphosis. Human and non-human bodies are dissected and fragmented, questioned and observed, and then reassembled in distinct ways into new hybrid forms that push the boundaries of gender and life itself. The narrative that develops between the sculptures, animations, and paintings offer paths to speculative ideas of relationships to one's self and to others.

While Yashnyk approaches glitch from a perspective of gender, aiming to upset the hierarchies and conflate notions of identity, Somogyi builds speculative critters that ponder the nuances of our relationships with non-human beings and the possibilities of collaborative kinships. Both artists fragment and layer aspects of bodies to create surreal works that encourage a suspension of disbelief.

Touch is also an essential element in their work either through representation of hands, mouths and sensory antennas or through the varied use of materials and textures. Yashnyk and Somogyi explore how touch affects our perceptions of our environment, others and our own body. The artists build with laser-cut plexiglass, wood, vellum, steel, polyurethane, silicone, paint and plants. Both of their work has taken on a format of installation and they are drawn to creating an immersive environment with their work where their individual objects build a larger narrative.

The notion of "sticky" does not only appear as a visual motif through body fluids, but also through the use of certain materials such as silicone. From a metaphorical perspective, sticky also implies gumminess. Sticky things almost always leave a residue. Our interactions with others affect and contaminate our identity and lived experience. As we relate to others (human and non-human) we can gain empathetic observation skills and new ways of experiencing the world. These ideas of glitch can inform our collaborations with other beings and technologies to create more liveable and equitable worlds.

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EXHIBITION PROGRAMMING:

Sat. May 6, 2023, 2 – 4 PM

OPENING RECEPTION / MEET THE ARTISTS

Join Transformer on our opening day of *Sticky Entanglements* and meet artists Beth Yashnyk and Fanni Somogyi.

Sat. May 20, 2023, 4 – 5 PM

ARTIST TALK

Meet artists Beth Yashnyk and Fanni Somogyi and hear them speak on the themes of *Sticky Entanglements*.

Sat. June 3, 2 – 5 PM

3D COLLAGE FOR KIDS WORKSHOP

In this 3D Collage for Kids workshop, young learners (and those of all ages) are invited to explore methods of collaging through sculptural materials. Encouraging imaginative approaches to create using clay, wire, and pipe cleaner, we will take inspiration from figures and natural elements. All participants will be able to take home vivid and dynamic forms.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Beth Yashnyk is an interdisciplinary visual artist living and working in Baltimore City. Originally from New York, she earned a BFA in Printmaking from the State University of New York at New Paltz, and her MFA in Multidisciplinary Fine Art from Maryland Institute College of Art. Inspired by media and pop culture, she uses animation, sculpture, drawing, and painting to create surreal narratives and environments. Her work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally, and she is currently working on a series of short animated films exploring her perception of her own gender identity.

Fanni Somogyi is a multi-disciplinary artist and writer living and working in Baltimore, MD. She completed her BFA at the Maryland Institute College of Art. Through biomorphic assemblages, she investigates interspecies connections to understand how she affects non-human beings and the ecosystem. Somogyi has shown work at the Vox Populi (PA), New Collectors Gallery (NY), and Target Gallery (VA) among others. Her public sculptures have been displayed at the Franconia Sculpture Park (MN), the Olala Street Festival in Lienz, Austria, and at Art Market Budapest in Hungary.

Exhibition Hours at Transformer: Wed - Sat, 12 – 6 pm.

Image credit: Beth Yashnyk and Fanni Somogyi.

t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered, non-profit visual arts organization. Founded in June 2002 by artists & arts organizers, Transformer provides a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through innovative exhibition and programs partnerships with a broad & diverse range of individual and organizational partners.

t r a n s f o r m e r's 2022/23 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Corcoran Women's Committee, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/NEA, The Sachiko Kuno Foundation, The National Endowment for the Visual Arts, Truist Foundation, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Transformer's Board and Advisory Council, and The Visionary Leaders Circle – a growing group of individual donors & corporate sponsors.