



Classic Beauty: 21st-Century Artists on Ancient [Greek] Form

Organized by Jamilee Lacy, PC-G Director & Curator

Hunt-Cavanagh and Reilly Galleries

September 12 -November 17, 2018

Public Programs:

Mini-Symposium I: Vivian Greven & Kirstin Lamb in dialogue with Providence College scholars

Wednesday, September 12, 6 - 7:30pm at the Smith Center for the Arts

Mini-Symposium II: Daniel G. Baird & Molly Kaderka in dialogue with Providence College scholars

Wednesday, October 17, 6 - 7:30pm at the Smith Center for the Arts

Mini-Symposium III: Lucy Kim, Shari Mendelson & Ruby Sky Stiler in dialogue with Providence College scholars

Wednesday, November 14, 6 - 7:30pm at the Smith Center for the Arts

Classic Beauty: 21st-Century Artists on Ancient [Greek] Form is a group exhibition that looks at how and why contemporary artists replicate or carry forward methods and aesthetics of Ancient Greece. The exhibition traces artists' interest in history, archaeology, and visual research that redefines iconic forms, including those expressed through post-Greco-Roman aesthetic lenses of successive eras and geographies. New and commissioned works appropriate and manipulate Classical antiquity as it visually descends through not only through Gothic, Renaissance, Neo-Classical, Art Deco and other Euro-centric art historical periods, but also as it is influenced by and manifested in the non-Western art histories of the Middle East and northern Africa. With drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics and architectural objects, *Classic Beauty* both homages and challenges the truthfulness of the visual legacy of major periods and styles of Ancient Greek art—Geometric, Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic—especially as they are repurposed in modern Western culture.

Artists include Robert Andrade, Daniel Baird, Lakela Brown, Matthew Craven, Vivian Greven, Molly Kaderka, Lucy Kim, Kirstin Lamb, Shari Mendelson, David Ross Harper and Ruby Sky Stiler.

Classic Beauty also includes a full-color catalog with plates documenting the exhibition's installation and long-form essays. Art historians and contemporary art critics consider how and why formal elements of Ancient Greece continue to influence global fine art practices and Western cultures' visualizations of democratic society. Interdisciplinary scholars unpack notions of monumentality and the revisionism of Classical visual narratives to justify and brand various forms of Western colonial and economic imperialism.

Images (left to right): Lakela Brown, *Doorknocker Earrings Arrangement Relief*, 2018. Image courtesy the artist and Lars Friedrich, Berlin; Vivian Greven, *Tru*, 2018. Image courtesy the artist and Aurel Scheibler, Berlin; Robert Andrade and Daniel G. Baird, *A Moon of Saturn on a Doric Foundation*, 2007. Image courtesy the artists.