## THE DIVINE FEMININE

Contemporary Women Sculptors at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens Curated by Sarah Gavlak and Allison Raddock







The Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens is proud to present *The Divine Feminine: Contemporary Women Sculptors*, a transformative exhibition curated by Sarah Gavlak and Allison Raddock in partnership with New Wave. This remarkable showcase will run from December 1st, 2023, through May 1st, 2024, at the historic Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens in West Palm Beach, Florida.

The Divine Feminine celebrates the artistic prowess and spiritual depth of contemporary female sculptors. This exhibition invites visitors to explore the profound contributions of women sculptors, highlighting the divine feminine energy that permeates their work. Within the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, contemporary artists engage in a dialogue with Ann Weaver Norton's monumental sculptures. The interplay between past and present is palpable, creating a nuanced conversation that respects tradition while pushing artistic boundaries. Through a curated selection of works that span a broad spectrum of artistic styles and perspectives, this exhibition serves as a vivid testament to the diverse, richly nuanced tapestry of the sculptural world as seen through the eyes of these celebrated artists.

Internationally recognized artists featured in the exhibition includes:

Leilah Babirye Judy Chicago Ruth Duckworth Viola Frey Katharina Fritsch Rachel Hovnanian Niki de Saint Phalle Arlene Shechet Kiki Smith

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens is a renowned cultural institution dedicated to the celebration of art, nature, and the creative spirit. Nestled in the heart of West Palm Beach, Florida, the gardens provide a unique setting for the exhibition and appreciation of sculpture and contemporary art.

## Leilah Babirye

Leilah Babirye's (b. Uganda, 1985) multidisciplinary practice transforms everyday materials into objects that address issues surrounding identity, sexuality, and human rights. The artist frequently uses traditional African masks to explore the diversity of LGBTQI identities, assembling them from ceramics, metal and hand-carved wood; lustrous, painterly glazes are juxtaposed with chiseled, roughly-textured woodwork and metal objects associated with the art of blacksmithing. Her work can be found in public collections worldwide.

1625



### Leilah Babirye

Nakaabya from the Kuchu Leopard Clan, 2020 Glazed ceramic 42 ½ x 11 x 13 ½ in









### Judy Chicago

Effigy, 2022 Bronze with patina with limestone base Overall Dimensions: 9.25 x 4 x 4 inches (23.5 x 3.8 x 3.8 cm) Artwork Dimensions: 4.75 x 1.5 x 1.5 inches (12.1 x 3.8 x 3.8 cm) Edition 1 of 10



Judy Chicago

Deity, 2022 Bronze with patina, steel base, steel rod 66 x 24 x 18 inches (167.5 x 61 x 46 cm) Edition 3 of 5



Ruth Duckworth (b. Germany, 1919 – 2009) is best known as a modernist sculptor who made handbuilt, minimalist, abstract organic forms in stoneware, porcelain, and later bronze. Duckworth's work helped shape a new way of thinking about ceramics in the second half of the 20th century and created a place for clay as a sculptural medium at a time when it was viewed more so as a material of utility and function. Her works are in the collections of the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C., the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, among others.



"Untitled", 2004 Archival Inventory # 8591104 29.5 x 5.5 x 5.5 (74.93 x 13.97 x 13.97 cm.)





Untitled, 2007 Bronze 11 x 4 x 3.25 in (27.9 x 10.2 x 8.3 cm)





Untitled, 2022 Cast bronze 72" x 42" (152 cm x 106 cm) Unique



## Viola Frey

Over the course of her five-decade career, Viola Frey (b. California, 1933–2004) created boldly colored monumental figurative sculptures, paintings, and works on paper that reflect on contemporary culture, power, and gender dynamics. While most closely aligned with the Bay Area Funk movement, Frey's immense creative output delves into many aesthetic directions, using a distinctive and personal iconography and palette to depict human figures among objects of antiquity, flea market collectibles, and interior landscapes. Frey's work is held in over seventy international public collections and has been the subject of numerous global exhibitions.



### Viola Frey

Blow Man, 1988-89 Ceramic and glazes 117 x 34.5 x 44 in (297.2 x 87.6 x 111.8 cm)



## Katharina Fritsch

Katharina Fritsch (b. Germany, 1956) is a contemporary German sculptor whose work mixes reality with imagination to create surreal imagery that contract reality and fantasy through her largescale monochromatic sculptures of animals, people, and objects. Fritsch's work is often described as uncanny, containing slight representational shifts that alter the viewer's perception of reality and highlighting the work's falsified imitation of life. Fritsch's work is included in the permanent collection of The Museum of Modern Art in New York and has been the subject of many solo international exhibitions.



### Katharina Fritsch

Schlange (Snake), 2008 Bronze 4 ½ x 67 x 27 ½ in



## **Rachel Lee Hovnanian**

Rachel Lee Hovnanian (b. West Virginia, 1959) is a New York and Miami-based artist whose multidisciplinary practice explores the complexities of modern feminism, cultural ideals regarding physical perfection, and the psychological effects of new media and technology. She has exhibited internationally in solo exhibitions at the Joyce Gallery in Beijing and Fundación Pons in Barcelona, among others.



#### **Rachel Hovnanian**

Body Armor II, The General, 2023 Polished aluminum, black painted bronze base with detachable steel disc 90 1/2 in x 26 1/2 x 12 in Edition of 7 + 3 Aps





#### **Rachel Hovnanian**

Mind the Body Installation, 2023 1 Polished and 7 brushed aluminum sculptures, black painted bronze bases with detachable steel discs Dimensions variable Edition of 1 + 1 AP





#### **Rachel Hovnanian**

Body Armor II, Soldier, 2023 Brushed aluminum, black painted bronze base with detachable steel disc Height: 80 1⁄4 x 26 1⁄2 x 12 in Square Base: 12 in Edition of 7 + 3 APs



## Niki de Saint Phalle

Niki de Saint Phalle's (b. France, 1930 - 2002) exuberant practice emphasized femininity, performance, and collaboration as it rejected notions of the Ione male genius. Saint Phalle is perhaps best known for her sculptures of extravagant, voluptuous feminine forms, which she dubbed "Nanas" and celebrated for her large-scale public works and architectural activations. Her practice included books, prints, films, theater sets, clothing, jewelry, and even perfume. Today, her works are held in the collections of the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, The Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, and the Musée d'Art Moderne d'Art Contemporain in Nice, among others.



#### Niki de Saint Phalle

Justice, 1990 Polyester paint and gold leaf 15 x 13 x 9 inches (38.1 x 33 x 22.9 cm) Ed 5 of 10 Edition of 10 + 1AP



# Arlene Shechet

Arlene Shechet (b. New York, 1951) is a multidisciplinary sculptor living and working in New York City and the Hudson Valley. Highly technical yet entirely intuitive, her work embraces improvisation and seeks to examine the humor and pathos of the lived human experience. Shechet's work is held in many distinguished public collections.



### Arlene Shechet

Often a Bird, 2023 sand cast bronze 72" × 12" × 12" (182.9 cm × 30.5 cm × 30.5 cm)



# Kiki S<mark>m</mark>ith

Kiki Smith (b. Germany, 1954) has been known since the 1980s for her multidisciplinary work that explores embodiment and the natural world. She uses a broad variety of materials to continuously expand and evolve a body of work that includes sculpture, printmaking, photography, drawing, and textiles. Smith has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions worldwide including over 25 museum exhibitions and her work has been featured at five Venice Biennales.



### Kiki Smith

Sungrazer VIII, 2019 Bronze 107-1/4" × 48" × 48" (272.4 cm × 121.9 cm × 121.9 cm) Edition 1 of 3 Edition of 3 + 1 AP



## ANN NORTON SCULPTURE GARDENS

#### THE DIVINE FEMININE EXHIBITION MAP

Curated by Sarah Gavlak and Allison Raddock in partnership with New Wave

#### GARDENS

- 1. Ruth Duckworth
- 2. Katharina Fritsch
- 3. Judy Chicago
- 4. Arlene Schechet
- 5. Rachel Hovnanian
- 6. Rachel Hovnanian
- 7. Kiki Smith

#### **ARTIST STUDIO**

Viola Frey Ruth Duckworth Niki de Saint Phalle Judy Chicago Leilah Babirye



THE PALM BEACHES



BARCELONA ROAD

THE DIVINE FEMININE