

Sotheby's INSTITUTE OF ART

This is America



Sotheby's Institute of Art is pleased to present ***This is America***, a group exhibition including mixed media works from four contemporary artists; Justin D. Johnson, Marc Carson, Chelsea Ramirez, and Azzah Sultan. The exhibit, on view from October 22nd through October 29th, will be located at the New York campus of the Institute at 570 Lexington Avenue, 6th floor.

This is America will bring together four unique artists, whose works reflect the diversity of the country we live in, while showcasing the power behind art created by artists of color. **Azzah Sultan** addresses the issues surrounding her identity as a Muslim woman in her mixed-media work, touching on themes of identity and cultural struggles that she faces in her everyday life. **Justin D. Johnson** uses painting and sculpture to explore topics ranging from African/African-American history, mythology, and spirituality. **Chelsea Ramirez's** "Touch" series uses postcards and poetry to experiment with gestural and charcoal manipulations. **Marc Carson** creates works on large canvases that detail different themes of abstract thoughts via cultural references and texts. On a small scale, ***This is America*** will celebrate each artist and their works of art, while symbolically representing on a larger scale the beauty of the diversity in the United States.

Azzah Sultan received her BFA from Parsons School of Design and is currently working towards an MFA at Washington State University. Her work strives to transcend the fallacy that Muslim women like herself are oppressed by the nature of their religious customs. Her work also speaks on the issues pertaining to finding her identity through culture and immigration.

Chelsea Ramirez, received her BFA from the University of Central Florida in Orlando, and continued her study of drawing and painting at Edinburgh College of Art and Design in Scotland and the New York Studio School in NYC. She Completed her MFA from Louisiana State University, where she was an Instructor of Record for foundation course such as drawing, figurative drawing and painting.

Justin D. Johnson received a B.F.A in Photography and Video in 2018 from the School of Visual Arts. He is a contemporary multi-disciplinary American visual artist. His work extends from mixed-media painting and photography to film and sculpture.

Marcarson, nomme de guerre of visual artist Mark Carson, began his career in 2008 under the influence of his admiration for Richard Prince, Paul Klee and Andy Warhol. His work explores themes of abstract thought via cultural references, text, music and film.

The show is curated by Sotheby's Institute of Art's Master of Art Business 2019 students David Hanlon, Meyhad Mozaffar, Sofia Ramirez, and Nadine Waitkins.

Opening Reception:

Wed, Oct 24th, 6 - 8 pm
570 Lexington Ave, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10022

RSVP to Nadine.waitkins@sia.edu Space is limited.

Private viewings of the exhibition from October 25th-October 29th, 9 AM - 6 PM RSVP to Nadine.waitkins@sia.edu

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