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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Joan Baldwin, *Unkempt Gardens*, in the main gallery  
Chris Maliga, *Lamenting Echo*, in the center gallery  
Rose Olson and Elizabeth Olson, *CURVE STRAIGHT*, in the Kingston Project Space  
December 5 – 30, 2018  
Opening Reception: December 7, 5–8pm**

**SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (October 28, 2018)** – The inspiration for Joan Baldwin’s latest series of paintings, *Unkempt Gardens*, are the stories and histories revealed when gardens are left in their natural states. Imaginary spirits of ancient civilizations lingering in the gardens became her subject and are **on view in Kingston’s Main Gallery from December 5th through the 30th, with an opening reception on First Friday December 7th, 5–8pm.** Within the lush settings of her paintings, Baldwin creates a mood with mythical figures, statuary and gargoyles designed to delight and bring history alive. Interspersed with the large paintings are small portraits in frames that feel both part of the collection and simultaneously independent. Baldwin’s portraits, with names implying that they are family members, were influenced by the gargoyles she saw on churches and buildings while in Southern Italy in 2017. Though the gargoyles were originally intended to be frightening and ward off evil spirits, the personified portraits seem comical in their new environment and interact with their lush counterparts in unexpected ways.

Prior to 1995 Joan Baldwin worked as an illustrator, muralist and display artist in Charlotte, NC and has lived and worked in the Boston area since 1995, concentrating exclusively on fine art, drawing, and painting. Baldwin graduated from Purdue University with a B.A. in art education and has supplemented her education in Charlotte NC, London and Boston, including courses at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Massachusetts College of Art and Design. In addition to exhibiting at Kingston Gallery since 2003, Baldwin has shown her work extensively throughout New England including shows at Clark University, Brandeis University, The Art Complex Museum in Duxbury, the Cape Cod Cultural Center, and The Hopkinton Art Center. She has received many awards including the finalist award for works of on paper from the Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Grant Program. Baldwin’s work has been reviewed in Art

New England, The Boston Globe and Artscope. Her studio is at River Street Artists, part of Waltham Mills Artists Association in Waltham, MA.

On view concurrently in Kingston's Center Gallery is work by Visiting Artist Chris Maliga, a New England based photographer who uses his practice to explore concepts of psychology, physical endurance, and the passage of time. The lush photographs in this exhibition, *Lamenting Echo*, are excerpted from Maliga's series titled *Dominion* which he began in 2011 in the aftermath of a physically and emotionally traumatic period in his life. Over time, the production of these photographs became a part of Maliga's recovery process, aiding in his ability to regain self-agency. Working with an 8x10 inch view camera, he ventures in solitude into secluded natural environments, often under inclement weather conditions. Braving physical exertion and exposure to the elements, he is able to approach his surroundings with a heightened sense of awareness, seeking out subject matter left otherwise unseen. Photographing in seclusion, Maliga incorporates his own body into the environment, challenging his personal discomfort as he inserts his form into the frame. Letting the elements take their course, he often makes the unusual choice to allow rain, snow, dirt and other particles to interact with the film, leaving behind a chemical imprint that is processed into the finished photograph. In presenting these images and his experiences in a public setting, it is Maliga's hope that the work contributes to an open dialogue about trauma and healing. Chris Maliga has a BFA in Photography from Massachusetts College of Art and Design and an AA in Photography from the University of Maine at Augusta. His work has been exhibited nationally, most recently at Clark University, Art Intersection in Gilbert, AZ, Mark Arts in Wichita, KS, and he is currently the Studio Manager for Photography at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts.

An artist-run gallery incorporated in 1982, Kingston Gallery exhibits work of Boston-area contemporary artists. Gallery Artists specialize in a diverse range of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, and installation. Kingston Gallery exhibitions are widely viewed and receive regular attention in both print and online publications including *Art in America*, *Art New England*, *ArtScope*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Big Red & Shiny*. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Sunday 12-5 pm and by appointment.

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