



Contact:
Jessica Burko, Director of Marketing
Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, No. 43
Boston, MA 02118
Direct: 617-462-9353
jburko@kingstongallery.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Susan Emmerson: *Now That We Have Only This*
Mary Lang: *Wild Beauty: Photographs from Scotland*
May 2 – 27, 2018
Opening Reception, Friday, May 4, 5:00–8:00 pm**

SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (March 21, 2018) – Galvanized by the chaos of environmental, social and political storms battering our country in the last year, Susan Emmerson has created imagery reflecting the terror of loss of home and community, and a feeling of vulnerability and powerlessness that can never be fully resolved. ***Now That We Have Only This* is on view May 2 – 27, 2018 with a SoWa First Fridays opening reception on Friday, May 4, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.** Using Tyvek, paper and canvas as materials, Emmerson’s work pulsates with ferocity and energy, extending beyond the traditional picture plane, expanding into the gallery, beckoning the viewer to follow.

The structure and palpable process of Emmerson’s multifaceted work resonates in its depiction of violence from natural storms, worsened by human mistakes, and their effects on our built environment and fellow humans. Her drawings and paintings rise off the wall into three dimensions, forming shadows and caverns; the heating, sanding, cutting, gluing and plastering of materials creates solidity while also evoking the destruction left by recent hurricanes and floods. The powerful works in *Now That We Have Only This* viscerally connect us through art to environmental events continuing to devastate Houston, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the fires and mudslides that have wrought havoc in California. Our unbreakable addiction to news and social media leaves us emotionally drained voyeurs to the suffering, the pain of destroyed homes, and profoundly disrupted lives. Susan Emmerson internalizes these feelings, knowing it’s only a matter of time and chance before it becomes our own experience and we are left with only a cot in a shelter and memories to call home.

Susan Emmerson has exhibited extensively throughout the Midwest and Boston areas. She has been awarded three residencies at the Vermont Studio Center, as well as a residency at the Torpedo Factory in Virginia. Emmerson has been an exhibition juror and co-curated shows. Originally from the Midwest, where she practiced for nearly two decades as an ear, nose and throat surgeon, Emmerson received her BFA in Painting from Illinois State University and her MFA from Lesley University College of Art and Design in Boston. Her work appears in the permanent collections of the Grove Hall Public Library in Boston and the Bloomington–Normal Transportation Center and City Hall in Illinois. Susan Emmerson is a member of the Kingston Gallery and Fountain Street Gallery, both in Boston. This is her first solo show at Kingston Gallery.

On view concurrently in the Kingston Project Space is *Wild Beauty: Photographs from Scotland*, new work by Mary Lang inspired by her travels in the Scottish Highlands and Isles. Lang mediates the otherworldliness of the land through her camera, allowing viewers to vividly feel the barren beauty of the wild lands. At the same time, these photographs are her attempt to allow this elemental land to speak for itself.

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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For press–ready images contact Jessica Burko: 617–462–9353, jburko@kingstongallery.com

For more information about Kingston Gallery visit: kingstongallery.com