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Kingston Gallery  
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**The Main Gallery**  
***Woven***  
Mira Cantor

**The Center Gallery**  
***Fate***  
Louise Farrell

**The Project Space Gallery**  
***Embedded Parts***  
Erica Licea-Kane

**September 1 to September 26, 2021**  
**Opening Reception September 10, 2021, 5:00 - 8:00 pm**

**SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (July 6, 2021)** – Artists throughout time are drawn to layering, whether through the physical manipulation of materials or the layered meanings that art can embody. How an artist engages with their layer-making is unique to their process or the narrative found in their work. In the Main Gallery, **Mira Cantor's** watercolor portraits of masked faces and paintings of many legs marching together suggest the layering of the many explosive events from 2020. ***Woven*** contends with an America where democracy and civil rights are a question rather than a given. In the Center Gallery, guest artist **Louise Farrell** invites viewers to consider their personal histories as a part of a great saga of stories. Her large-scale sculpture, ***Fate***, symbolically weaves together Norse mythologies and collective narratives. In the Project Space Gallery, **Erica Licea-Kane** builds and hides the layers of her textile-based painting practice in ***Embedded Parts***. Her abstract acrylic paintings are based on the formal elements of color, texture, and a sincere love of the craft.

Kingston Gallery will participate in First Fridays on September 3rd. However, the official opening reception is on **September 10th** from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

The public is welcome to visit the gallery from noon to 5 pm starting September 1st, the opening day. Public Programming will be announced closer to the opening date.

### Main Gallery

In her solo exhibition, **Woven**, Mira Cantor's long-held practice as a painter and art professor found new idioms and forms to once again reveal her interest in the commonality of all people. Minimal pencil marks and broad washes of watercolor combine in a series of haunted faces, partially hidden by actual surgical masks collaged onto the portraits. In other works, inspired by protest marches but evocative of Eastern philosophy, human legs in skin tones from pale beige to deep brown are woven together as spokes in a wheel. Cantor also utilizes this imagery in her sculpture practice to create a form suspended from the ceiling, depicting many bodies coming together. In the accompanying catalog, Charles Guiliano further describes the work in *Woven* as, "The legs are configured as spokes in the ever-turning wheel of life. The hub that connects them evokes the binding factors of the human condition. As we have found during the pandemic there are no borders and boundaries against the disease." 2020 was the year of unveiling injustice. We could see pain, loss, and frustration in each other's eyes as Covid-19 turned into a worldwide crisis. Police brutality was on display and played on repeat. Then the election results trickled in, state by state, as eyes peered above masks from a divided nation. Cantor watched the news and felt the anguish on people's faces. She thought about the 1971 Motown classic, "What's Going On" by Marvin Gaye, and contemplated our shared humanity. The works in *Woven* search for justice through the coming together of bodies, ideas, and shared hope for brighter futures. *Woven* is accompanied by an 8x8 full color catalog with an essay by Charles Guiliano which was partially funded by a CAMD grant from Northeastern University.

**Mira Cantor** received a BFA from the University of Buffalo and an MFA from the University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana. Both degrees are in painting and drawing. Her work is in many collections in the US and abroad, including The Contemporary Arts Center, Honolulu, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, The Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University, Simmons College Collection, and The Danforth Museum at Framingham State University. She has shown her work at the Venice Biennale, Biennales in Norway and Yugoslavia, the Tokyo American Center, the Cultural Center in Alexandria, Egypt, Gallery Lohrl in Germany, the Genovese Sullivan Gallery in Boston, and the deCordova Museum and Sculpture Park in Lincoln. She has been a member of the Kingston Gallery since 2013 and will have her fourth solo exhibition there in September 2021. Mira Cantor has taught art her entire career. She was a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at MIT from 1978-80, where she taught drawing in the School of Architecture. Cantor also received a Fulbright to Egypt in 1994 to teach at the University of Alexandria. Currently, she is a Professor of Art at Northeastern University in Boston, where she has been teaching for over 25 years.

### The Center Gallery

Guest artist, **Louise Farrell**, contemplates and weaves together the stories of our lives in her solo exhibition, **Fate**. After hearing of a dear friend suffering an unexpected and devastating setback, Farrell felt a resonance with the ancient Norse sagas that she was reading at the time. For the Norse, the symbol of life is represented through a sacred and immense tree named *Yggdrasil*. In the roots of this great tree are all of humanity's histories, stories, and lives. Each root is unique; some are long and expansive, while some are very short. Her exhibition consists of a woven

sculpture, monumental as an old-growth tree, in the center of the gallery. For Farrell, dyeing and attaching every rope and skein became a meditative process. Together, *Fate* is a journey through the universality of the human condition.

**Louise Farrell** is a sculptor originally from New Orleans and has lived in Boston since the 1980s. She received her MFA in 3D Fine Arts from Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Growing up in the Carnival atmosphere of New Orleans gave Farrell a comfort and facility with theatrical materials which she uses in her art. She has worked as a prop sculptor for the American Repertory Theatre and then started her own large-scale prop business, FarrellStudio, for theatre and trade shows. Farrell is now creating work for herself and has exhibited work locally at the Danforth Museum, the Boston Nature Center, and Newbury College, as well as in New Orleans and New York, and throughout New England.

### Kingston Project Space

In the Kingston Project Space, **Erica Licea-Kane** welcomes viewers to explore her paintings' intricately built surfaces up close. In *Embedded Parts*, layers of colors and grid-like patterns emerge, both revealing and hiding hints of life. Acrylic paint becomes fiber-like as it weaves over and through itself. Each layer informs the next, reinforced by formal elements such as color and value relationships that define each work. Licea-Kane's unique practice is informed by repetition and time-based approaches based on her training as a textile artist. For her, art-making is a celebration of process, the love of materials, and the interaction of formal elements.

Visit [here](#) for a bio of Erica Licea-Kane.

### **About Kingston Gallery**

An artist-run gallery incorporated in 1982, Kingston Gallery is Boston's second oldest such institution presently in operation. The gallery exhibits the work of Boston-area contemporary artists, and features a diverse range of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, and installation. Located in the SoWa district in the South End, the exhibitions are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Wednesday–Sunday 12–5 pm, and by appointment. Our Covid-19 safety guidelines for visitors can be viewed [here](#).

For more information about Kingston Gallery, visit: [www.kingstongallery.com](http://www.kingstongallery.com)

A selection of high-resolution images is available [here](#).

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