



Press Contact:
Yng-Ru Chen
Media Relations Director
marketing@kingstongallery.com

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, No. 43
Boston, MA 02118
617-423-411

The Main and Center Galleries
Rose Olson: *Rain and Sunshine*

The Kingston Project Space
Jamal Thorne: *Fragments and Lost Verses*

June 24 through July 26, 2020

SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (June 8, 2020) – Layers. The negotiation of space between the application of each layer. The passage of time. The two artists featured in Kingston Gallery’s early summer 2020 exhibitions, **Rose Olson** in the Main and Center Galleries, and **Jamal Thorne** in the Kingston Project Space, find common expression in the processing of layering while experimenting with new elements and displaying them for the first time. Olson, a colorist, will show colors and combinations presented in a new way. Thorne’s current body of work will feature new material and content, while also moving away from a rectangular frame.

In *Rain and Sunshine*, Rose Olson’s highly praised abstract paintings on wood will be installed throughout the Main and Center Galleries. Her paintings reflect a passion for colors and how they interact with each other and with the beauty of natural elements. She paints directly on the wood, skipping the primer or gesso. In her words, “Wood-grain patterns are exciting and varied since each is specific to what once was a living tree. These patterns are as unique as our fingerprints, as important as the colors I use.”

Olson’s compositions are flat, crisp, and most importantly, they are luminous. The colors are constantly changing as the viewer moves, or the actual light changes. She uses many layers of color, applied one layer at a time to enhance each wood grain pattern. Her intention is to retain the beauty and originality of the wood-grain patterns while transforming the viewer’s experience of color and light. Although her method remains remarkably consistent, each body of work is different because of how the colors are used and where and how the hard bands of color bisect the space.

Rose Olson is a painter with studios in Beverly and Boston’s South End, where she grew up. After graduating from Tufts University, she taught at several colleges in the area including Montserrat College of Art where she joined their full-time faculty and earned the rank of Professor. In 2019, Rose was awarded the honor of Professor Emeritus at Montserrat. Her paintings are presently featured in the Founder’s Gallery. She is a colorist, continually influenced by the beauty of natural elements.

In the Kingston Project Space, **Jamal Thorne's** *Fragments and Lost Verses* features new work built (literally) on top of early experiments from 2012, based on imagery from the Civil Rights movement. Calling them “unresolved works,” and informed by new knowledge and purpose, Thorne uses layers of tape, paint, and imagery as a metaphor for the passage of time. As the artist states, “To me, time means everything, but it also means nothing. Sometimes you don't know who you were until you've grown up and had time to look back with wiser eyes.” The works in this exhibition move away from the rectangular to something amorphous, determined by the process. As he explores the space outside of the rectangle, and as new layers of tape and paint are added, each piece develops a personality of its own. It is a process that reveals itself over time. Learn more about Jamal Thorne [here](#).

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.

For more information about Kingston Gallery visit: kingstongallery.com

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

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