

LISTERINE (Living in
Scenes That Incorporate
Regular Novel
Explorations), shares
work as a breath of fresh
air. It leaves a sting,
a want for more perhaps,
with the understanding
that what you have just
seen is a good way to
live and be surrounded.
Plushness, colour,
vibrancy. The world
sparkles sans glitter;
instead through shape,
texture and surprise.

Sparkling is a feeling.

c. 01.00.2020

In our home we used Crest mouthwash, that is until just as we were finishing the bottled Listerine was on sale. The Listerine stings, its plaque and germ fighting skills so strong it burns to use. As such we are gargling slowly through the Listerine bottle.

c. 02.10.2020

I was mailed an Al-Anon book. The course set by someone I love spending 21-days in a rehabilitation center. Al-Anon and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) are designed to get one through tough emotional times. These therapies, are both riddled with acronyms you can recall at a time of immense struggling and be helped by. I was listening to the explanation of another new acronym when I got tickled by this way of communicating. It was a code. The meaning only realized by those who could hear, recall and possibly practise the hidden context. You of course can guess at acronyms, but if you don't have the key to the code it can mean variably anything.

02.17.2020

James and I install a paper maché arch in our home. This project follows paper maché covered tables that I plan to paint pink. I want them to look like chewed gum.

02.21.2020

I mention to James that I would like to bring Alexus Projects outside of the Grab-a-Slice space.

Heather emails with the opportunity to curate a show in Earl Selkirk the ARTiculations gallery.

02.22.2020

I scroll through notes in my phone, instagram pages and my feed. My eyes

02.23.2020

I bump into Arshia Salesi in the street and mention a show to her, tell her that I will send her more details as soon as details are firmed up.

Mary Chen @xymcn comes over and we chat for the inaugural episode of her podcast Mary and Friends. We discuss the show and how I am feeling about many concurrent projects *good*. While sitting on top of a patchwork duvet cover I am working on for our bed. We have friends over and watch Djibril Diop Mambéty's 1992 film Hyenas. The costumes by Oumou Sy are incredible and the colour of the film is stunning.

02.24.2020

Heather and I chat on the phone I pitch her the show title and a working artist list as well as show descriptions. I email this to her afterwards and there are a couple of typos. I am excited and set out to plan a show that opens March 7.

There are bolts and bolts of fabric for sale at the Salvation Army in Parkdale. Most of it is unattractive to me but I pick up a full bolt of matcha green and a rolled bolt of lavender polyester dupioni ringing in at \$14. These colours are very close compliments to the LISTERINE poster I have just emailed Heather.

02.24.2020 cnt.

I send out a call for works via email and instagram to artists who I would like to share the work of. I select artist that I have worked with before, artists whose work I have been admiring and day dreaming of. This part of the show is always nerve racking as I can expect some rejections, praise and ignored messages. This is like online dating between a gallery and an artists. Some people ask many questions, some simply agree to participate. I know messages will roll in continually over the next few hours and days. The artists are given a very strict deadline to reply by March 2nd.

02.25.2020

I bike to Tram Pinney's and sit for a portrait he is doing where I wear a vibrant silk blouse my Nonna has given me. The blouse is somewhat comical and has oversized details. We look through boxes and piles of works and make a selection for the show. I realize how lucky I am to get to see these works and am happy that they will exist for a time up on a wall or in the sunlit.

My bike tire pops and I am committed to using the bikeshare bikes from now on out. It will be a while before I can return to collect it and get the tire replaced.

02.26.2020

I bike to ARTiculations after work. Most of the artists have confirmed by now (so quick I love it!) and I pitch Heather further ideas as well as go over the artist list thus far and what we can be expecting. We agree on dates for drop off, set up and receptions.

I share a Google doc with all participants so we can stay in pace for the show.

02.27.2020

I bike to meet Cat Calica at her work. We discuss the ideas for the set design and where I am so far over her dinner break. We hug and giggle. I always love seeing Cat and discovering what she is looking at and up to.

James and I visit Gabriel Ting @thewanderingwit at his studio on Dupont. We discuss ideas for a creative content collaboration with his coming Spring line.

Luke van H confirms his participation and the artist list is finalized.

02.28.2020

I sew up the bag signs for In Praise Of Green.

02.29.2020

In Praise Of Green opens. It is a show I have put together of poetry, paintings photos and graphics. These are wheat pasted or printed on cloth and sewn into bag signs, displayed around Parkdale. We have a potluck celebration in our home afterwards. A few of the artists in In Praise Of Green are also a part of LISTERINE.

02.29.2020 cnt.

Arshia comes over and brings works that we look through and place over the matcha dupioni to select for the show.

Sienna Sekand comes over and brings her Book Bags as well as 2 mini pies.

03.01.2020

I meet with Nora Wang to discuss a stick and poke event we are planning. We discuss her hand poking and how it can be practised as an application to citrus fruits. Nora shares that she has a collection of lemons, limes, oranges and pomelos. She will also be working on a tattoo flash zine for the exhibit and asks for some advice.

03.02.2020

I return to salvation army and pick up blue tinted glass that I will pile up as a little pedestal in the exhibit. The cashier remembers me for buying the fabric for an art show the week prior.

I go to Value Village on Bloor and buy more glass. A beautiful green bowl to exhibit Nora's citrus. The base is a gross "antique copper" and will need to be painted.

I bike to Currys to buy Bazooka Pink Spray paint.

We have a customer event in the evening at Comrags.

03.03.2020

We have another customer event at Comrags.

I visit Abraham's Mirror on Queen and pick up the crystals I have been coveting that will "frame" Roots Foxtrot's beaded amulets.

The final Comrags customer event.

Arezu Salamzadeh visits to bring her Lucky Cats and Birthday Hats.

03.04.2020

My dad meets me after work and we load up his car with all the fabric, a paper maché table and all the works collected so far. I leave Arezu's Cats behind so that James Lai can pose them for his Family Portraits.

Jana Ghalayini comes to the gallery to drop off her work. I spend time in the space and begin hanging up the fabrics.

Cat comes to the gallery and brings delicious fabrics, we cover the wooden bench and hang more fabric.

I go home and cry. WTF am I doing. This lasts only 5 minutes thankfully.

03.05.2020

I show up to the gallery afterwork and all works have been dropped off. I get to work hanging fabrics and works.

James arrives at the gallery with his works and we get everything set in place and out by 8:45.

03.06.2020

I return to the gallery to take photos of each work, bringing a second Bazooka Pink (but ombre this time) paper maché table with me.

03.07.2020

Aaron @insituplants delivers a giant plant that was used in the Opelle ss20 photo shoot a few weeks before. Thank you!

03.09.2020

I find a pink cupcake tray on the way to the gallery. This will serve as a pedestal for the Listerine bottle with artist list on its label.

I bring an artists list to the gallery and unwrap the plant.

03.10.2020

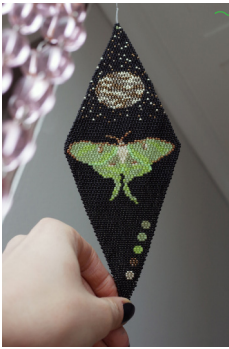
I type out this timeline that serves as a curatorial statement and bring it to the gallery.

c. Summer

I don't recommend staring directly into the sun, it burns and there is a risk of retina damage. Still, sometimes, I let that sun, stare me right in the eyes as I bike into the horizon, home at night.

Living In Scenes That Incorporate
Regular Inspiring Novel Explorations

Window



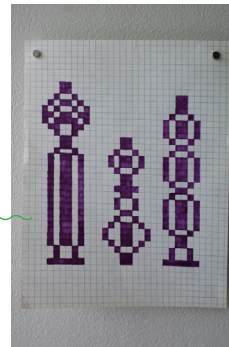
1. Luna Moth,
Roots Foxtrot
2020, Toronto
\$160



2. Untitled
Malik Mckoy
2019, Toronto
\$500



3. Faux Tesseract,
Spam Wilsom
2015, Toronto
NFS



4. Perfume Vessels
Jana Ghalayini
2020, Toronto
NFS



5. Sprayed Lucky Cat
James Lai
2019, Toronto
NFS



7. Twin Fish no. 1
Roots Foxtrot
2019, Toronto
NFS

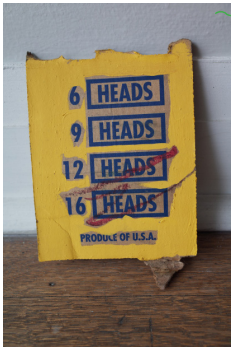


8. Neon Interference
Roots Foxtrot
2019, Toronto
\$160



9. Twin Fish no. 2
Roots Foxtrot
2019, Toronto
NFS

Window



6. 6 Heads 9 Heads
Tram Pinney
2019, Toronto
NFS



10. Two Heads - Dumb Didact
Tram Pinney
2018, orillia
\$250



11. A Spotting
Tram Pinney
2018, Orillia
\$250



12. Birthday Hat 5
Arezu Salamzadeh
2016, NYC
\$200



13. Birthday Hat 2
Arezu Salamzadeh
2016, NYC
\$200



14. Lamp Breath
Tram Pinney
2018, Orillia
\$250

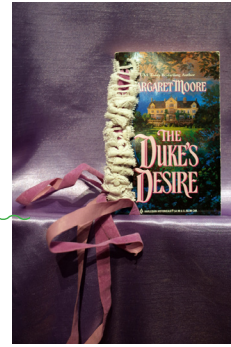
15. Untitled
Arshia Salesi
Toronto
\$300



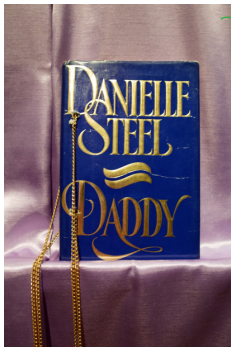
Interior



16. Family Portrait no.1
James Lai
2020, Toronto
\$80



17. The Duke's Desire Book Bag
Sienna Sekand
2019, Thornhill
\$60



19. Daddy Book Bag
Sienna Sekand
2019, Thornhill
\$60



18, 22-24. Untitled Artist
Book Series
Jana Ghalayini
2019, Saudi Arabia
NFS
can touch these



20. Untitled (Lucky Cat)
Arezu Salamzadeh
2018, Toronto
\$80



21. Family Portrait no.2
James Lai
2020, Toronto
\$80



Interior



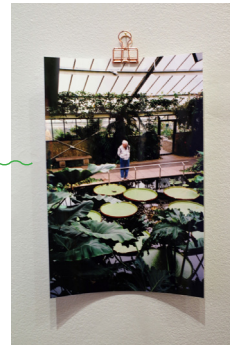
25. Untitled (Lucky cat)
Arezu Salamzadeh
2017, Atina Italy
NFS



26. Untitled (Lucky Cat)
Arezu Salamzadeh
2019, Toronto
\$100



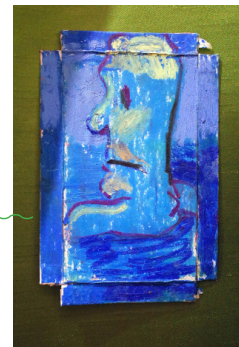
27. suburbanbaptism2-graspingatstreams
Luke van H
2020, Toronto
NFS



28. Kew Gardens
Chelsea Hirons
2019, England
\$50



29. Family Portrait no.3
James Lai
2020, Toronto
\$80



30. I'm So Blue I Just Sit In A Lake
Tram Pinney
2018, Orillia
\$250



31. Family Portrait no.4
James Lai
2020, Toronto
\$140

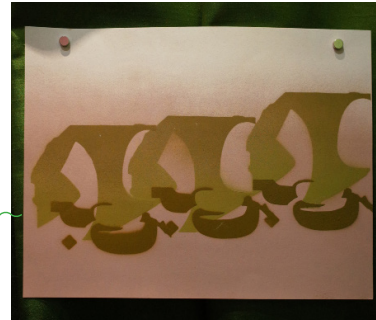


32. Siblings
Arshia Salesi
Tehran, Iran
\$100

Interior



33. Untitled
Arshia Salesi
Toronto
\$500



34. Untitled
Arshia Salesi
Toronto
\$500



35. Untitled (Lucky Cat)
Arezu Salamzadeh
2019, Toronto
NFS



36. Birthday Hat 3
Arezu Salamzadeh
2016, NYC
\$200

36. Birthday Hat 1
Arezu Salamzadeh
2016, NYC
\$200



37. Birthday Hat 4
Arezu Salamzadeh
2016, NYC
\$200



38. Daytime Sprinkler
Luke van H
2020, Toronto
NFS

Interior



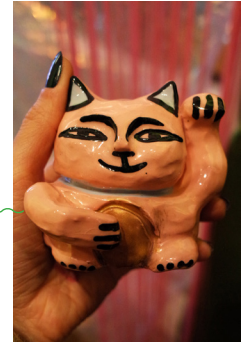
39. Hand Poked Citrus

Nora Wang

2020, Toronto

NFS

check portfolio for tattoo pricing



40. Untitled (Lucky Cat)

Arezu Salamzadeh

2017, NYC

\$100



41. Fountain Head

Jana Ghalayini

2019, Saudi Arabia

NFS



42. Two Heads - Distracted

Tram Pinney

2018, Orillia

\$600

43. Two Heads - Within Relationship

Tram Pinney

2018, Orillia

\$600

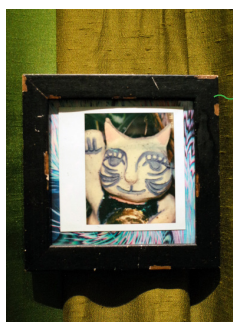


44. Two heads - Lying In Bed

Tram Pinney

2018, Orillia

\$600

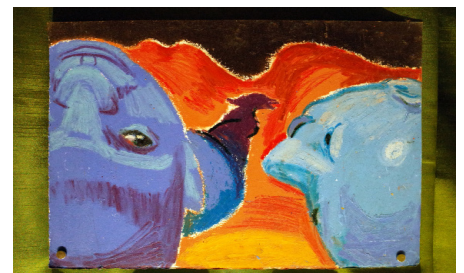


45. Family Portrait no.5

James Lai

2020, Toronto

\$80





46. High Vis Chocolate Chip (winter)

Roots Foxtrot

2019, Toronto

\$550

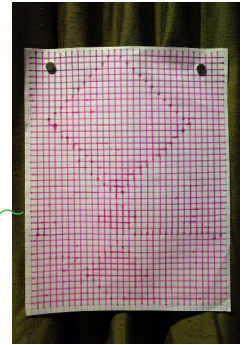
scan qr code

47. Grid

Jana Ghalayini

2019, Saudi Arabia

NFS



Arezu Salamzadeh
Arshia Salesi
Cat Calica
Chelsea Hirons
Jana Ghalayini
James Lai
Luke van H
Malik Mckoy
Nora Wang
Roots Foxtrot
Sienna Sekand
Spam Wilsom
Tram Pinney

@arezustudio
@arshiamia
@yunguava
@chelhirons
@jana_ghalayini_
@thejameslai
@lukevanny
@maalikmckoy
@nora.znwang
@black.iris.beads
@kawaii_sienna
@spamwilsom
@trampinney

Alexus Projects
ARTiculations

@alexus_projects
@articulations_to

Alexis Venerus is the Parkdale based curator of Grab-a-Slice, an experimental arts space inside Albany Pizza. Through Alexus Projects she shares her conversations with creatives, exploring the thought processes that take place around artistic action. She weaves together serendipitous connections amongst producers and unintentional audiences. Concepts imagined in these open discussions are brought to public exhibition, where she implements everyday objects and places as opportunities to show case artworks. This way the audience is offered familiarity as a framework for introspection and communal discourse. Her publication *Insahyt Catalog 700-779* serves as a collection of references as to how a variety of minds separately brainstorm given themes. In June 2019, she exhibited the work of over 30 local and International artists whose pieces were covered in the first three volumes of the catalog. Venerus continues to fuse art with community through Grab-a-Slice as she curates work in a maximalist way with shows that offer catalyst to speculation and empathy in their variety of viewpoints.