

CITY AS SUBJECT

NEW YORK CITY, the adopted hometown for thousands of artists, has been the center of the international art world for decades. But for many of the painters, sculptors and photographers here, New York offers more than career opportunities and cultural riches; for some, this place, buzzing with life, is as alive a subject as a friend sitting for their portrait.

City as Subject, displaying abstract and representational pieces in a variety of mediums by emerging, mid-career and established artists, presents a range of artistic responses to New York City life, including pictures of its parks and dog runs, views from subway platforms and skyscrapers, derelict alleyways and active construction sites, capturing the grandeur and grime of a bustling metropolis.

Westbeth is the world's largest live/work facility for artists, a nonprofit art colony providing affordable housing and studio space since 1970. As rents continue to rise across the five boroughs, artists are routinely priced out of New York City. But Westbeth operates under the principle "that the life of a city and the persistence of the arts depend on the accessibility of affordable housing and work studios for artists." Some of the painters in this exhibition are Westbeth residents and some grew up here. With its commitment to preserving a diverse creative culture in New York City, Westbeth Gallery provides a suitable setting for this show.

In this great city, human presence is everywhere, its colors and shapes conveying a sense of shared experience. Though it would be impossible to organize a definitive exhibition on the creative influence of New York, the nearly fifty artists in City as Subject demonstrate that, despite the challenges of daily life here, the constant change and rushing crowds, inspiration may lie just around the corner.

XICO GREENWALD

Curated by Xico Greenwald
9/20/2014 — 10/5/2014
Opening Reception: 9/20/2014, 6-8pm

Lennart Anderson
Ben Aronson
Olive Ayhens
E.L. Brown
Rudy Burckhardt
Simon Carr
William Carroll
Ryan Cobourn
Peter Colquhoun
Carol Diamond
Diane Drescher
John Dubrow
Jane Freilicher
Marianne Gagnier
Kyle Gallup
Todd Gordon
John Goodrich
Eric Holzman
Diana Horowitz
Katherine Jackson
Elisa Jensen
David Kapp
Julian Kreimer

Kerry Law
Andrew Lenaghan
Ying Li
Mari Lyons
Ron Milewicz
Loren Munk
Janice Nowinski
Elizabeth O'Reilly
Fran O'Neill
Neil Plotkin
Michael Putnam
Thaddeus Radell
Eleanor Ray
Deborah Rosenthal
Peter Ruta
Joseph Santore
Dena Schutzer
Tony Serio
Kim Sloane
Steve Stankiewicz
Kamilla Talbot
Scott Williams
Thornton Willis



55 Bethune Street
at Washington Street
New York, NY 10014
www.westbeth.org
Wed—Sun: 1-6pm
Mon—Tues: Closed