

A.I.R.

Every 16 Hours

Kadie Salfi

February 8th - March 10th, 2019

Opening Reception: February 8th, 6pm - 8pm

DUMBO's First Thursday Art Walk: March 7th, 6pm - 8pm

A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce *Every 16 Hours*, an exhibition by artist Kadie Salfi. Salfi will be showing a new body of work including paintings that put American gun culture in the crosshairs. This is Salfi's first solo exhibition in New York City.

Every 16 Hours is an extensive arsenal of handguns, each painted on plywood panels with lustrous splashes of over-the-counter beauty products—lipstick, nail polish, blush—and captioned with an unsettling statement of provenance or prophecy: *to kill his wife* or *to kill your daughter*.

As a young artist growing up in rural New England, Salfi was fascinated by guns: their power, their stark beauty, their omnipresence in popular media and everyday life. Guns figured frequently in her early forays into artmaking, appearing in etchings, screen prints and Polaroids. However, when she first heard the statistic that every 16 hours in America, a woman is shot and killed by a current or former lover, a new element of terror entered her work focused on guns—terror commingled with allure.

Using a Pop palette, Salfi has been focused on the subject of gun violence in America for the last eight years, presenting social and political commentary with a sly stylishness that calls for the viewer to adjust perspective both literally and emotionally. Salfi has painted many guns used in mass school shootings, guns used to kill black men and now guns used to kill women. From a distance, the guns in *Every 16 Hours* are sexy, blingy and pop off the camouflage grain of the plywood, pulling the viewer in only to discover via the text what the gun was used for, to kill a women, your daughter, her friend, my mom. By personalizing the statements, Salfi asks the viewer if this is okay, acceptable or not. There is no blame, only the facts.

Kadie Salfi was born in Burlington, Vermont in 1972. She received her BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and spent two years at Gemini G.E.L. in Los Angeles, where she printed editions of original prints for such contemporary masters as Rauschenberg, Celmins, and Johns. Salfi maintains a steady studio practice in Ithaca, New York and has exhibited widely on both coasts, including solo shows at The Ink Shop (Ithaca), Mark Wolfe Contemporary Art (San Francisco), and BCA Center (Burlington). Her work has been discussed in *Of Note Magazine*, *The Cornell Daily Sun*, Chapter89 Magazine, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Artscope*.

For more on the artist, visit www.kadiesalfi.com



Kadie Salfi, *A Mother & Ursa Major*, 2018, eye shadow, nail polish, lip gloss, graphite, spray paint, varnish on plywood, 16.5" x 39.5"

A.I.R. Gallery is wheelchair accessible via ramp. There are accessible toilets in the venue. There is comfortable seating with backs. Free tap water is available. The venue is nearest to the F train at York St (0.2 miles) and the A train at High St (0.5 miles). The nearest wheelchair accessible trains is the B, Q, R at Dekalb Av (1.1 miles) and the 2, 3 at Borough Hall (0.8 miles).

The roads immediately surrounding the gallery are cobblestone. The nearest accessible parking garage (for an hourly fee) is two blocks away at 100 Jay St. No ID necessary for entry. Please contact info@airgallery.org for more information.

