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For Immediate Release

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Woodstock Artists Association & Museum presents
THE VISION OF CARE
Juried & curated by Robert R. Shane
April 9 – May 23, 2021

23 artists making work about parenting, nature, and loss show us how to care for one another in this exhibition which responds with sensitivity to our present moment, juried by Brooklyn Rail critic Robert R. Shane.

(Woodstock, NY) - The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum presents a group exhibition curated by Robert R. Shane, PhD, art critic for *The Brooklyn Rail* and associate professor of art history at The College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY, titled *THE VISION OF CARE*. The exhibition, presented in the WAAM's main exhibition space, opens Friday, April 9, and continues through May 23, 2021, with the WAAM's hours of Friday through Sunday from 12-3 pm.

The Vision of Care brings together work by 23 artists working across various media to highlight the role art plays, to use the words of care theorists Joan C. Tronto and Bernice Fisher, "in maintaining and repairing our world so that we can live in it as well as possible."

Artist/mothers lead this exhibition in an homage to the many pioneers, such as artist Mierle Laderman Ukeles and theorist Sara Ruddick, who for decades have been using maternal experiences to develop new ways of thinking about the ethics of care. Rebekah Tolley's two new works created for *The Vision of Care* spotlight the crisis of inequity in our childcare system during the pandemic, which has made clear that those who care for young children in or outside of the home are essential workers. Kahori Kamiya's explosive wall sculpture embodies the joy and struggles of breastfeeding, offering an antidote to the feelings of guilt that sometimes accompany the latter.

Against a backdrop of both climate crisis and the quest for outdoor solace during the pandemic, many artists have responded by making works inspired by nature, including Ashley Garrett in her intimate abstractions culled from her experiences in the environs surrounding her upstate New York studio, and Rob O'Neil and Jadina Lilien in their respective photographs capturing close-ups of fragile and beautiful moments outdoors. All three artists point to the need to care for the environment and show the ways the environment can care for us, physically and emotionally.

Several artists in *The Vision of Care* share personal experiences of long-term caretaking for ill loved ones, including painter Fern Apfel, photographer Frances Goodwin, and sculptor Linda Lauro-Lazin. The latter two artists also provide us models of grief after losing a loved one to terminal illness, models we need now as a nation and as a world in mourning.

In abstract pieces by Pam Poquette and Dorothea Osborn, stitching or collaging begin to act as metaphors for repair and care. Christopher Skura and Michelle Brandemuehl's geometric abstraction slows viewers down to become attuned to the subtle relationships between forms, offering lessons in looking we can take beyond the gallery as we become attuned to the subtle needs of each other.

THE ARTISTS

All artists' studio practices are located within a 50-mile radius of Woodstock, NY.

Fern Apfel
Michelle Brandemuehl
Courtney Dudley
Ashley Garrett
Fran Goodwin
Courtney Haeick
Yasemin Kackar-Demirel
Kahori Kamiya

Carole Kunstadt
Linda Lauro-Lizin
Madison LaVallee
Jadina Lilien
Dorothea Osborn
Rob O'Neil
Lisa Poquette

Pam Poquette
Kelsey Renko
Richard Scherr
Christopher Skura
Rebekah Tolley
Hanna Washburn
Brian Wood

ABOUT THE JUROR

Robert R. Shane received his PhD in art history & criticism at Stony Brook University and is a regular contributor of art reviews and interviews to *The Brooklyn Rail*. Dr. Shane's scholarly research on race, gender, and shame has appeared in *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, and his current book project in process is *Mirroring Mothers: Witnessing Maternal Subjectivity in Contemporary Art*. Dr. Shane is Guest Curatorial Consultant for the University Art Museum, University at Albany; Associate Professor of Art History at The College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY; former Managing Editor of the Stony Brook University's journal *Art Criticism*; and a frequent contributor of essays and entries on art for books by Phaidon Press, London.

PROGRAMMING

Juror and curator Robert R. Shane will moderate a panel with several artists in *The Vision of Care* - date/time TBD

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Woodstock Artists Association & Museum

Founded in 1919, the Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM) is a not-for-profit membership organization featuring a historic permanent collection of regional art, contemporary galleries, a dynamic education program, and archives of materials associated with artists of the Woodstock region.

General Information

The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM) is located at 28 Tinker Street, Woodstock, NY. Gallery hours: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from noon-3 pm. The WAAM is closed during the major holidays. For general information please call: 845.679.2940 or visit our website at woodstockart.org.

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Image information:

Courtney Haeick, *Apart But Together*, 2020, steel sheets, 4 x 5 feet

Courtney Dudley, *Fountain 3*, 2020, pit fired clay and NYS maple syrup, 14 x 10 in.

Carole Kunstadt, *STAY WELL*, 2021, 22/24 karat gold leaf, KN95 face mask, wooden cotton swabs, 10 x 9 x 4 in.

Christopher Skura, *Virus*, 2020, acrylic and flashe on gessoed paper, 24 x 19 in.