

## In Main Gallery

Natural Selection Curated by Russ Ritell



Natural selection is the key process in evolution. A natural change in traits over time. According to Darwin, throughout the lives of individuals, their genomes interact with their environments to cause variations in traits and may eventually result in speciation.

Robert Henri stated: *"Art is the inevitable consequence of growth"*. As artists and creators we are growing, and eventually, over time, specializing in at least one discipline or process. The subject of the work featured in "Natural Selection" centers around metaphors, interpretations and relationships to the natural world or mutations of natural subjects. The various artists selected for this exhibit are specialized and evolved, open to experimentation within, (and outside), their respective mediums.

Russell Ritell, Herman Roggeman, Meghan Spiro, Laianna Ferruggia, Jerika Broussard, Melissa Robin, Jack Rusinek and Lindsey Buckley are local Hudson Valley creatives, exhibiting together at Bau gallery to create this unique show.

## In the Beacon Room

Jean Brennan: Performing Vowels in the note of Blue



Jean Brennan is an interdisciplinary artist who seeks site-specific opportunities for experiential learning and making. Her mediums are sculpture, installation and performance in a response to place—what we know about it, what lives there, and the built or natural features of site.

In the Beacon Room Project Space, she presents a new video, **Performing vowels in the note of blue**—a score for nondiscursive communication with(in) a grove of red pines somewhere in the Catskills. Planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, this stand possesses the uncanny quality of a single species plantation gone wild.

Semaphore flags, developed in 1792, augment the body to communicate messages across distances of land and sea. This piece uses the patterning of gesture, color, form and sound to create indexical, rather than symbolic, signs. It considers how meaning is constructed in human and nonhuman worlds and imagines a space for communication between

Performed with Felicia Ballos, Elizabeth Castagna, Alexa Beckham, and Amanda Punsoda.

Cinematography by Rob Featherstone.

Clothing by Colorant.

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