



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 22, 2022

February 25 — April 2, 2022

Form Re-Formed

Works by Nancy Cohen, Marisa Tesauero, and Austin Thomas

Stand4 Gallery
Community Art Center

414 78th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11209
stand4gallery.org
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curated by Jeannine Bardo

Opening Reception: Friday, February 25th, 7-9 PM

Life as art, art as life

Limb/ swish- a bodily movement, maybe for walking or dancing.

Limbs/ wish- the body hoping, desiring

A curtain tassel used as an ornament for dress.

A curtain tassel worn at the hip that moves with the body and swishes over limbs.

limb/ swish.

A curtain tassel moving with a body through space, an adornment creating sound, moving in sounds of swish, entering beyond the ordinariness of just being an object.

limbs/ wish.

A curtain tassel added to a pedestal, hanging from a hook and surrounded with a metal spiral

A curtain tassel made into an enduring object

A work of art

Limbswish

A pioneer of the "ready-made" art object, the German avant-garde, Dadaist artist and poet Elsa Hildegard Baroness von Freytag-Loringhoven (1874-1927) was the creator of Limbswish (1917-18) Loringhoven's sculpture Limbswish exemplifies the artist's practice of incorporating found objects into her everyday dress, thus collapsing the distinction between life and art. The curtain tassel which hangs within the core of Limbswish's metal spiral was sometimes worn at the hip by the Baroness as she paraded about in the streets. The title of the work is itself a poetic pun referring to the movement it made when worn as an adornment (limb/swish, limbs/wish). (1)

The artists of Form Re-Formed bring form to life as art in their everyday. Like Loringhoven in spirit, albeit less performative, Cohen, Tesauro and Thomas create art from “ordinary articles of life”. They are bodies and minds moving, mining and musing through life, creating new forms from the by-products of life in the human sphere. They are bodies and minds on notice, critiquing, alerting, archiving, hoping, desiring and embodying life as art and art as life, creating works of art that are themselves condensed forms of the moments of each artists’ lived life.

1. Baroness Elsa von Freytag-Loringhoven Artist Overview and Analysis”.

[Internet]. 2022. TheArtStory.org

Content compiled and written by Laura Hillegas

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Available from: <https://www.theartstory.org/artist/von-freytag-loringhoven-elsa/>

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About the Artists

Nancy Cohen

Jersey City based artist Nancy Cohen’s work examines resiliency in relation to the environment and the human body.

Nancy Cohen is interested in the juxtaposition of fragility and strength, both in our personal lives and the environment. Her work investigates the journey of the individual navigating a perilous world, all while exploring the fragility of that world itself. Through personal study of waterways and collaborations with scientists and environmentalists, Cohen imbues her work with academic references to a natural world that is fighting back while constantly under threat.

Marisa Tesauro

“I am fascinated by the predicaments that our contemporary societies face: excessive consumerism, accelerated rate of building, our relationship to these constantly shifting environments, our sense of place and the histories we are creating. As archeology looks to the material evidence, ruins, traces left behind and fragments to reconstruct the past my work looks through this same lens to speak about the present. .

Austin Thomas

Austin Thomas is an artist, curator, community builder, and an exhibition manager orchestrating and communicating with many different types of people and materials to get things done. From 2007 to 2015, she directed the influential Pocket Utopia gallery in NYC. Thomas is a graduate of NYU and has received numerous residencies and fellowships, including Wave Hill, Guttenberg Arts, The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, Smack Mellon, LMCC, and a Bascom Lodge, Mount Greylock Summer Residency.

In the Summer of 2016, Thomas unveiled a permanent public sculpture for a new park in Brooklyn. She has also done public sculpture commissions for the Public Art Fund and Grinnell College. Thomas's work is featured in the book titled *Living and Sustaining a Creative Life: Essays by 40 Working Artists* and in that book's sequel *The Artist as Culture Producer: Living and Sustaining a Creative Life*, both edited by Sharon Loudon. Thomas's work has been shown at galleries in Miami, San Francisco, Washington, DC, and Tennessee. Thomas's work has been written about in in the *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Art in American*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *The Paris Review* and in *Hyperallergic*. Her work is in The Corcoran Legacy Collection, Hoggard Wagner Collection and New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. Thomas lives in New York City.

Stand4

Founded in January 2017 as an artist-run initiative, Stand4's pursuit is to be alive and working towards a better world through the arts as an active medium of engagement. Stand4 serves as a generator of meaning, action, agency, collaboration, and social justice. It is shapeless, non-conforming, and responsive to the times. Stand4 is meant to exist as a catalyst: a way to envision a more socially and environmentally just future. Housed in a former medical office in the heart of Bay Ridge, Stand4 brings the visual arts and programming to the center of the community, opening up opportunities for social, political and cultural connections and creating a discourse that bridges culture and tradition and includes new voices towards a more sustainable future inspired by local interests.

Location / Stand4 Gallery and Community Art Center
414 78th Street, 1st Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11209

Website / / stand4gallery.org
Facebook / / [@stand4bayridge](https://www.facebook.com/stand4bayridge)
Instagram / / [@stand4gallery](https://www.instagram.com/stand4gallery)

Hours / Saturday, 12-3 PM & by appointment.
Contact Jeannine Bardo to schedule an appointment.

Proof of vaccination is required and masks must be worn when visiting the gallery.

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