



Stand4 Gallery and
Community Art Center

414 78th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11209

stand4gallery.org
contact@stand4gallery.org

Jeannine Bardo
Founder, Director
jbardo.stand@gmail.com
(917) 842-7958

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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In the End a Devastating Beauty

Susan Hoffman Fishman Leslie Sobel

January 19 - February 19, 2024

Opening Reception | Friday, January 19, 7-9 PM

For the exhibition, *In the End, a Devastating Beauty*, environmental artists Susan Hoffman Fishman and Leslie Sobel home in on the salient, visible scars of the landscape and environmental changes that have occurred to bodies of water. Working with scientists at Planet Labs in San Francisco, CA, a global satellite imaging company, they used satellite imagery, on-the-ground research, and their aesthetics to produce a collaborative body of work that speaks to the devastating beauty of our planet as well as the visual beauty of the devastation that is accelerating the transformation of our warming planet. *In the End, A Devastating Beauty* is the product of a healthy ecosystem made up of the exchange of technology, scholarship, and vision between curious, caring professionals. A place without hierarchy, where one can fluidly change perspectives in the course of learning. We need these collaborative spaces to move forward and move beyond despair.

Sobel and Fishman chose to work together for inspiration and ways to visually and conceptually articulate their concerns about climate change. They continue to collaborate knowing that their voices together are stronger and more sound. This mindset is in keeping with the mission of Stand4 Gallery; *to serve as a catalyst to create a socially and environmentally just and sustainable future, inclusive of community voices...*

Their exhibition, In the End, A Devastating Beauty highlights the sublime beauty of our planet and the damage we inflict and challenges us to reflect on what we are losing due to our actions and inactions.

Susan Hoffman Fishman is a Connecticut-based painter, eco-artist and arts writer who has exhibited widely throughout the United States, including at the Ceres Gallery (NYC); Ethan Cohen KUBE Gallery (Beacon, NY); 22 North Gallery (Ypsilanti, MI); Yale University (New Haven, CT); the William Benton Museum, University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT); New Britain Museum of American Art (New Britain, CT); Alternative Museum (NYC); New York Hall of Science

(Bronx, NY); National Aquarium (Baltimore, Md); Nurture/Nature Center (Easton, PA), the Peabody Essex Museum (Salem, MA) and numerous others.

Since 2011, all of Fishman's work has addressed water in the context of climate change. She is especially interested in the contrast between the horrifying destruction happening to our waterways and oceans and the magnificent beauty of that destruction. Her recent work recasts ancient myths - in which water plays a pivotal role - into visual narratives that reflect upon contemporary society.

Fishman has received numerous grants and attended many artist residencies, including at Planet Labs in San Francisco, CA; The Swimming Hole Foundation in Glenford, NY; the Five Points Center for the Arts in Torrington, CT; Art Kibbutz on Governor's Island, NYC; Cel de Nord in Orista, Barcelona, Spain and others.

Leslie Sobel Leslie Sobel is a mixed-media and environmental artist. Based in Michigan, her work reflects her connection to the natural world and her deep concern about climate change. With a background in science and art, she integrates wilderness, scientific field work in remote locations with photography, data and mixed media. Sobel has exhibited widely in more than 30 solo exhibitions and 40 group shows. In addition to her art practice, she has curated exhibitions focused on climate and social justice issues and taught both artists and scientists. The artist residencies that have informed her work include: the University of Michigan's Bio Station; the Arctic Circle's exploratory residency aboard the Tall Ship Antigua; the Eclipse Ice Field; the Colorado Art Ranch; and the University of Hartford's Interdisciplinary MFA residencies.

Stand4 was founded in January 2017 as an artist-run initiative. Housed in a former medical office in the heart of Bay Ridge, Stand4 brings 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, Brooklyn, NY 11209

Hours / Saturday, 12-3 PM & by appointment.

Contact Jeannine Bardo to schedule an appointment.

Jeannine Bardo / jbardo.stand@gmail.com / (917) 842-7958

Website / stand4gallery.org

Facebook / @stand4bayridge

Instagram / @stand4gallery @sobelleslie @hoffmanfishman