

# Hummingbird Water

Mita Mahato, Erin Jane Nelson, Ali Paydar,  
Walker, Kendra Yee, Elena Yu

Organized by Institute for Interspecies Art and Relations

September 8-25

Mita Mahato is a cut paper, collage, and comix artist based in Seattle. She assembles fragments of used and discarded materials in poetic experiments that dramatize entangled processes of death and renewal, specifically within the context of ecosystemic loss under capitalism. Mahato has exhibited with Common Area Maintenance, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, SOIL Gallery, Gene Siskel Film Center, and Fantagraphics Gallery. Her collected book of poetry comix, *In Between*, is listed in *The Best American Comics: The Notable Comics of 2019*. Other works are published in *Iterant*, *Shenandoah*, *Coast/No Coast*, *ANMLY*, *A Modern*, *Illustrated PEN*, and *Drunken Boat*.

Erin Jane Nelson is an artist and writer based in Atlanta, GA. She received her BFA from Cooper Union in 2011. Recent exhibitions include *Soft Water Hard Stone: The 2021 New Museum Triennial* at the New Museum and *Making Knowing: Craft in Art 1950-2019* at the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Alexandra Paydar is an interdisciplinary artist whose work speaks to interdependence, kinship, and both the agency and stories of nonhumans. Of Iranian and Swiss ancestry, with a strong relationship to Southern California, her practice is rooted in a exploration of hybridity, and a rejection of the borders and ideals of bodily/cultural purity that have come to define our relations through colonization. In her pieces, new futures come alive through collective nurturing, ingestion, and transformation, various nonhumans and humans become intertwined, and their histories transform.

Walker makes sculptures about nature and videos.

Kendra Yee (b. 1995, Tkaronto/ Toronto) is an arts practitioner that seeks to materialize the truths and fictions of memory. Yee pulls tales from; personal stories, lived experience and collective narratives to develop site-specific installations that carve alternative archives. Yee has programmed and exhibited with: The Art Gallery of Ontario, MOCCA, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, The Art Gallery of Burlington, OCAD U, Art Metropole, Xspace Cultural Centre, Patel Brown Gallery, Gallery 44, The Letter Bet, Art Toronto, Juxtapoz (NYC) and Heavy Manners (Los Angeles).

Elena Yu is an interdisciplinary artist, arts organizer, and designer from Los Angeles, currently living in Joshua Tree. Her art practice weaves together memory, history, and speculative fiction to explore social relationships between objects, humans, and ecology. She has exhibited, performed and hosted workshops at many artist-run galleries. As an arts organizer, she has worked for High Desert Test Sites since 2016 and in 2023 will begin to independently host public programs and exhibitions that consider and care for all aspects of a community ecosystem; bringing together local residents, artists, partnering organizations, and sites around contemporary art. Elena received her BA in Art from University of California.

Heavy Manners Library  
1200 N Alvarado St Unit D, Los Angeles, CA 90026.