

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CORE RESIDENCY PROGRAM PRESENTS

**THE DANGEROUS PROFESSORS
HOUSTON EDITION**

AN EXHIBITION FEATURING OVER 100 LOCAL AND
INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-EDUCATORS OPENS MAY 3RD

On View May 3rd - May 27th, 2018

Opening Reception: May 3rd, 5pm - 8pm

Flatland Gallery, 1709 Westheimer Road, Houston, Texas, 77098



Houston, TX – *The Dangerous Professors*, a curatorial project by Ruslana Lichtzier, works to counteract the pervasive right wing forces that jeopardizes civil, artistic and academic freedom. The project employs exhibitions, public programs, and an accompanying website to serve as a platform for the collective development of strategies toward the idea of radical education. The exhibition opens May 3rd at Flatland Gallery, 1709 Westheimer Road, Houston, Texas, 77098 and is on view through May 27.

The project was precipitated by professorwatchlist.org, a website initiated in November 21st, 2016 that aims to compile a list of instructors who “advance a radical agenda in lecture halls.” The *Dangerous Professors* project reads this website as symptomatic of the deep and widespread forces which work to jeopardize civil, artistic and academic freedom by calling out, shaming, and attempting to hurt those that it opposes.

Through an open invitation, *The Dangerous Professors* encourages artists-educators who the watchlist could deem as dangerous for promoting a progressive or transgressive dialogue and cultural production, to self-identify and exhibit their work as an act of resistance. The exhibition and accompanying publication include the work of nearly one-hundred artist-educators.

The first iteration of the project opened at Triumph Gallery in Chicago, IL on May 13th, 2017 and featured over one hundred and fifty participants. This second staging places emphasis on artists from the surrounding community of Houston and Texas at large. The full list of participating artists and the website are forthcoming.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS:

Thursday, May 24, 6pm – 8:15pm

#MeToo // IRL - Participatory Workshop

cosponsored with Diverse Works

Presenters:

Ching-In Chen, Poet and Community Organizer

Xandra Eden, Executive Director & Chief Curator, Diverse Works

Scott J. Hunter, Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Neuroscience, and Pediatrics
Director of Neuropsychology Coordinator, Child Psychology Training Program Vice-Chair, University of Chicago

Gaining steam in October 2017, the #MeToo movement aimed a spotlight at the pandemic of sexual assault and harassment that women, nonbinary, and gender-non-conforming people face. With the movement’s impact, it became clearer than ever that gender bias is a fundamental discriminatory structure of contemporary society. While it is extremely important for survivors to speak out, it has become evident that everyone is affected by this violence and oftentimes do not have the tools to intervene or interrupt it as it happens. This participatory workshop aims to provide practical tools to practice active listening, group empowerment through empathy, and transformative justice in the workplace. Active participation is encouraged but not required.

The event will be accompanied by a screening and a sound program of works by *The Dangerous Professor* artists.

Thursday, May 25, 6pm – 8pm

#CrisisPedagogy

HOW TO TEACH ART AND ART HISTORY UNDER CONDITIONS OF CRISIS?

Teaching Resource Sharing Party

Cosponsored by the Society of Contemporary Art Historians (SCAH)

Bring your teaching resources to share! Flash drives, JPGs, PDFs, PPTs, lesson plans, syllabi, etc., or send files to crisispedagogy@gmail.com. This event will feature brief presentations of politically responsive lesson plans by area art and art history teachers.

Host: Natilee Harren, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Art History and Critical Studies at the University of Houston and President, Society of Contemporary Art Historians.

#CrisisPedagogy is a project initially co-founded by SCAH, Sense of Emergency, Art History That, Association for Latin American Art, Association of Historians of American Art, the European Postwar and Contemporary Art Forum, Material Collective, New Media Caucus, Queer Caucus for Art, US Latinx Art Forum, Visual Culture Caucus, Women's Caucus for Art, The Research and Academic Program of the Clark Art Institute, and the College Art Association.

The event will be accompanied by a screening and a sound program of works by *The Dangerous Professor* artists.

Sunday, May 27, 6pm - 8pm

***The Dangerous Professors* Closing Reception**

Please join us for the the closing reception of *The Dangerous Professors*, including a screening and sound program of works by artists in the exhibition.

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About the Curator

Born in Siberia, Russia and raised in Israel, Ruslana Lichtzier is a curator, writer, and educator. Her background as a migrant propels cultural productions that aim to nest radical imagination of difference and change. She is the initiator and co-director of Triumph School Manual Project, in Triumph, Illinois, and of the project space Triumph, Chicago. Recent productions include the group exhibition *The Dangerous Professors*, Triumph, Chicago, and the research project in form of a group exhibition *Terrorists in The Library*, Harold Washington College (Chicago, Illinois). She is a Core fellow at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (Houston, TX) and the Co-Director of Jewish Artist Fellowship, at Spertus, Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership. She is also a contributor writer for *The Seen Magazine* (EXPO Chicago). Most recently she taught at the School of The Art Institute of Chicago and Spertus Institute.

The Dangerous Professors is the culmination of Lichtzier's fellowship in the Core Residency Program at the Glassell School of Art, where she has been in residence since 2016.

About DiverseWorks

Founded by artists in 1982, DiverseWorks is nationally known for its groundbreaking programming; as a resource for the innovative and meaningful engagement of communities; and as a force that has shaped contemporary thought and practice in Houston and the nation. DiverseWorks is a leader in the nationwide movement of artist-centered organizations and is a vital presence in national organizations such as the National Performance Network, the Visual Artists Network, and the National Dance Project.



About the Society of Contemporary Art Historians

The Society of Contemporary Art Historians aims to foster strong scholarship and to promote collegiality within the vital field of contemporary art history. Major projects include reading groups, mentoring and career development (especially for younger scholars and graduate students), a standing panel at the College Art Association's [annual conference](#), and the distribution of relevant information through the Society's website.



SOCIETY OF
CONTEMPORARY
ART
HISTORIANS

About Flatlands Gallery

Flatland Gallery just west of Brasil is a multipurpose art space featuring three dimensional work, films, performances and specialty meals.

Media Inquiries:

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