

# Functional Aesthetics: Contemporary Art in Use



Victoria Elliott



Yiyi Wei



Laura Tisor



Tonia Marek



Noa Bornstein



Joanne Steinhilber



Carolyn Clement



Kathy Guss



Juli Trellmann

Curated by  
Raluca Anchidin

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# Functional Aesthetics: Contemporary Art in Use

Curated by  
Raluca Anchidin



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## Raluca Anchidin



Raluca Anchidin is a Romanian-born art curator and advisor. In NYC, she curated numerous exhibitions that fostered community and cross-disciplinary collaboration, including “Interstices” [Margaret Vega’s solo show at Atlantic Gallery in Chelsea], ENCHANTED QUEENSDOM [part of the LIC Arts Open Festival], (Surprise!) Bday Party [at Brooklyn Art Cave] and A Love Letter to New York City [Vital Art].

Anchidin also founded the “Sunnyside Art Walk” series, engaging the Queens neighborhood in exploring and supporting the local arts. In 2025, she launched her gallery, ankydyn gallery, dedicated to showcasing emerging and mid-career contemporary artists online – with an in-person debut at Art Basel Week in Miami.

Anchidin transitioned to the cultural sector after a ten-year career in B2B advertising and digital media. Her expertise includes brand positioning, audience engagement, event production, and strategic partnerships. She holds a Master’s in Media and Communications from Brunel University, UK.

# Functional Aesthetics: Contemporary Art in Use

When I began reviewing submissions for Functional Aesthetics, I was drawn to works that didn't just ask to be looked at.. they asked to be held, worn, sat upon, switched on.

Bringing together over 50 artists working across fine art, craft, and design, this show expands functionality beyond basic usefulness into something sensory and experiential. I wasn't interested in separating disciplines. Some artists work through tradition and hand-making; others push materials and form in unexpected directions. What unites them is care in construction, care in detail, and commitment to objects that carry both intention and presence.

Each work asks: What does it mean for art to be used? How does daily interaction alter our perception of an object? When does function become performance, ritual, or daily companionship?

This exhibition is an invitation to reconsider what we live with, and to recognize that beauty and utility are not opposites, but partners.

Raluca Anchidin

# Functional Aesthetics: Contemporary Art in Use

## Featured Artists:

Robert Adams  
D Ardelean  
Noa Bornstein  
Andree Brown  
Nancy Bruno  
Sokthea Chan  
Tingyu Chang  
Carolyn Clement  
Nat Connacher  
Alex Curtin  
Domenick Di Pietrantonio  
Denise Dmochowski  
Brenton Duhan  
Rosanne Ebner  
Jenna Efrein  
Victoria Elliott  
Pauline Galiana  
Joey Gerace

Marion Grant  
Kathy Guss  
Ann Hitchcock  
Melinda Hoffman  
Judith Hugentobler  
Joshua Ice  
Theophane Ingold  
Dani Krahe  
Nancy Klotz  
Jin Ko  
Annaliese Levaggi  
Philip Lique  
Gilly Lugo  
Christina Maile  
Anshu Malhotra  
Tonia Marek  
Jaqui Mejia  
Aimee Mower-Lallyy

James Nazz  
Gerry O'Meara  
Meenal Raghava  
CoCo Ree Lemery  
Julie Scheyer  
Joanne Steinhardt  
Laura Titor  
Carolina Trinker  
Tsetsilia Tsypina  
Jula Tuellmann  
Lisa Urban  
Christina Ward  
Yiyi Wei  
Joan Wheeler  
Rachel Wittels  
Blake Zucker

## Robert Adams



*Carpet Bag with 13th Amendment* (2023), Found bathmat, carpet, paper, ink, stain, thread, button, 18" x 16" x 5"

**D Ardelean**



*Nocturne I* (2025), Cork fabric, wood, SCOPY Paper, 6" x 18" x 5.5"

## Noa Bornstein



*Keep Hope Alive Planter* (2025), Ceramic (fired) oxide stains, oil paint, plant, on walnut,  
26" x 20.75" x 12"

**Andree Brown**



*Large Sterling Spoons (2025), Sterling, wood, 1" x 8" x 1"*

**Nancy Bruno**



*Scarf* (2025), Wood fired Ceramic, 6" x 10" x 6"

**Sokthea Chan**



*Raku Number-16* (2025), Raku-fired Stoneware, 3" x 4.5" x 4.5"

**Tingyu Chang**



*Spin* (2025), Clay and glaze, 8" x 11" x 7"

**Carolyn Clement**



*Disco Skate NYC* (2025), Bead Embroidery, mixed media, 14" x 11" x 9"

## Nat Connacher



*Typographic Nude Note Cards* (2005), Offset Printing on paper, 4.5" x 6"

**Alex Curtin**



*Justice lamp* (2025), Cyanotype on mulberry paper, wood frame,  
3.5" × 5.5" × 12"

**Domenick Di Pietrantonio**



*Light Bomb* (2026), 3D printed PLA, and pigmented resin, 10" x 16" x 10"

**Denise Dmochowski**



*Plum Breeze* (2024), Upcycled chair from 50's, custom fabric, paint, 25" x 40" x 18"

## Brenton Duhan



*Squiggle Mug* (2025), Stoneware, handbuilt, cone 6 oxidation, 4" x 4" x 3.5"

**Rosanne Ebner**



*NY Watertower* (2024), clay, 5" x 9" x 5"

**Jenna Efrein**



*Pitch'er, Crusty* (2025), Kiln cast Topo Chico seltzer bottle, 8" x 12" x 8"

**Victoria Elliott**



*Palm Pod Trio* (2025), Mixed-media light fixtures (each), 6" x 43" x 4"

## Pauline Galiana



*Searope2*, Fresh water pearls, mother of pearl, carnelian, agate, turquoise, citrine, hematite, labradorite, aventurine, 44”

**Joey Gerace**



*Pouring Jug (2025), Wood-fired porcelain, 3.5" x 7.5" x 3.5"*

**Marion Grant**



*Natural Brocade - Four Coasters* (2016), Sandstone and cork,  
4" x 4" x 0.25"

**Kathy Guss**



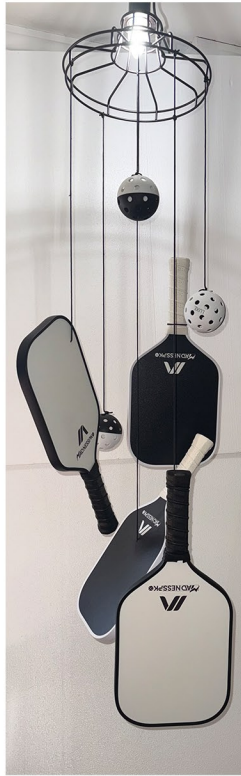
*Five Spice Jar* (2025), Porcelain with terra sigillata, 9" x 7" x 9"

## Ann Hitchcock



*TENSION Chartreuse* (2025), Chartreuse cotton knit fabric, black nylon upholstery thread, 36" x 40" x 36", Silviia Maliukova (photo credit)

**Melinda Hoffman**



*Pickleball Mobile* (2025), Mixed media, 15" x 45" x 15"

**Judith Hugentobler**



*Yellow, Green and Grey Speckled Vessel (2024), Stoneware, Underglaze and Glaze,  
7.5" x 14.5" x 7"*

## Joshua Ice



*Sconce* (2026), Sculpture, 10" x 30" x 8"

## Theophane Ingold



*Shavings Column* (2025), Wood shavings, acrylic tube, lamp parts, 5" x 15" x 5"

**Dani Krahe**



*Heat Map* (2025), Wood-fired stoneware, 4.5" x 4" x 4"

**Nancy Klotz**



*Leaves Cuff* (2015), Fine silver, sterling silver and keum boo 22kt gold, 2" x 4" x 2"

## Jin Ko



*Space Garden 1970 RetroFuturistic* (2025), Pigment digital print on canvas & film/ UV resin/pearl work, 14" x 8" x 14"

**Annaliese Levaggi**



*Ce N'est Pas Un Sein (They/Them)* 2024, Brass, surgical steel, swarovski rhinestones,  
2.5" x 2.5" x 1"

## Philip Lique



*Birdhouse* (2023), Reclaimed lumber, 12" x 18" x 1"

**Gilly Lugo**



*Musica Tipica* (2025), Ceramic and underglaze, 9" x 1" x 9"

**Christina Maile**



*Solitary Bee House Brown #1* (2023), Salvaged wood, recycled ivory, bamboo, 12" x 16" x 6"

**Anshu Malhotra**



*Collection 2 (2023), Ceramic, acrylic color, 8" x 6" x 8"*

**Tonia Marek**



*Tonia Marek Coro (2008), Wild boar tusk, coral, bronze, 9" x 8" x 1"*

**Jaqui Mejia**



*Vinyl Record Bowl Pink* (2025), Acrylic, glitter, and enamel on vinyl record bowl,  
10" x 3" x 9.5"

**Aimee Mower-Lally**



*Altered Vessel* (2025), Porcelain, 4" x 12" x 4"

**James Nazz**



*Chaos & Tranquility Coexist* (2024), Mixed, 14" x 15" x 14"

**Gerry O'Meara**



*Deconstructed Fish* (2025), Clay, 14.25" x 15.25" x 6.5"

**Meenal Raghava**



*Lazy Susan* (2025), Epoxy and Metal Leaf on Wood, 15" Diameter

**CoCo Ree Lemery**



*Daily Peel* (2026), Onion skin bio material, light, 13.5" x 15" x 13.5"

**Julie Scheyer**



*Resin Lamp Shade* (2025), Epoxy resin, 19" x 9"

**Joanne Steinhardt**



*Remnant of Love* (2025), Discarded pillow case, cross stitch thread, hanger, light,  
18" x 24" x 5"

## Laura Titor



*The Choreography of Truth* (2025), Silk art object derived from original artwork, 35" x 51"

## Carolina Trinker



*Encoded sweater* (2021), Textiles: knit, embroidery, 40" x 15"

**Tsetsilia Tsypina**



*White dress soft sculpture (2021), Cotton fabric with lycra, 40" x 40" x 40"*

**Jula Tuellmann**



*Play* (2024), Mushroom spores and wood scraps, 16" x 16" x 16"

**Lisa Urban**



*IlluminKnit - Cherry Bomb* (2025), Hand dyed, handknit yarn, stiffened with glue,  
light fixture, 12" x 12" x 12"

## Christina Ward



*Masina Omby* (2025), Assorted textiles, 5' x 7.5' x 3.5'

**Yiyi Wei**



*Untitled (Sculptural sketch of earthly beings #3)* 2025, Glass, wool, wood, aroma molecules, 9" x 5" x 5"

## Joan Wheeler



*Laundry Day Chore Coat (2024), Sewn fabric, 36" x 50" x 14"*

## Rachel Wittels



*Knotty Waffle Table Runner* (2022), Cotton, acrylic, 11" x 80"

**Blake Zucker**



*Yunomi* (2023), Porcelain, 3" x 3" x 3"



**Atlantic Gallery**, committed to supporting creative autonomy and excellence, is an artist-run gallery representing a select group of artists who cooperatively own and manage it. The gallery features the work of artist members, as well as the work of other artists, in solo, group and invitational exhibitions. The gallery is available for rental. Inquiries invited. Its innovative programming creates a forum where both participating artists and the public provide mutual support and inspiration. Founded by painters and printmakers in 1974, Atlantic Gallery migrated from Brooklyn to SoHo in 1979 and to Manhattan's Chelsea gallery district in 2007, having added photographers and sculptors to its roster of artists. In 2012, the Gallery moved to its current location in the historic Landmark Arts Building, home to many art galleries, and half a block from the High Line.





