

HILLYER
ART SPACE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

INTERNATIONAL
ARTS & ARTISTS

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What: *Linda Hesh's All Gay Review* - A Heterosexual looks at Homosexual Rights

When: February 6 – 28, 2015

Reception: Friday, February 6th, 6-9pm – During Dupont Circle's First Friday Gallery Walk

Where: Hillyer Art Space, 9 Hillyer Court NW, Washington, DC 20008 <http://www.hillyerartspace.org>

Special Events:

Valentine's Day Kissing Booth: Saturday February 14th, 1-4pm, Ms. Hesh will set up her Kissing Booth for anyone to pose kissing who they choose. The booth is covered in a red and white gingham pattern interspersed with tiny portraits of same sex couples kissing.

Artist Talk: Saturday, February 21st at 1pm

Linda Hesh's All gay Review is a show about working toward homosexual rights as seen from the perspective of a supportive heterosexual woman. Hillyer Art Space is located in the Dupont Circle neighborhood, which is considered a historic locale in the development

of American gay identity. In the 1970's homosexuals moved into the then rundown area bringing about resurgence that led to the current high rent status.

Hesh will be exhibiting several series that may not be connected visually, but via the concept of gay social issues. The “Billboards” series imagines pro-gay marriage slogans seen on signs at rallies writ large on billboards that still retain their original consumeristic visuals. “The Greeks” are photographs of Greco-Roman statues whose genitals were knocked off as a show of power by invaders. The artist has digitally restored their manhood referencing our erroneous ideas of “Greek Sex” and the homophobic's fixation on the details of gay sex acts.

There will be two interactive artworks that encourage viewers to take their own photos. “Selfie with a Gay” will have a dozen photographic busts – life size head and shoulders- that you can take a picture with. The thought behind this work is the old adage that one is less likely to be bigoted against a group if you are friends with someone in one. “Gay, Gayer, Gayest” lets Homosexuals choose which describes them for a photo. This piece is based on the idea that some straight people might feel fine around some Gays, but not those who are flamboyant.

A group of ads from Local Gay Owned Businesses compose a piece referencing how marginalized people may feel more comfortable patronizing businesses owned by like-minded people. Exhibiting their support of this exhibit are:

Miss Pixie's, Comet Ping Pong, Buck's Fishing and Camping, Modern Mobler, Home Rule, Grassroots Gourmet and Hank's Oyster Bar.

Also included will be Hesh's Wild Life Calendar which has photos of animals that exhibit same sex behaviors with descriptions and photographs of shopping at Walmart wearing a t-shirt that alternates between GAY and TRANS.

About Linda Hesh

Linda Hesh has focused her practice on social issues, whether for gallery works or public interactive artworks. Her interest in Gay Rights is based on her childhood experience of growing up with a mother whose two best friends were homosexual men and a father who was homophobic. Her work has been shown locally at the Museum of the Americas, G Fine Art and Hamiltonian Gallery. She was part of public art festivals in St. Petersburg Russia and New York City. Public Collections holding her art include the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the National Museum for Women in the Arts.

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Gallery Information

Hillyer Art Space is a contemporary gallery dedicated to serving the public with quality exhibitions and programming. Established in April 2006, Hillyer is a program of International Arts & Artists, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally. Each month Hillyer presents three solo exhibitions featuring artists from the mid-Atlantic region—particularly the DC area—as well as works by international artists. Our focus is on showing under-represented artists, both emerging and established. We are located in Dupont Circle, next to the Phillips Collection, in Washington, DC. The gallery is open Monday 12-5pm, Tuesday through Friday 12-6pm, and Saturday 12-5pm, or by appointment.

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High-resolution images available upon request