

# MONYA ROWE GALLERY

4 Rohde Avenue  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084  
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## For Immediate Release

### *Out of Place*

Larissa Bates, Natasha Bowdoin, Vera Iliatova, Giordanne Salley and Dasha Shishkin

September 25 - December 20, 2015

Opening reception: Friday, September 25, 5 - 8 PM

**Monya Rowe Gallery** is excited to announce the inaugural exhibition in our new location in downtown Saint Augustine, Florida. The gallery recently relocated from the Lower East Side in New York City, where it was located for 12 years. *Out of Place*, a group exhibition featuring **Larissa Bates, Natasha Bowdoin, Vera Iliatova, Giordanne Salley** and **Dasha Shishkin**, will open on Friday, September 25. The exhibition includes painting, collage and drawing. The work on view in *Out of Place* ambiguously explores themes surrounding displacement and spatial disorientation.

**Larissa Bates'** (b. 1981) paintings and drawings merge art history, Hermes-inspired patterns and a highly personal narrative. Exploring identity, loss and class, the works, most no larger than 12 by 9 inches, are painstakingly detailed using gouache and gold leaf and range from landscapes and still lifes to interiors and family portraits. Family and cultural identity plays a large role. How does one's background shape their identity? There is a conflicted sense of identity permeating throughout. All these intriguing facets make it so enigmatic. Bates' paintings are unabashedly ornate, vibrant and – strange. Bates received a BA from Hampshire College, MA. Her work was recently included in a group exhibition at deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Lincoln, MA. Her recent solo exhibition at Monya Rowe Gallery, NY was reviewed in *The New York Times*, among others. Bates lives and works in Boston, MA.

**Natasha Bowdoin** (b. 1986) uses an assortment of mixed media – cut paper, gouache, graphite – to meticulously construct abstractions culled from floral imagery and a collection of texts. As the artist transcribes passages from notable literary figures (for this show, Ralph Waldo Emerson's 1836 essay "Nature") the collages in turn take on a new meaning. The text grows less legible, becoming merely suggestive of language. These dense floral abstractions press sentences past their breaking point, and through the cracks something less comprehensible can be glimpsed. They are a reminder of the power, limitations, impossibilities and aspirations of language. Bowdoin reshapes and recontextualizes language through seemingly perfectly constructed collages that gleefully echo with imperfections. Bowdoin received a MFA from Tyler School of Art, PA, a BA and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate from Brandeis University, MA, and also completed studies at Slade School of Art, London. She completed a residency at The Core Program, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, TX (2008-2010) and was recently awarded a residency at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in Omaha, NE (2012). Bowdoin is a recipient of a Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant (2007). Her work has recently been exhibited in group shows at Hardesty Arts Center, Tulsa, OK; the CODA Museum, Apeldoorn, the Netherlands; and the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC. This summer Bowdoin exhibited a solo exhibition of a new site-specific installation at the Savannah College of Art and Design Museum of Art, GA. Bowdoin lives and works in Houston, TX.

**Vera Iliatova's** (b. 1975) recent paintings combine narration and abstraction while expressing a curiosity with still life painting when depicted in unusual ways with challenging perspectives. Iliatova employs the use of flowers as a metaphor for change, anticipation, decay and growth. The flower arrangements, coupled with the theatrical setting of the landscape, interconnect with the melodrama unfolding in each painting, like scenes from a film. The paintings hone in on the psychological intensity of her protagonists- teenage girls on the awkward brink of adolescence- by revealing their idiosyncratic gestures and moods. Focused on the interior self, there is a strong sense of emotional duality permeating throughout; these girls fight, console, cry, ruminate, laugh and judge. The ambiguity surrounding the characters conjures a strong sense of poetic association: nature as subjective feeling. Iliatova received a MFA in Painting/Printmaking from Yale University, CT and a BA from Brandeis University, MA. Iliatova has also undergone studies at Sorbonne University, Paris, France, completed a residency at Skowhegan School of Art, ME, and was a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Nominee in 2009. Recent group exhibitions include 68Projects, Berlin, Germany and Girls' Club, Miami, FL. Her solo exhibition at Monya Rowe Gallery earlier this year was reviewed in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and others. Iliatova lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

**Giordanne Salley's** (b. 1986) paintings depict quiet, seemingly unimportant moments: embracing a tree branch while walking through the woods, searching for fallen glasses in the ocean, gazing at the sun rise. Like a frame from a film, the paintings zoom in on cropped moments that are drawn from memory and imagination. They portray a sense of longing and reflection mixed with humor and elation. Salley received an MFA in painting from Boston University, MA in 2013 and a BFA from Anderson University, IN. She also attended the School of Art at the Chautauqua Institution in New York and received a grant from the Vermont Studio Center. Salley lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

**Dasha Shishkin**'s (b. 1977) energetic and pastel-colored drawings are windows into into a strange psychedelic world. The environment of the surreal imagery sometimes feels akin to a 19th century salon gone awry. Like James Ensor (1860-1949), the subjects are simultaneously grotesque and beautiful. It is difficult to discern exactly what IS going on in Shishkin's drawings- this mystery is part of their complicated charm. Shishkin received a MFA from Columbia University, NY. She recently had solo exhibitions at Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, CA and at the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, CA; recent group exhibitions include "Vintage Violence" at Monya Rowe Gallery and "One Torino," organized by Maurizio Cattelan, at Myriam Ben Salah, Marta Papini, Italy. Shishkin was born in Moscow, Russia and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

**Gallery hours:**

Monday - Wednesday: by appointment

Thursday – Saturday: Noon – 6PM

Sunday: Noon - 5 PM

**Upcoming:** *Pulse Miami Beach* art fair, Dec 1-5, exhibiting **Ann Toebe** and **Larissa Bates**

Image: **Giordanne Salley**, *Glasses Sinking*, 2015, oil and paper on canvas, 8 by 10 inches

For more information or images please contact the gallery at 904 217 0637 or [info@monyarowegallery.com](mailto:info@monyarowegallery.com)

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