On Belonging and the Void Between

Ronit Levin Delgado

The Kissing Wall (detail), lipstick on canvas, 96x120, 2013

July 8th - Aug 31st, 2017
Gallery Aferro Main Gallery
73 Market Street, Newark

OPENING RECEPTION
July 8th, 2017
7pm - 10pm

GALLERY HOURS
Wednesday - Saturday
12pm - 6pm
and by appointment

On Belonging and the Void Between
Curated by Asha Ganpat

This exhibition is a selection of works about the nature of belonging and a look to the vacuous and vulnerable experience of being out of place. Without a sense of belonging, we are adrift in a sea of otherness. Of the ways we may untether from familiarity, the shift in becoming an outsider can shake the foundation of our very sense of self.
Ronit Levin Delgado’s work utilizes her body and identity to critically and iron-
ically explore embodied and ecstatic states of spiritual experiences from the
ambivalent convoluted and distanced location of being a female, post-Jewish,
Israeli-diaspora artist. Levin Delgado’s process often starts with video-perfor-
mances that frequently leads to making a physical object such as paintings and
sculptures which serve as a memo or souvenir for the experience. Ronnie’s
paintings are ritualistic and performative as she explores the common ground
and diversity of ethnicities through the body - a live blending of heritage, rituals,
and beliefs.

Through the body-centric nature of her work, Ronit is dealing with and using
their culture, beliefs, traditions and rituals in a perverse, over-the-top, satiri-
cal, feminist, playful and tongue-in-cheek manner through engaging with places,
situations and people loaded with iconic and traditional associations. Ronnie
invents a maelstrom of blended rituals, fusing various fragments into actions
and objects involving desire, ritual and border-crossing. She uses feminine acts
and materials as a medium and is interested in exploring the hidden erotics
and excessive moments of erotic meaning that lie within rituals. Ronit’s works
are feminine works using feminine materials. She uses lipsticks as a way of re-
cording and kissing to create traces and marks. Her technique is a very instinc-
tual human interaction - the kiss, which represents love, obsession, dedication,
tenderness, passion, longing, unity and possessiveness… all are expressed and
explored through her technique. Through the beautiful act of kissing Ronit cre-
ates reverence and earnestness. Lipstick is the closest material that captures the
ephemera of touch. With the act of Kissing Levin Delgado kisses something into
existence, the kiss kisses itself. This connects and informs the bodily experience
that informs Ronit’s performance and the use of lipstick embodies her examina-
tion of identity through questions beliefs, traditions and inherited values.

www.ronitlevindelgado.com