Maria Driscoll McMahon: By The Time You Cut Teeth You Are Already Ancient
Curated by Evonne M. Davis

Feb 22 - Mar 28, 2020
Gallery Aferro
Eleta J. Caldwell and Rodney M. Gilbert Memorial Gallery
73 Market Street, Newark

OPENING RECEPTION
February 22nd, 2020
7pm - 10pm

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

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As of 2019, 29 million people have had their DNA tested. By the Time You Cut Teeth You Are Already Ancient by interdisciplinary installation artist Maria Driscoll McMahon, is, in part, a time-traveling, time-compressing meta-genealogical investigation that ruminates on the psycho-socio-political implications of mass DNA testing, patriarchy, loss, anemia, and other things.

National lore and mythology originating in one’s ancestral stomping grounds can inform the perceived purpose of one’s life, as “the self,” in identification and sympathy with one’s ancestors permeates boundaries of time and space. What happens when many find heroes, barbarians, princes, paupers, and sworn enemies sitting on the same branch of the family tree? How will the past inform the future?
Maria Driscoll McMahon is an interdisciplinary installation artist from upstate New York where she teaches drawing and painting on the university level. She has exhibited her work nationally and internationally and has been awarded several grants for community projects and personal work.

In addition to group exhibitions, she most recently has been awarded a residency at Uillinn West Cork Art Center in Skibbereen, Ireland, for August 2020. Frequently using the compression of time as device, Driscoll McMahon’s work has investigated the reach/overreach of science, challenged gender constructs and heteronormative white male supremacy, and explored rural and urban tensions.

*By the Time You Cut Teeth You Are Already Ancient* explores the psycho-socio-political implications of mass DNA testing.

Through a multidisciplinary practice incorporating drawing, painting, sculpture, performance, and/or animation, Driscoll McMahon hopes to compress time so hard to squish out pottery shards, striations on kerf walls, circuitry, and breath so hot it steams your sunnies.