



November 21- December 14, 2014**Opening reception: November 21st 7-10pm**
 Gallery hours: Fri- Sat 11-5pm

Platform Gallery is pleased to present *BjNGO*, on view at 116 W Mulberry Street. *BjNGO*, juried by Deana Haggag, Cara Ober, and Stewart Watson, includes work from a selected group of eighteen diverse artists. This exhibition gave an opportunity for artists from any range of experience to participate and have their work considered. *BjNGO* focuses not only the curated exhibition, but also the conversation created between each applicant, the jurors, and Platform Gallery. This exhibition, marking the six- month anniversary of Platform, applauds the range of artists working and creating in Baltimore.

BjNGO is the first of Platform’s annual juried exhibitions. We are proud to include the works of the following artists:

SASHA BASKIN
 HOLDEN BROWN
 JUNE CULP
 RYAN DOYLE
 STEVEN DUROW
 DAVE EASSA
 MARY HENDERSON
 ERIN HIGH
 JUSTIN HOEKSTRA

ESTHER HWANG
 OSKAR KALINOWSKI
 REBEKAH KIRKMAN
 ROSEMARY LISS
 MIKE MCCONNELL
 CURTIS MILLER
 CHRIS OWEN
 MELODIE PROVENZANO
 AUDREY VAN DE CASTLE

DEANA HAGGAG is the Director of The Contemporary Museum, founded by George Ciscle. Prior to her work with the museum, she was the Curator-in-Residence at Gallery CA. Deana received her MFA in Curatorial Practice from the Maryland Institute College of Art and a BA from Rutgers University in Art History and Philosophy. In addition to her work at The Contemporary, Deana curates independent exhibitions, consults on various public art initiatives, and contributes to cultural publications. She is on the board of Whoop Dee Doo, Station North Tool Library, and is a Co-Dean of the Baltimore Chapter of the Awesome Foundation. She also serves as a member of the Affiliates Board for the Museums and Society Program at Johns Hopkins University and is an active participant of the StageOne/FANS council at the Baltimore School for the Arts. Deana was named “10 People to Watch Under 30” by the Baltimore Sun in 2013.

STEWART WATSON received her BFA from The Pennsylvania State and her MFA from The University of Maryland. Her work has been featured recently in solo exhibitions at The Contemporary, and McDaniel College. Ms. Mera Rubell selected Watson's work for inclusion in exhibitions at Marianne Boesky Gallery and the WPA's 2014 Select Auction and The 2014 Sondheim Finalist Exhibition at The Walters Art Museum. Watson has received Individual Artist Grants from Maryland State Arts Council in 2011, 2007, and 2001, is the winner of the 2010 Sadat Art for Peace Prize, and is the recipient of two SNOSCARS for her work in Station North Arts and Entertainment District. She has been a finalist and is semifinalist for the 2014 Trawick Prize and 2013 Sondheim Prize. Watson is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Maryland College Park teaching sculpture and drawing, and is an Awesome Foundation Baltimore Trustee. Along with creating her own work, she is a curator, a founder and the Executive Director of Area 405 exhibition space since 2003. Ms. Watson runs the Oliver

Street Studios where over 35 artists have studio space. She lives and works in the Station North Arts and Entertainment District with her talented artist husband, James Vose, 2 Great Danes, a black cat and their remarkable 5 year old son.

CARA OBER earned an MFA in painting from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2005 and a MS in Art Education from McDaniel College in 1998. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the American University in 1996 with a BA in Fine Arts. Ober has exhibited extensively in the Baltimore/Washington region, with Solo Exhibitions at McDaniel College, Civilian Art Projects, Randall Scott Gallery, Gallery Imperato, and Flashpoint as well as numerous group shows in New York, Atlanta, Colorado, and Texas. She was a Finalist for the Bethesda Painting Awards in 2013 and won the \$2000 Second Place award in 2007. Ober was awarded an Individual Artist Grant for Painting by the Maryland State Arts Council and a Warhol Grant for Emerging Curators in 2006. From 2010-2012, Cara was the Online Arts and Culture editor at The Urbanite Magazine and wrote the "Eye to Eye" Arts Column in each monthly issue. She has published art reviews for Art Papers, ARTnews, The Journal of Surface Design, The Baltimore Sun, Baltimore Style Magazine, Baltimore City Paper, Art US Magazine, and numerous curatorial and catalogue essays. She has three pomeranians. (Photo credit: Jennifer Bishop)

PLATFORM was founded in 2014 by Lydia Pettit and Abigail Parrish on the first floor of Platform Arts Center. Functioning as a commercial gallery, Platform promises to create driving, thought-provoking shows that question the relationship between artist, curator, and community as well as providing opportunities for Baltimore and regional artists to show their work. Run by women, Platform is an open, safe space for artists to meet and collaborate with community members of any class, race, gender, or age in hopes of influencing future shows and programming. Exhibitions span from new age artists that are influential to contemporary art to curated historical investigations of art in Baltimore. Platform promises to excite audiences beyond the art community, challenge convention, create new paths, and open its doors to change.