

Bounce

October 18, 2023–January 21, 2024

Curated by Storm Ascher



Oolite Arts

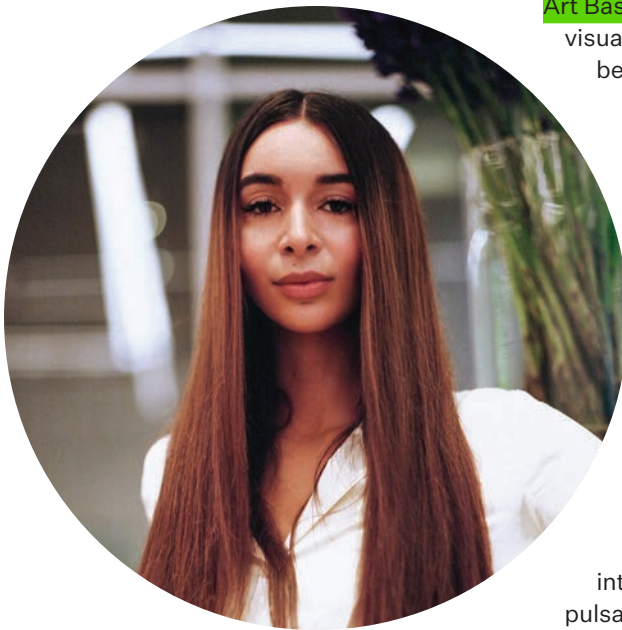
OFF THE WALL
BEHIND
SPINNING
PERCUSSION
UP & DOWN
SWAMPY
CORES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Storm Ascher	2
Roscoè B. Thické III	4
Diana Eusebio	4
Emiliana Henriquez	5
Alex Anderson	6
Maya Beverly	7
PJ Harper	8
John Rivas	9
Alejandra Moros	10
Kelly Shami	10
About Oolite	11



CURATOR, STORM FISCHER

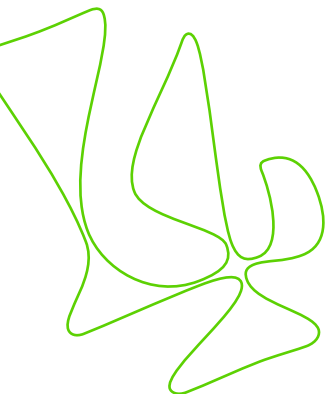


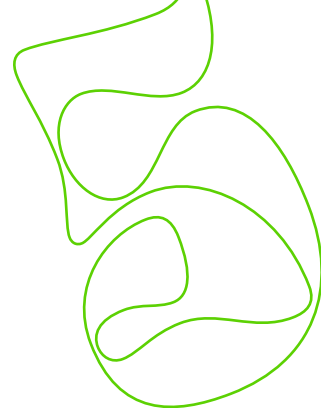
My inaugural curatorial exhibition in Miami would not be anywhere else but **Oolite Arts**, the esteemed artist residency program at the epicenter of Miami's creative pulse. Bounce is an intricate dance that arrests motion within the static confines of art, inviting contemplation and reflection, and coinciding with the renowned **Art Basel Miami Beach**. Bounce presents an enticing visual journey that celebrates the dynamic interplay between stasis and motion.

I first encountered the Oolite Residency program in 2019. When I moved to Miami Beach in 2021, I immediately became involved with the organization as a visiting curator and juror. I'm honored to bring together current and past Oolite residents and artists from my gallery program, **Superposition Gallery**.

Bounce invites viewers to delve deep into the realm of art as an expression of form and movement. At its core, this exhibition explores how **"bounce is a vibe"**—the idea that we can translate the elusive essence of movement, kinetics, and unseen inertias into tangible works of art. The theme of **"Bounce"** pulsates through the exhibition in multifaceted expressions.

Bounce also transcends borders, uniting artists from around the world to provide a global perspective on the notion of "bounce" in the context of Miami Art Week. The aesthetics of Miami are simultaneously simple and exuberant. Here, everything is infused with a hyperreal quality that defines the city's identity. **Diana Eusebio** merges photography, textile and naturally dyed installations using the native Spanish moss of the Everglades, referencing a need to bounce back to nature rather than the synthetic hues we've grown used to in Miami.





The interplay of light on skin, a recurrent motif within the exhibition, resonates vividly in the works of **Alejandra Moros** and **Emiliana Henriquez**. Moros' paintings evoke an aura of intimacy contrasted by an underlying detachment, while Henriquez's mastery of the manipulation of light conjures the notion of a hidden neon light source, elusively dancing beyond our direct gaze, reflecting the vibrancy that envelops Miami's nightlife.

Alex Anderson explores the nuances of queer relationship dynamics through his ceramic artistry. Anderson encapsulates ephemeral moments in time—a fleeting splash of water, Narcissus in introspection, or a cat poised to leap—all frozen within the confines of his chosen medium.

Transporting us to the sun-kissed shores of Miami, **PJ Harper's** *Nereid* collection celebrates the aesthetic allure of protruding, bouncing, and slippery human forms. **Maya Beverly's** artifacts explore distortion, adornment, and societal perceptions of beauty, revealing the profound yet playful role objects inherit beyond their materiality.

Kelly Sham examines the concept of adornment and its profound connection to the act of preparing oneself for a night of revelry. The recurring motif of piercings, reminiscent of Miami's vibrant club culture, finds its place among the city's lush flora and fauna.

The theme of adornment continues, as seen in **John Rivas's** evocative painting, which depicts a photo of his grandmother in a pendant encrusted with diamonds, bouncing on a gold chain around the artist's neck.

Miami native **Roscoë B. Thické III** shares his own historical family imagery, granting us a glimpse into the vibes that filled his grandmother's home. Through a creative twist, Thické transforms ordinary photographs into a semblance of speakers, echoing the resonant beats of Miami's communal music culture.

With Bounce, we extend a warm invitation to explore the interplay between form and movement, where

these artists draw us into the rhythm of Miami. Here, **"bounce is a vibe"**, resonating in every brushstroke, every tint, and every shape, as we celebrate the multifaceted beauty of the city and its dynamic art scene.

— Storm Ascher, Curator

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Storm Ascher is an artist, curator, writer and founder of Superposition Gallery. Ascher has a BFA in Visual and Critical Studies from the School of Visual Arts and an MA in Art Business from Sotheby's Institute and Claremont Graduate University. In 2018, Ascher founded her gallery as a nomadic and curatorial platform with a mission to subvert gentrification tactics used in urban development through art galleries. She worked at various galleries and institutions prior to starting her own curatorial program, including LAXART, David Lewis Gallery and Spruth Magers. Storm is a Forbes 30 Under 30 2022 Art & Style Honoree, has curated for the Eastville Museum, Southampton African American Museum, PHILLIPS Los Angeles, PHILLIPS New York and UBS Global Art. After moving to Miami Beach in 2021, Ascher became a visiting curator and juror, involved with the residents and programming at Oolite Arts.

ROSCOË B. THICKÉ III



Roscoë B. Thické III, "SUBS, MIDS & HIGHS," 2023. Mixed-media installation (Wood, speaker mesh, acrylic, Archival Fine Art Print, Hahnemühle Baryta Satin 300 gsm). 13.5 x 28.5 inches.



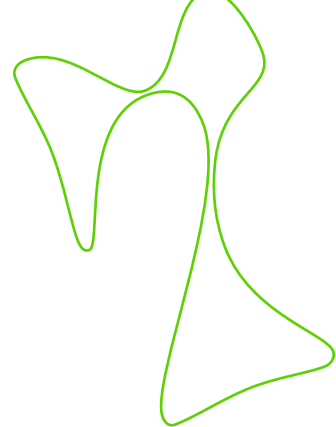
Roscoë B.

Thické III is a Miami lens-based artist. Thické's work examines themes of family, community, and intimacy through his narrative arrangements and presentation of his images. Thické's media ranges from traditional photography to experimental printing techniques and unique framing concepts, and is inspired by literature and contemporary documentary practices.

"The theme of 'Bounce' instantly conjures memories of family gatherings, those lively occasions where adults reveled in the living room while kids played in the adjacent room. Growing up in Liberty City, I draw upon these experiences to immerse viewers in that very setting. The distinctive Pork N' Bean blue hue of the mesh vividly reflects my grandmother's house's ambiance. As I remove the mesh speaker covering, I extend an invitation to viewers, granting them a glimpse into the enchanting and potent frequencies that filled my grandmother's home."



diana eusebio



Diana Eusebio is a Miami-based multidisciplinary artist. Eusebio earned a BFA in Fiber Art from the Maryland Institute College of Art. A first-generation American living at the intersection of Peruvian-Dominican heritage and Black-Latino-Indigenous culture, Eusebio draws inspiration from the intersections of identity and community. Eusebio's work is a creative exploration of processes such as natural dyeing, printing, stitching, and embellishing, fashion, photography, and textiles. Her artistic practice is rooted in diasporic traditions, storytelling, and starting conversations around inclusion, love, and solidarity



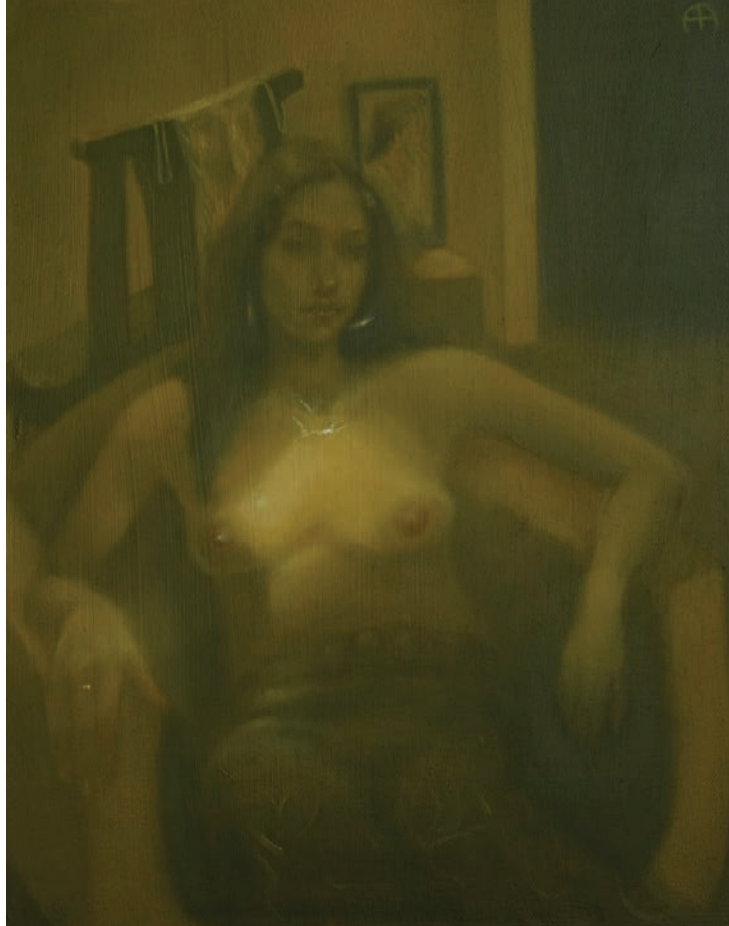
"Within the realm of my work with textiles, and the themes that I was thinking about for 'Bounce', is that connection between nature and dyes, everybody is used to synthetic dyes and hues while losing that connection to nature. It's a connection that we've had over centuries with all of the legends that I've researched when exploring these different natural elements and the traditions of using them in textiles. There's the actual thread that we've lost, the connection we've lost between nature and man. I feel like there's this disconnect and need to bounce back to nature



Diana Eusebio, "Fight or flight," 2023. Mixed-media installation (Digitally printed photography, ostrich feathers, beads on cotton fabric and watercolor paper, naturally dyed with Spanish moss and bija). 13 x 14 inches.

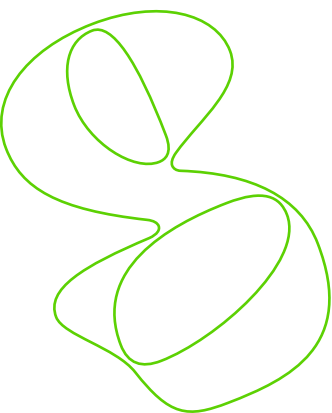
Emiliana Henriquez

Emiliana Henriquez is a Los Angeles-based artist. Henriquez is molded by a multicultural East Los Angeles upbringing amidst adversity and discovers artistic joy through assimilating new concepts and philosophical ideas. Her creations intertwine emotional connections across cultures, conjuring dream-like liminal spaces that stimulate introspection. With a focus on people of color, her vulnerable pieces draw inspiration from both classical and modern influences, employing bold hues such as lime green and deep red to evoke profound emotional responses. Her journey stands as a universal testament to unity, underscoring her community-rooted yet globally-resonant vision.



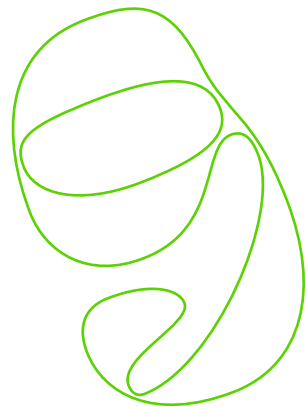
Emiliana Henriquez, "Light in levity," 2023. 11 x 14 oil on canvas.

"In my artistic exploration, I have come to recognize a delicate quality inherent in my creations, often misconstrued as motion. Although this interpretation holds true for a select few, the prevailing essence of my art resides in what I dare to perceive as evanescent recollections and internal reveries. Delving deeper into this notion, clarity emerges: memories are constructs woven from perpetual instants, inherently ephemeral. Memories manifest as a ceaseless succession of fleeting images, swiftly entering and departing the realm of consciousness. As an artist, I am privileged to forge a connection with this phenomenon, enabling me to encapsulate and immortalize these ephemeral fragments into tangible legibility."



Alex Anderson

Alex Anderson is a Los Angeles-based artist. Anderson's practice uses the delicate medium of ceramics to explore and comment on complicated issues of race and cultural representation. His works combine a subversive and seductive array of compositions, leaning into popular culture, and opulent European aesthetics. Anderson's works reflect a sense of irony, through the use of symbolism, and technical craftsmanship to create a pop-baroque aesthetic. Anderson's technique and his juxtaposition of ornate beauty, acerbic commentary, and self-reflection demonstrate a flair for both the dramatic and biting precision. His use of gold lusters, exquisite detail, and current contemporary fashion and design trends probe the depths of reality, illusion and identity.



"The word bounce is charged with energy. Creating a sense of motion, reaction, and cause and effect within static objects is one feature of my work as a way to create narratives that are metaphorical to human life. My recent work is about exploring parameters for emotions, physical feelings and psychological engagement. My works for 'Bounce' play with the meaning of the word to give literal form to what it can mean in American cultural language while seeking to evoke a sense of a kinetic action."



Alex Anderson, "Fin," 2022
Mixed-media installation
(Earthenware, glaze, lusters).
24 x 21 x 3 inches.

MAYA BEVERLY

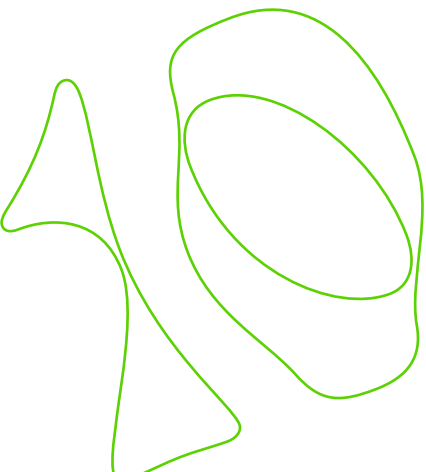
Maya Beverly is a New York-based multidisciplinary artist. Beverly earned her BFA in Studio Art from New York University in 2020. Much of Beverly's practice is informed by her interest in a wide variety of objects, from ancient artifacts to items that are culturally relevant in the present day, and their functionalities. Recurring themes of interest include the power of objects, the act of adorning, and societal expectations of beauty, distortion and manipulation. Through her practice, she seeks a comprehensive understanding of how the function of an object extends beyond its materiality and often communicates something unseen. Beverly's process involves combining material from personal archives, and other materials that are imbued with cultural history and tradition. Her work has been exhibited in the United States and internationally.



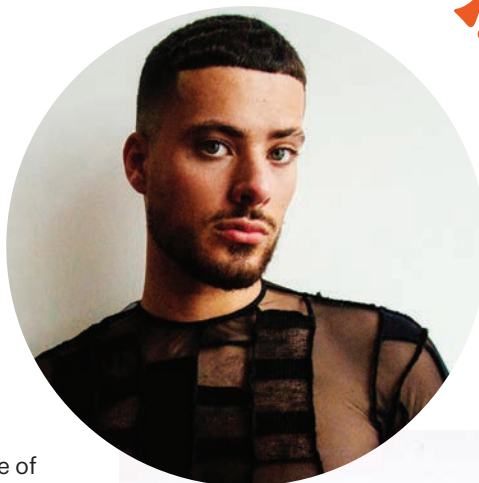
Maya Beverly, "Golden Orb," 2023.
Ceramics and Silver Leaf.
4 × 2.5 × 2.5 inches.

Maya Beverly, "Untitled," 2023.
Ceramics and Gold Leaf.
7 × 5.5 × 3 inches.

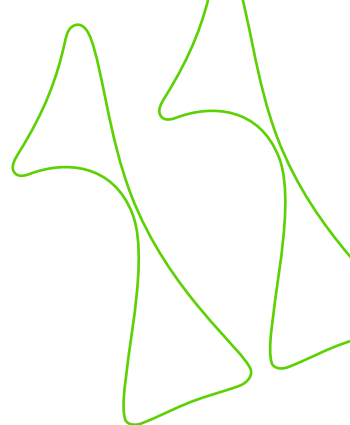
"When Storm reached out to me about this exhibition, I became interested in the energy and playfulness of the concept. I started thinking about all the ways 'Bounce' could be interpreted, and what stood out to me was light and implied movement. Experimenting with luminous colors and incorporating more play in the studio helped me channel the theme of this exhibition."



PJ Harper is a Scotland-based multi-disciplinary artist and sculptor. Harper studied Fine Art at the Glasgow School of Art. Born to a mother of Black-Caribbean heritage and a Scottish father, Harper uses his art to celebrate the Black body in its entirety. Harper's fascination with texture and the human form has culminated in a range of sculptures from busts to fuller figures, canvas paintings, photography, and digital illustrations. In his art, Harper draws inspiration from his family, in particular his grandfather Paul Wynter, a professional bodybuilder and Britain's second Black Mr. Universe title-holder. Over his career, Harper has accumulated an extensive body of polymer clay works that detail intricate renderings of the human body.



PJ Harper



"To me, 'Bounce' brings up images in my mind of curls, waves and movement, where each bounce creates fresh contact with the surface it is touching. It also makes me think of recovering after a setback and rising higher, springing up like the bounce of a ball or showing self-confidence in the bounce of your step."

PJ Harper, "Dione & Halie," 2023.
Mixed-media installation
(Hand sculpted aluminum wire,
FIMO polymer clay, acrylic paint,
sheer fabric, gold earrings, ceramic
pot, sea shells, sand and resin).
8.7 x 11.8 inches.



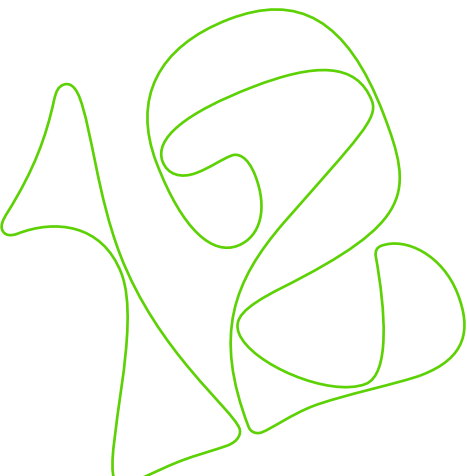


John Rivas, "Grams Rest in Paradise Chain," 2023. Mixed-media installation (Acrylic, airbrush, graphite, embroidery on burlap, gold wire, Cuban links, gold chain, leather on canvas). 24 x 20 inches.

JOHN RIVAS

John Rivas is a New Jersey-based figurative painter and artist. Rivas is a first-generation American raised in Newark, N.J. whose narrative is guided by the stories of his family, ancestors and loved ones. His artwork is enriched with tales of family members, many of whom he's met remotely or through photographs. Rivas is concerned with concepts of legacy, preserving the narratives of lost loved ones, and documenting his upbringing. Rivas' paintings occupy space like sculpture; he juxtaposes unexpected objects, many of which are sourced from his childhood, against one another in new and inventive ways. His brush strokes and rubs of charcoal are expressive marks that add to the visual collage. Each painting celebrates the concept of family and community through the lens of his Salvadoran roots.

"When I think about 'Bounce' for the theme of the show, I think about celebration. The act of coming together and sharing space, time, energy and emotions. My practice salutes my traditions, heritage, and life of myself and loved ones."



Alejandra Moros

Alejandra Moros is a Miami-based artist. Moros earned a BFA in Graphic Design from the University of Miami in 2013. Miami born-and-raised, her works reference the people and everyday objects she paints, transformed through hyperrealistic canvases based on zoomed in photographs of herself and her loved ones. Moros' works concentrate on the body and on details that are sometimes indistinguishable but capable of rendering a physical sensation, such as the gentle pressure of the touch of a hand. Moros has presented solo exhibitions with PM/AM, Spinello Projects, GARTEN Gallery, and Dale Zine. She has also participated in various group exhibitions, most recently at Commune Gallery and Roberts Projects. Moros continues to live and work in Miami, exploring themes of closeness and curiosity through her practice.



“My understanding of ‘Bounce’ is that it’ll be made up of work that’s evocative, that puts forward a feeling; work that feels like it could vibrate, or the feeling of holding something back, only to release it and experience it swing. The use of color in my work plays into that as well, creating an aesthetic reminiscent of club lighting. Like there’s music playing in the moment that the painting depicts, but that can’t be heard by the audience.”



Alejandra Moros,
“Lean To,” 2022. Oil on canvas.
8 × 10 inches.

Kelly Shami



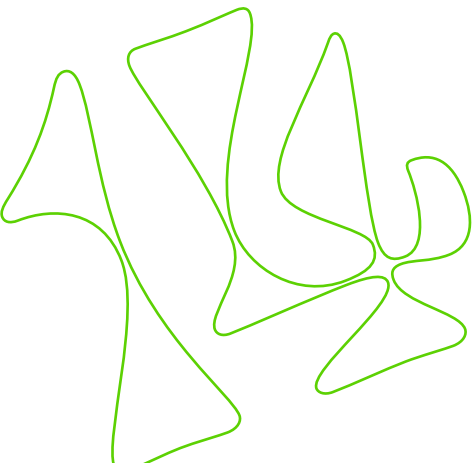
Kelly Shami is a New York-based artist. Shami earned a BFA from The School of Visual Arts in 2013. She is a first-generation American artist of Syrian and Lebanese descent who describes her subjects through a language made from an obsession with differences. Shami's intriguing paintings routinely combine

the natural and unnatural; she finds parallels between the restraints of growing up as an Arab woman to the restraints placed upon the first female Surrealists. Shami evokes complex emotionalities of liveliness and control through visuals of flowers altered with piercings. Initially delicate, these oil paintings exist as a series of complex self portraits that, through the rendered metallic surfaces of the piercings, create a mirrored effect that encourages viewers to self-reflect.



Kelly Shami, "The Day We Met,"
2019. Oil on canvas.
30 x 40 inches.

"My work is influenced by what I know best, which is myself. Whether it be emotional or experiential, I tend to protect and harness the emotions I am having as a woman in today's society. Social issues pertaining to feminism may underlie because it may be something I have dealt with first hand. I do feel what confuses or startles people the most is when a woman knows exactly what she wants. I am thankful every day to be an Arab woman."





The mission of Oolite Arts is to support artists and advance the knowledge and practice of contemporary visual arts and culture in South Florida. Oolite Arts creates opportunities for experimentation and innovation, and encourages the exchange of ideas across cultures through residencies, exhibitions, public programs, education and outreach.

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MIAMI BEACH



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