

IPTAR

Arts and Society

is happy to welcome our community back into the realm of in-person events,
with the live opening of:



@WORK

A documentary public art project by Zoe Beloff
in collaboration with Eric Muzzy

October 9th 2022, 4-6pm

Exhibition opening with wine & cheese, followed by Q&A with the artists and
a special guest Renee King, one of the participants in the @work project

Visual artist **Zoe Beloff**, the archivist of **Coney Island Amateur Psychoanalytic Society**, brings us her latest project inspired by the dedication and heroism of New York City's essential workers during the pandemic. **@WORK** is a documentary public art project celebrating the working people of New York by giving them a platform to share their thoughts about their work, their world and their dreams for the future.

For those of us who lived in the city during this trying time, we understand the degree to which the everyday heroism of essential workers helped us all survive the pandemic. The Arts & Society Committee sought out the work of an artist who focused her energies on documenting and celebrating the narratives and memorializing the images of those workers, so that they would not be forgotten. **@WORK** stands at the intersection of story and image, with emotional resonance that reminds us how interconnected we are as human beings. Arts and Society's hope is that by installing Zoe's @WORK exhibition at IPTAR Clinical Center, we can facilitate a transformative space at the intersection of the artistic, the social, the personal and the political, as a step towards a more inclusive, tolerant, open and diverse community.



“From the start we saw ourselves as facilitators. Our first step was to interview each worker. We began the conversation with the words, “we are here for you...”. Subsequently we build the interviews into short films both serious and playful that situates the subject in place and time. Each worker was invited to choose a song that energized them. The project takes on multiple forms of portraiture. We worked with fourteen participants to create short documentaries. Zoe painted life size portrait banners each one with a QR code that links to a film. The banners were the starting point for posters. The final iteration of the project will be a large-scale wall mural, at the Electrical Workers Training Center (IBEW Local #3) in Long Island City. This work is inspired by photographs of workers by Walker Evans and Alan Sekula, painted

murals by Ben Shahn and the vernacular style of fairground banners. At the same time, we wanted to take these inspirations into the twenty first century. We hope these images will travel far and inspire new oral histories.”

Zoe Beloff and Eric Muzzy

Program Curated By Tracey Simon, Natasha Kurchanova and Aneta Stojnić

IPTAR Arts and Society Committee:

Tracey Simon (chair), Annie lee Jones (co-chair), Anna Fishzon, Aneta Stojnić, Anthony Weigh, Eric Shorey, Natasha Kurchanova, Richard Reichbart

Zoe Beloff is an artist, filmmaker, writer and rootless cosmopolitan based in New York. She aims to make art that both entertains and provokes discussion. With a focus on social justice, she draws timelines between past and present to imagine a more egalitarian future. Her projects often involve a range of media including films, drawings and archival documents organized around a theme. Over the years a number of her projects have intersected with psychoanalysis including “Beyond” an interactive work that explored the it explores the paradoxes of technology, desire, and the paranormal posed since the birth of mechanical reproduction, “The Influencing Machine of Miss Natalia A.”, “Charming Augustine” both based on actual case histories, “The Coney Island Amateur Psychoanalytic Society and its Circle 1926 – 1972” and “Emotions go to Work”. Zoe’s work has been featured in international exhibitions and screenings; include the Whitney Museum Biennale, Site Santa Fe, the M HKA museum in Antwerp, the Akademie der Künste in Berlin and the Pompidou Center in Paris. However, she particularly enjoys working in alternative venues that are free and open to the community for events and conversations. These have included in New York City; The Coney Island Museum, Participant, Momenta and The James Gallery at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Eric Muzzy studied documentary filmmaking at Temple University though he started his young professional life peripatetically in a series of pursuits including factory worker, cabinet maker, house builder, deckhand and cameraman. He has worked in the film industry as well as acting as director of photography on independent films. He regularly collaborates with two New York artists, Zoe Beloff and composer and singer Shelley Hirsch. He has done theatrical lighting and multimedia visuals with Shelley and is the cinematographer on all of Zoe Beloff’s films and installations.