

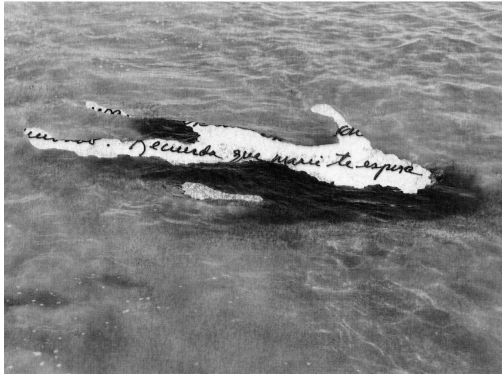


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 Contact Kimberly Rose & Bill Aquado
 Email info@enfoco.org

**EN FOCO AND THE REVIVAL ROMANESQUE ROW HOUSE
 GALLERY ANNOUNCE ITS UPCOMING EXHIBITION
 UNDER OUR FEET AS ABOVE OUR HEAD**

EN FOCO & REVIVAL ROMANESQUE ROW HOUSE GALLERY PRESENT
THE APARTMENT GALLERY SERIES

UNDER OUR FEET AS ABOVE OUR HEADS



**ON VIEW
 JUNE 8 - JULY 8, 2021
 ENFOCO.ORG**

REVIVAL ROMANESQUE ROW HOUSE GALLERY
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
 413 EAST 140TH STREET
 BRONX, NY 10454

IMAGE: NOT YET NAMED PRINTED BY MARIA DEL MAR

Under Our Feet as Above Our Head

Curated by Oscar J Rivera

Artists: Lissy Mineo-Gonzalez, Harley Ngai Grieco, and Maria Del Mar Hernández Gil de Lamadrid

Presented in collaboration with Revival Romanesque Row House Gallery, on view June 8 - July 8, 2021, on the En Foco website, www.enfoco.org.

May 19, 2021 - En Foco, in collaboration with Revival Romanesque Row House Gallery, presents the Apartment Gallery Series virtual exhibition ***Under Our Feet As Above Our Heads***. As En Foco continues to provide spaces (physical and virtual) to present and nurture BIPOC photographers, *Under Our Feet as Above our Heads*, featuring Lissy Mineo-Gonzalez, Harley Ngai Grieco, and María del Mar Hernández Gil de Lamadrid, presents an exploration into alternative processes, stepping away from the now traditional forms of image-making, and revisiting the legacies of photography. While the early adopters of photography as an artform were men, this exhibit engages with the works of three exemplary female

photographers making work that explores the themes of disaster and repair, the resilience and dependence of nature.

[Lissy Mineo-Gonzalez's](#) series *Take Only What You Need* confronts the abuse, commodification, and waste of natural resources, specifically herbs, by the Agriculture Industry. Mineo-Gonzalez mimics the process of growing herbs through the use of the Van Dyck printing process, which involves the use of ferric ammonium citrate, silver nitrate, tartaric acid to create a light-sensitive emulsion, which can then applied to a surface and exposed to light to create direct contact prints. Mineo-Gonzalez's process relies on sunlight, much like the herbs in the photographs. The Van Dyck process results in rich, warm, brown tones and an image removed from time, highlighting the impact of food waste, over-consumption, and supermarket culture.

Fragments, and *Aberration Archive* by [Harley Ngai Grieco](#), employ the use of discarded slides from institutional collections and transferred photographs and drawings on ceramic fragments and glass, explore the intersection between decorative art history, archaeological fragmentation/decay, and traditions of landscape photography. Greico focuses on the use of Eastern art objects and the visual language of Chinese export porcelain patterns to create images and photo sculptures that force the viewer to reconsider the relationship between image surface and object surface. Greico also contends with the notions and the implications of the "American Landscape," as a Chinese-American artist.

In the series *Nos veremos pronto*, [Maria Del Mar Hernández Gil de Lamadrid](#) uses letters from her mother, which narrate the experience of life in Puerto Rico, pre- and post- the devastation of Hurricane Maria in 2017. The letters were saved as keepsakes until the most recent natural events faced by the island in 2020, the earthquakes and the coronavirus pandemic. Del Mar Hernández Gil de Lamadrid explores the ideas of memory, and photography through the use of manual manipulations, and the use of the text from her mother's letters to connect back to her mother, to illustrate the delicate dance of disaster and repair that has become embedded into the cultural fabric of Puerto Rico.

The artists presented in *Under Our Feet As Above Our Heads*, create images using processes that involve the manual manipulation of chemical processes, metalworking, and archival processes to engage with the ever-changing landscape of photography, and image-making. Their works force the viewers to contend with the ideas of object vs photograph and how that influences the consumption of the materials presented. Their works reflect a common desire to connect with nature, culture, legacy, longing, and ultimately decay.

About the Artists

Lissy Mineo-Gonzalez is a Dominican-born interdisciplinary artist inspired by the juxtaposition between urbanization and the natural world. Her relationship to this friction stems from the disparate environments occupied by herself, her family, and her ancestors. Her themes explore the spectrum of eco-feminism, relationships between humans and non-human animals and plants, extinction, impermanence, and the intangibility of human consciousness. In 2020, Lissy was chosen to be an artist in residence at AlterWork Studios—in partnership with Back to the Lab NYC. In 2021, Lissy will be exhibiting her work at AlterWork Studios (Queens, NY) and Gallery Petite (Brooklyn, NY).

Harley Ngai Grieco is a Chinese American lens-based artist, born in State College, PA. She earned a BFA in photography and sculpture from The Cooper Union School of Art in 2013, receiving the Vincent J. Mielcarek Jr. Memorial Fund Prize and the Sara Cooper Hewitt Fund Prize. Harley has participated in residencies at The Bard Graduate Center, Trestle Art Space, The Vermont Studio Center, and Tiny Birch A.I.R. She was funded by the Windgate Foundation to attend workshops at UrbanGlass, The Ox-Bow School of Art, and The Penland School of Crafts, in addition to completing the AIM fellowship at The Bronx Museum in 2019. Currently, she is a Photography Technician at The Cooper Union School of Art and is based in Brooklyn, New York.

María del Mar Hernández Gil de Lamadrid is a Puerto Rican interdisciplinary artist based between Puerto Rico and Brooklyn, New York. In her practice, using photography, video, and performance, she approaches the diasporic experiences as a migrant and the representations of traumatic experiences after Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. She explores the ideas of identity, mediated representation, language, colonial history, and the artist's body transiting back and forth from the island to the mainland. She completed a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, and is a Master of Fine Arts in Photography, from Parsons School of Design, The New School. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, including Governing Bodies, Arnold and Sheila Aronson Galleries, NYC, Apparatus of Discomfort, Photoville, Brooklyn, and Yokosuka Peace Art Exhibition & International Biennial of Prints, Japan, among others. Most recently, she participated in The Spruce Art Residency in Indiana, PA and in the group exhibition *We Are Here To Serve You*, Arnold and Sheila Aronson Galleries, NYC.

About the Curator & Venue

Oscar J Rivera was born in Brooklyn, New York, studied photography at Parsons The New School for Design and is a founding member of the Poor Brown Kids Art Collective. His work covers a range of themes including personal relationships, sexuality and gender identity, as well as his quest to define his Latinidad. Rivera often creates bodies of work that incorporate found artifacts, vintage photographs, and his own work to create diaristic approaches to storytelling. He was previously a Studio Art Mentor with Studio in A School and worked within several summer programs teaching art to children in NYC public schools. Rivera received a scholarship to attend the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education to develop programming on campus at The New School. He currently is a Curator and the Exhibitions and Programs Manager with En Foco.

About Revival Romanesque Row House Gallery

"The Apartment Gallery Series holds a special place in my heart. AGS is critical in this neighborhood that is rapidly changing. We

need to make sure young artists have the space to showcase their work and have their voice heard through their pieces. This collaboration with En Foco has been very rewarding for me and I'm excited to be a part of it again for yet another year. This June, I welcome you (virtually) into The Revival Romanesque Row House Gallery to view the exhibition "*Under Our Feet As Above Our Heads.*" - **Idelsa Mendez**, owner of The Revival Romanesque Row House Gallery.

Set in a historic and architectural landmark, this group exhibition investigates and reflects on notions of home (metaphorical and literal), belonging, displacement, street life, urban renewal and gentrification, and activism. The Revival Romanesque Row House Gallery is part of The East Mott Haven Historic District. One of the oldest row house developments in The Bronx, where the row house typology is rare in comparison to other parts of the city.

The Apartment Gallery Series

The Apartment Gallery Series, now in its third year, has remained committed to providing a platform for photographers of color and their communities to come together and create new opportunities for cultural expression and exchange. AGS introduces underserved communities to high-quality arts programming through residences, converted to temporary gallery spaces. The level of accessibility has enabled local residents and beyond to engage artists of color in intimate settings not normally associated with mainstream galleries.

This exhibition is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, Ford Foundation, The Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Joy of Giving Something, Inc., and private contributions. Member of the Urban Arts Cooperative.

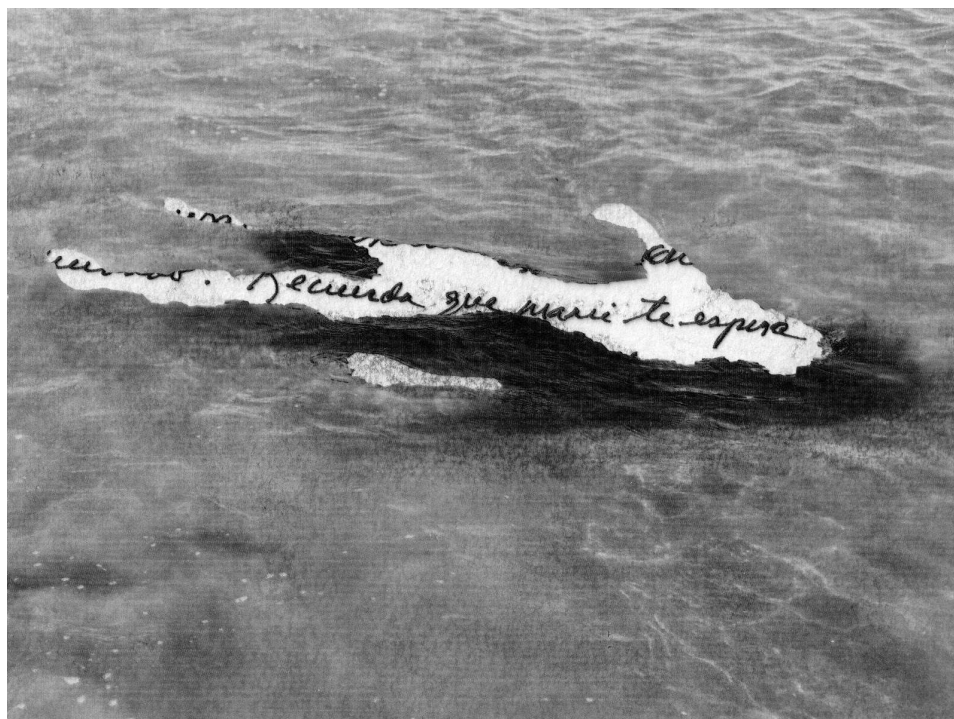


Image Credit: María del Mar Hernández Gil de Lamadrid, *Nos Veremos Pronto #7*, *Nos Veremos Pronto* series, 2020.