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Robert Fishko, *Director*

For Immediate Release

Alyssa Monks: *Plant Life*



Wane, 2020, oil on linen, 36 x 36 inches

[New York – October 10, 2020] **Forum Gallery** announces the next offering in our **Online Exhibition and Viewing Room** series, ***Alyssa Monks: Plant Life***.

Alyssa Monks: Plant Life presents seven new paintings created entirely during the Covid-19 quarantine in New York City. "We have all been 'planting ourselves' wherever we are and staying put," Monks remarks. The new paintings, with their intense but distorted color, portray the inner psychological experience of isolation for these female subjects as they interact with the "natural" world as it gets less and less certain or safe. Alyssa Monks' expression of life in these new paintings is a direct reflection of the Artist's determination to remain positive and proactive during a global pandemic that has threatened both life and emotional well-being. Antithetically, Monks' paintings celebrate the persistence of life and renewal in the natural world.

Through October 31st, ***Alyssa Monks: Plant Life*** is presented as an exclusive, cross-platform virtual exhibition that may be viewed on the Forum Gallery website, Artsy and Artnet. The Online Viewing Room, available on our website, features a new video that takes you into Alyssa Monks' studio and explores the making of these compelling new paintings.



Monks' paintings have been the subject of numerous solo and group exhibitions including "Intimacy" at the Kunst Museum in Ahlen, Germany, "Peers & Influences," at the The Bo Bartlett Center in Columbus, GA, and "Reconfiguring the Body in American Art, 1820-2009" at the National Academy Museum of Fine Arts, New York. Her work is represented in public and private collections, including the Savannah College of Art and Design Museum of Art, The Center for Contemporary Art, and the collections of Howard Tullman, Danielle Steele and Eric Fischl.

Monks has been awarded the Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant for Painting three times and was invited to give a TED talk at Indiana University in November, 2015. The artist's paintings and drawings were shown on the set of the FX series *The Americans* during the sixth and final season in 2018. Most recently, Monks was awarded a solo exhibition at The Bo Bartlett Center in Columbus, Georgia, on view from August 18, 2020 – January 8, 2021. Monks currently lives and paints in Brooklyn and is represented by Forum Gallery.

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To visit **Alyssa Monks: Plant Life**, please visit the **Forum Gallery** online viewing room exhibition at <https://viewingroom.forumgallery.com/viewing-room/alyssa-monks-plant-life>. The online exhibition begins on October 10, 2020 and will be on view through October 31, 2020.

Forum Gallery is located at 475 Park Avenue at 57th Street, New York, NY 10022. Forum Gallery is open to the public from Monday through Saturday, 10am to 5:30pm.

For press inquiries, please contact **Dan Pavsic**, 212-355-4545; dan@forumgallery.com
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