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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – AiR Studio Gallery, Westerly, RI

Myths and Realities: Shari Weschler and Elizabeth Lind

February 2nd- 26th, 2024

Opening Reception Friday February 2nd, 5-8pm

AiR is please to present its 10th Exhibition, Myths & Realities opening on Friday February 2nd. A collaboration between guest curator and January artist-in-resident Shari Weschler, a MICA graduate and Providence based artist who has paired her work alongside the stone carvings of Elizabeth Lind, an MAT graduate of RISD. Both artists work explores female worlds and form through myths and realities. They currently share a studio at The Mill at Shady Lea in North Kingstown.

Shari Weschler's work fluctuates between a more detailed realism and orderliness, to a fantastically wild and intuitive approach. The latter brings a sense of centering to her life that has been in transition for the past several years.

The intention behind her work is to express direct and raw emotions that people can connect to on a deep subconscious level. While she draws upon personal experiences, she bears witness to global issues and manipulates her medium to reveal our universal shadows through the playful inner child. The most current body of work is immediate and unplanned – colorful and assertive. She utilizes a spray bottle with water in one hand and brushes in the other, often ditching them to employ both hands ambidextrously, shifting paint with her fingertips. All of this action is channeled through music; She cannot create without it. her process is a solitary dance, channeling memories, emotions, and mythologies. Often, spending hours working and reworking a surface, only to destroy, abandon, then resurrect it in the final hour of a long day's efforts.

As a sculptor Elizabeth gravitates to the concrete presence of three-dimensional form. Exploring the sensuality and timelessness of being female in the world and atmosphere in which women live. Fascinated by ancient cultures and the endurance of myths and symbols, Elizabeth explores contemporary rites and rituals within the context of time.

The incorporation of symbols provides a unique language to express emotions, sexuality, relationships, vulnerability, and strength. Working mainly in stone she is drawn to the illumination, and transparency expressed through stone and is in love with the fluid nature of direct carving – she searches for forms under the skin of the stone's surface, working slowly and patiently towards a simple elegance.

Myths and Realities: Shari Weschler and Elizabeth Lind - February 2nd- 25th, 2024

During the Westerly First Friday Art Crawl Friday February 2nd, 2024, 5-8pm

AiR Studio Gallery hours are Thursday – Sunday 1-6pm or by appointment.

About Air Studio Gallery - Creating & Curating Contemporary Art for the Community

Opened in Dec 2023, AiR brings something fresh to the arts community in Westerly, blurring the line between gallery, studio, and something altogether new. AiR, an abbreviation of artists-in-residence, gives a peek into what owners Annie Wildey and Michael Fanelli are aiming to do with the venue. With three rooms and an abundance of space, visitors will find exhibitions that brings together artwork in surprising and inventive ways.