

National Museum of Women in the Arts debuts short documentary film series exploring artists' studios and process

In Focus: Artists at Work on view October 21, 2023, through Fall 2024



Still from "Alison Saar," from the NMWA film series "In Focus: Artists at Work"

WASHINGTON—The National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) has produced a series of eight short films highlighting the innovative and diverse practices of contemporary artists in the museum's collection. The documentary-style films will be screened throughout the year, marking the grand reopening of the museum on October 21, 2023, after a two-year renovation.

In Focus: Artists at Work features seven contemporary artists: Ambreen Butt, Sonya Clark, Colette Fu, Graciela Iturbide, Rania Matar, Delia Martin and Alison Saar, plus the legendary artist-activist group the Guerrilla Girls. The artists work across a variety of mediums, including painting, sculpture, photography, textiles, book arts and more, and were selected by NMWA's curatorial team with input from the entire museum staff.

While each film in the series can stand alone to highlight its subject, together they form an illuminating mosaic of artists at various stages of their careers whom NMWA has supported. The films profiling the Guerrilla Girls, Martin, Matar and Saar will be on view when the museum reopens on October 21. Films profiling Butt, Clark, Fu and Iturbide will debut in 2024. Each film is approximately three minutes.

Artists are shown working in their studios, giving viewers insight into their practices, perspectives and influences. In addition to interviews with the artists, the films include everyday activities and archival footage to capture each artist's unique point of view and process. The series will be on view in an immersive theater space that visitors will encounter near the museum's entrance. With this series, NMWA advances its mission of supporting contemporary women artists and educating the public about their contributions and accomplishments.

For this project, NMWA partnered with Smartyants Pictures, an Emmy Award-winning film production firm, and Art Processors, an award-winning creative technology company.

In Focus: Artists at Work is produced by the National Museum of Women in the Arts in collaboration with Smartyants Pictures and Art Processors.

The video series is generously supported by the members of NMWA. Project design is made possible through the generous support of Denise Littlefield Sobel, with additional funding provided by Jamie Gorelick and Richard Waldhorn.

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