

Staff. "Summer of Love' at Freight + Volume, New York," *Blouin ArtInfo*, 15 August 2018.

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"Summer of Love" at Freight + Volume, New York

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Freight + Volume, New York, is exhibiting a group show titled "Summer of Love" through September 5, 2018.

"Summer of Love" is a large group exhibition curated by Nick Lawrence that presents the engagements of a diverse body of 111 artists with themes of love and romance, the quandaries of relationships, and sympathetic resonances in the natural world. The exhibition is spread between the gallery's downtown (F+V) and uptown (Arts+Leisure) locations. The exhibition traverses generations and methodologies, commingling practices grounded in figuration (including Katherine Bradford, Walter Robinson, Hope Gangloff, Melissa Brown, Rebecca Morgan, Barnaby Whitfield, Lola Schnabel, Tom Sanford, Elizabeth Huey), text (including Michael Scoggins, Alex Gingrow, Cary Liebowitz, Erik den Breejen, Samuel Jablon, Becky Brown, Loren Munk), text and figuration (including David Kramer, Robert Hodge, Miriam Carothers, Karen Finley, Archie Rand & Bob Holman, Bradley Biancardi), abstraction (including Jennifer Coates, James Hyde, Kristen Schiele, Amie Cunat, Robin Kang, Erika Ranee, Lauren Luloff and Kelly Worman), and video/photography (George Jenne, Jessica Wynne, Peter Hutchinson, Rachel Portesi, RJ Supa), among many other approaches.

"Framed with a nod to 1960's utopianism (with undertones of dystopia), the works on display offer a counterpoint to our fraught age of political corruption and social tension, suggesting the palliative, redemptive power of romance and human connection," says the gallery. "Philip Pearlstein's typically visceral, pastel 70s era nudes are a welcome contribution to 'Summer of Love.' His portrayal of a melancholy, serious couple sitting in repose in lawn chairs, possibly before or after sex, fills the viewer with the ennui often accompanying carnal love. In a similar vein, Jenna Gribbon paints a nude woman smoking a cigarette from the perspective of her lover, though their entangled limbs imply intimacy and connection rather than alienation."

Then the works by Bel Fullana depict a childlike couple engaged in doggy-style outdoor sex complete with a banana, cherries and a rainbow. Karen Finley on the other hand presents irreverent still-lives of bouquets in elaborate gilded frames branded with variations of "Fuck You," turn a usual Hallmark epigraph upside down — true romance gone awry. The legendary Louise Bourgeois presents two giant, red vampirish breasts, at once either dominating or being suckled for blood, rather than milk, by a prone male figure: a variation of vagina dentata, depicting the more morbid side of codependent relationships.

The exhibition is on view through September 5, 2018, at Freight + Volume, 97 Allen St. (storefront) New York, NY 10002.