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'Twas Her Undoing Debuts in South Main Arts District

Women's History Month Group Exhibition

March 19 – April 25, 2020

Memphis, TN: Art Village Gallery is one of Memphis's leading lights for cultural arts and collaboration. Based in the **South Main Arts District**, the gallery honors Women's History Month with an exciting, provocative new exhibition. In celebration of the centennial of women's right to vote, Art Village Gallery proudly presents **'Twas Her Undoing**, a visual exploration of women and womanhood, voice and power.

Featuring original works of six local and international female artists, **'Twas Her Undoing** commemorates the vital role women have played in the suffrage movement and as vital forces in artmaking throughout history. Exploring the multiple, layered meanings behind the bilateral term, "undoing," this group exhibition features original art and installations by **Maritza Dávila, Jin Huang Powell, Yancy Villa-Calvo, Nkechi Ebubedike, Elizabeth Ekpetorson, and Christina Nicola.**

'Twas Her Undoing will kick off on Thursday, March 19, 2020 with an online viewing experience, offering a Collector's First Look and early access private view. The formal online launch to the public will occur Friday, March 20 as we remember and celebrate 100 years of women's voting rights, civic service, and courage.

Art Village Gallery is the realization of a dream to showcase **innovative, contemporary** exhibitions and experiences that foster a meaningful appreciation of our global world. The *'Twas Her Undoing* exhibition is the first exhibition the gallery is taking totally "virtual" in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Determined that the show must go on, the gallery viewed the exhibition as an important opportunity to commemorate a milestone of democracy and to explore gender inequality in the arts and other issues of equal rights for women today.

"Throughout the centuries, women have been a vital part of artmaking. Whether as creators and innovators or patrons and muses, they have been instrumental in the formation of new artistic expression," says **'Twas Her Undoing** curator and gallery director, **Sheila Urevbu.**

"At **Art Village Gallery** we recognize the inequality in the art world's comparative lack of focus on female artists, and we are working to help new, emerging collectors add more of this artwork to their personal collections. We have partnered with **Art Money** to provide interest free art loans to purchase works over \$1,000. It is a pleasure to celebrate these special local artists and to introduce dynamic international artists to Memphis. It is our hope that other local artists and art patrons will have an opportunity to connect and exchange ideas with these talented women in a welcoming setting."

About Art Village Gallery: Art Village Gallery is a contemporary fine art gallery located in the historic South Main Arts District in Memphis, TN and has the primary purpose of supporting and promoting the work of emerging international artists. Founded in 1998 by Ephraim Urevbu and currently led by Sheila Urevbu, the gallery fulfills its mission by providing lectures, panel discussions, curated dinners, and intimate gallery talks. Art Village Gallery offers a beautiful venue for local and international artists

to exhibit innovative and significant art.

About The Artists:

Maritza Dávila is Professor Emeritus at the Memphis College of Art where she was professor of fine arts and the head of printmaking. She began teaching there in 1982 and received the prestigious Klyce Family Fund Benjamin Goodman Faculty Award in 2018 for her long service to MCA. Professor Dávila has exhibited around the world and has works in collections in the United States, Europe, the Caribbean and Asia. She has received awards in the United States, Puerto Rico and France. Her work is included in collections at the National Library in Madrid, Spain; the National Library of Paris France; Taller ACE of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Museum of Art and History at the University of Puerto Rico; and the National Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., among others. She is owner of the Atabeira Press studio and has collaborated with poet Kay Lindsey and visual artist Indrani Nayar Gall from India on various art projects. She was also a visiting artist at University of Bilbao, Spain in 2011 and the School of Fine Arts of the Institute of Culture of Puerto Rico among others. Residencies include Taller ACE in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2011 and Illinois State University's Normal Editions in 2016. As part of her research, exhibitions and in the making of her work, Professor Dávila has also travelled to Spain, France, Poland, England and Japan.

Nkechi Ebubedike is a Nigerian American artist currently living in New York. She is a MA graduate from Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design, London (2011) and a BFA from the Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She studied at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France in 2005. Working across painting, sculpture, photography and installation, Nkechi Ebubedike makes material assemblages and videos, experimenting with the distortion and suspension of meaningful, culturally significant images.

Elizabeth Ekpatorson, also known as Eleez, was born in Port-Harcourt Rivers State, Nigeria in 1991. A graduate of the University of Port-Harcourt where she obtained her BA in Fine Arts and Design. Her major mediums of expression are acrylic and charcoal, and this she fuses in a contemporary style rendering of cubism and impressionism. "I get asked regularly why I choose nudes as my subjects, the answer is simple; the society tends to judge us based on our appearances, always buttressing the statement 'how you dress is how you will be addressed', and most times this makes us pass stereotypical judgements, and we fail to see the person beneath it all, we fail to see the potentials, the talents, all because we have created an impasse based on how the individual is dressed. And so in my paintings, using a combination of colour, straight and broken lines and paths, I want to strip that veil away, I want us see each person for who they are and not what they are, I want us to accept and evaluate whomsoever we meet not based on how they are apparelled but by the person within."

Christina Nicola graduated from the University of Central Florida in 2015 with a Bachelors degree in studio art, specializing in drawing and painting. Based out of Miami, she creates work that explores emotion, intimacy and the deeper undertones of humanity. Nicola uses forceful and emphatic styles of mark making in her work, employing the use of oil pastels, acrylic and oil paint, charcoal and watercolor as she believes, "the greatest aspect of art making is creating the human form by whatever means necessary."

Jin Huang Powell is a sculptor and artist in Memphis, TN. She is originally from China, where she received her BFA, Sculpture at the Department of the Central Academy of Fine Art, Beijing, China. She went on to travel to the US to continue her studies at Johnson Atelier Technical Institute of Sculpture in Mercerville, New Jersey. She later received her MFA at Memphis College of Art. In 1996, she opened the casting and fabrication bronze sculpture studio with her husband John Powell.

Yancy Villa-Calvo (B.A., B.F.A., M.B.A.) is a Hispanic Memphian whose multimedia work seeks to create awareness, provoke thought, and engage in conversation on issues of social justice, equality, and prosperity. Her work is an intertwining web of art and life. Her life experiences have influenced how she defines, makes, and experiences art. Experiences such as being born and raised in Mexico, living in Mozambique, and traveling to many countries have provided her with a cross-cultural perspective and an awareness of her place as a global citizen. A Mexican American, Yancy now calls the U.S., her own.

Venue Detail:

Art Village Gallery
410 South Main Street, Memphis, TN 38103-4441

Gallery hours: Currently closed until further notice (re: COVID-19).

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