

artpoetica

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

l'attitude: An Exhibition of Art and Poetry
GOWANUS OPEN STUDIOS EVENT
October 20-21, 2018

Artpoetica, a new project space in the Gowanus section of Brooklyn, is pleased to announce its debut exhibition, **l'attitude**, which will take place at 543 Union Street, Studio 2B, October 20-21, 2018, 12-6 pm. For this show, three artists: Nancy Lunsford, Elisabeth Munro Smith, and Jane Swavely, present artwork responding to JoAnne McFarland's poem: *My Broken French*.

My Broken French, a poem of sixty-three erotically charged French/English couplets, forms the central motif in McFarland's poetry collection *Identifying the Body*, newly released from The Word Works. The collection centers on a black woman's fight for control of her own body and desires. An excerpt:

Mon amant vivant *My living love*

Je le vois comme plein
I see him as full

Je le lèche
I lick him

Je le suce
I suck him

Je l'avale
I swallow him

Il me dévore à son tour *He devours me in turn*

Artists Lunsford, Smith, and Swavely show work that ranges from strictly representational to insistently abstract, expressing the breadth of women's hunger for agency and dominion over their own erotic expression:



Elisabeth Munro Smith: *Reliquary*



Jane Swavely: *Untitled Diptych*

JoAnne McFarland, artist, poet, curator, and founder of Artpoetica describes its mission as showcasing work that honors artistic engagement as the essential tool for breaking down barriers between groups, and increasing visibility for creative professionals and populations historically pushed to the margins of artistic discourse: women, artists of color, older artists, and those who reject commercial metrics to measure success. Future exhibitions will focus on experimental and hybrid works of high quality that explore the intersection of language and visual representation, performance, and installation.

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