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Climate Change Is Real by Kerey Kessler    Blocked by Alex Treisman

## **Exploring Guilt through Painting, Sculpture and Video In NEW Millennial Art Show at The Gallery@The Braid**

### **Eight Young Artists Express Views on Climate Change, Sexism, Gun Violence and Other Concerns in Santa Monica Gallery Show Opening May 5**

Santa Monica, CA (May 1, 2018) What's on the mind of millennial artists and what approaches do they take to express their points of view? A new group show at The Gallery @The Braid, home of Jewish Women's Theatre (JWT) in Santa Monica, answers those question through painting, map making, mixed media, collage, and animation, beginning on May 5.

The insightful gallery show, entitled *Guilty Parties*, often expresses disappointment about the failure of current generations to “do more” to bring about positive change. It uses various media to examine topics of concern such as addiction, climate change, sexism, identity, prejudice, and gun violence, among others.

The Gallery opening will take place the same night as a similarly-themed companion theatrical show. Both examine Jewish guilt from a young adult perspective and both were made possible by a two-year, \$150,000 Cutting Edge Grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles. The goal of the grant is to assist the next generation of young Jewish artists to create their own art.

Art Show curator Julie Gumpert explains, “When we set out to curate an art show to complement our *Guilty Parties* salon performance, it was hard to imagine how our guilt would manifest itself

through art. But we put out our call to artists, and the pieces that came back reflects a generation whose guilt is deep-rooted -- obvious in some art work, and poignantly subtle in others.”

Participating artists include: Veronica Dimitrov, Karey Kessler, Emily Halpern, Natalia Zofia Szaniawski, Daphna Shull, Alex Treisman, Mary Strange Blossom, and Olga Guse,

Asked to explain her interest in the *Guilty Parties* theme, Kessler asks, “How can my generation and the generations that came before me say to our children and grandchildren, “We could have done more to stop climate change. How can we not feel guilty?”

But artist Alex Treisman insists that art shouldn’t just hang on a wall, “I want each piece to initiate a conversation—internal or external,” she says.

Gallery curator Marilee Tolwin said, “This show is one of The Gallery@The Braid’s most thought-provoking. I invite millennials and everyone who came before them to take it in, see the show, and internalize the insight and the courage it expresses. Maybe it’s not too late for each of us to use our own guilt to change things around.”

The Gallery@The Braid will hold a reception beginning at 6:30pm at the Braid, home of Jewish Women’s Theatre, 2912 Colorado Avenue in Santa Monica. Many of the artists will participate in an Art Talk at 7pm that precedes opening night of the *Guilty Parties* show. There is no charge for the art show or talk, but tickets are needed to see the show. Visit [www.jewishwomenstheatre.org](http://www.jewishwomenstheatre.org) for ticket information.

### **About Jewish Women’s Theatre**

JWT, recently voted “Best Live Theatre on the Westside” by *The Argonaut*, stages and displays traditional and contemporary works and educational programming that provide a forum for the development, performance and showcasing of Jewish artistic talent. Now celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, JWT’s salon theatre of original dramatic shows, each written to a specific theme, displays the diverse and eclectic community of writers, artists and creators who comprise L.A.’s Jewish women’s community. Learn more about JWT at: [www.jewishwomenstheatre.org](http://www.jewishwomenstheatre.org).

### **About The Jewish Community Foundation**

Established in 1954, the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles manages more than \$1 billion of assets entrusted to it by over 1,300 families. The Foundation partners with donors to shape meaningful philanthropic strategies, magnify the impact of giving, and build enduring charitable legacies. Over the past 25 years, The Foundation has distributed over \$1 billion in grants to thousands of nonprofits across a diverse spectrum. [www.jewishfoundationla.org](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org)

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