

UNION HALL CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS IN DENVER WITH REUNION EXHIBITION 'THE OBSTACLE IS THE PATH'

Anniversary Party Fundraiser to be Held for the Public May 31st

(Denver, Colo.) April 23, 2024 – <u>Union Hall</u>, the non-profit arts exhibition space located inside The Coloradan in downtown Denver, is celebrating its five year anniversary this May by launching a new exhibition, <u>'The Obstacle is the Path'</u>, that features artists the gallery has worked with over the past five years. The exhibition will run from May 2 - June 1, 2024. To celebrate this major milestone, Union Hall will host a <u>Five Year Anniversary Party</u> on Friday, May 31st from 7:00-10:00 pm.

Since opening its doors in 2019, Union Hall has built a community of ambitious, aspiring new curators, artists, and creative minds that bring experimental and thought-provoking work to the city's cultural landscape. Union Hall supports artists early in their careers, not just through visibility and resources and equitable wages - all of which Union Hall provides - but by creating welcoming, collaborative environments where risk and experimentation are encouraged and by ensuring creatives are supported every step of the way.

"We have had the opportunity to work with more than 125 visual artists and 22 curators over the past five years, each one helping to make Union Hall the organization it is today," said Executive Director Emma Perez Steuer, who has been with the organization since July 2020. "Through Covid-19, and a tumultuous five years of local, national, and global change, we have persevered. In many ways we embody the theme of this exhibition, utilizing the obstacles we have faced to create positive transformation."

"The Obstacle is the Path" will open at Union Hall on Thursday, May 2, with an Opening Reception held from 6:00-8:00 pm. The exhibition seeks to highlight some of the talent and innovation of the artists and curators who have been essential to Union Hall's journey over the past five years. Curated by Union Hall's Chief Curator, Esther Hernandez, and inspired by the philosophy of Marcus Aurelius, who famously said, "What stands in the way becomes the way," the exhibition commemorates Union Hall's fifth anniversary by delving into this timeless concept. The collection of artwork seeks to explore how obstacles, challenges, and constraints serve not as barriers but as catalysts for transformation along the creative path, shedding light on the artist's journey of creation.



Artists featured in the exhibition include Chrissy Espinoza, Cory Feder, Eseosa Edebiri, Fernando Orellana, Jenna Annunziato, MaryV, Masha Sha, Nadiya Jackson, Natalie Thedford and Sarah McCormick

"On the creative journey, the path isn't neatly paved; it's more like finding your way through a maze of self discovery and obstacles," said Union Hall's Chief Curator Esther Hernandez. "As an artist, you're not handed a clear roadmap—you have to carve out your own path, discovering it as you go along. Embracing the obstacles, taking risks and facing things head on can be the most rewarding way. The work in this exhibition reveals deeper layers of this process and shows just how individual it can be."

To celebrate its growth over the past five years and to continue to impact local creatives for years to come, Union Hall is hosting a Five Year Anniversary Party on Friday, May 31st from 7:00-10:00 pm. Taking place inside the gallery space at 1750 Wewatta Street, Ste 144, the party will include drinks, dancing, and more. Early Bird Tickets for the event are available until May 15 and cost \$50. Ticket prices will then increase to \$65.

Donations can be made to support Union Hall at any time <u>through this link</u>. Donations support a wide range of accessible creative programming, including visual art exhibitions, engaging pop-up experiences, performances, and more. Union Hall also gives back to artists by paying fair and equitable wages for their work and offering resources and professional development opportunities that help provide a launchpad for their careers.

Images of 'The Obstacle is the Path' are here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bdMZoFpgPXg40lxGcSKMVn511oakPxdl?usp=drive_link

About Union Hall

Founded in 2019, Union Hall is a 501(c)(3) non-profit art space with the mission of advancing opportunities for emerging artists and curators, and showcasing exhibitions while providing enriching community-focused creative experiences. Union Hall was also created to be a cultural community partner with a multi-purpose, flexible space that welcomes interdisciplinary events of all kinds, including film screenings, live concerts, dance performances and more. Union Hall is located on the ground level of The Coloradan in Denver's Union Station neighborhood. Union Hall welcomes all ages, ethnicities, genders and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.unionhalldenver.org.