

Amy Bravo: Some Bullheaded Girls

An exhibition that confronts ancestral myths and archetypes through surreal narratives

February 25–June 6, 2025

Opening Reception:
February 25, 2025
6–8pm

Gallery Hours:
Monday–Friday
10:30am–5:30pm

The International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) is pleased to present *Amy Bravo: Some Bullheaded Girls*, the artist's first institutional solo exhibition. Through surreal, assemblage compositions, Bravo explores ideas around inheritance, memory, and biography. Fusing family history and mythology, she creates deeply personal works that question and reinterpret the stories passed on to her. The artist's paintings, drawings and sculptures take shape as symbolic portraits, invoking the psychic impact of generational conflict and connection.

Bravo's rich visual language is informed by her family's past, including her grandparents' life as cattle ranchers in Cuba, a place she is culturally tied to yet geographically distant from. In slowly unfolding, dreamlike narratives, she envisions a fictionalized bucolic Cuban landscape where queer female warriors converge with family archetypes, farm animals, and deities. Bravo's figures are presented with a profusion of motifs. References to boxing, her father's highschool sport, and rooster- and bull-headed figures symbolize defiance and stubbornness. These are traits the artist shares with the patriarchal members of her family across generations. She highlights these traits in her work as a means to move through the world with more power. For Bravo, her practice of storytelling has offered her a way to reflect on, in her words, how "machismo is inherited and alchemized into empowerment when wielded by the feminine."



Amy Bravo, *From His Rib*, 2024, canvas, acrylic, wax pastel, graphite, epoxy, thread, lace, found object and frame, 80×42 in. (203.2 × 106.68 cm). Courtesy of the artist. Photo by Cary Whittier

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This exhibition presents a group of new works made during Bravo's recent residency at ISCP. Inspired by memories of her grandparents' home, she transforms the gallery into an uncanny domestic interior. Bravo conflates past and present in these works as she points to the fragmented and imprecise nature of ancestral histories.

Born in New Jersey, Bravo is a New York-based artist from a Cuban and Italian family. She has exhibited work at Semiose Gallery, Paris; Swivel Gallery, New York; The FLAG Art Foundation, New York; and SESC Pompéia, São Paulo, among other venues. Her work will be featured in an upcoming group exhibition at the Buffalo AKG Art Museum. Bravo is a recipient of The New York Community Trust's Edward and Sally Van Lier Fund Residency at ISCP.

Amy Bravo: Some Bullheaded Girls is curated by Melinda Lang, ISCP's Director of Programs and Exhibitions. It is supported by The New York Community Trust's Edward and Sally Van Lier Fund; Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso; Hartfield Foundation;

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About ISCP:

Founded in 1994, ISCP is the fourth-largest visual arts residency program in the world and a global leader in the field of visual arts residency programs. ISCP supports the creative development of artists and curators, and promotes exchange through residencies and public programs. Housed in a former factory in Brooklyn, with 35 light-filled work studios and two galleries, ISCP organizes exhibitions, events and offsite projects, which are free and open to all, sustaining a vibrant community of contemporary art practitioners and diverse audiences. Over 2,000 artists and curators from more than 100 countries, including the United States have undertaken residencies at ISCP.

ISCP does not discriminate on the basis of disability in terms of admission, access, or employment. ISCP programs and activities are accessible to visitors with disabilities. Accommodations are made to the best of the institution's ability, depending on individual visitors' needs. To request accommodations, please contact info@iscp-nyc.org or call 718-387-2900.



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