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204 East San Antonio St, Marfa, TX 79843

(Marfa TX) RULE Gallery is pleased to present *You Must be a Special Lady, and a Very Exciting Girl*, a debut solo exhibition of new work by Katherine Simóne Reynolds. The show will open with a public reception on Saturday April 27, from 4 - 7 pm, and will be on view April 27 to June 22, 2019. RULE Gallery is located at 204 E. San Antonio St., Marfa, TX.

In *You Must be a Special Lady, and a Very Exciting Girl* artist Katherine Simóne Reynolds explores the question of how one can navigate the hyper-visibility rampant in our current world verses the desire to remain invisible. This installation-based exhibition is seeking to create a quiet place to understand the meaning and unease behind the idea of “exposure” and the violence of the gaze along with the necessary desire to be left alone to experience/process sexuality, femininity, and ancestral trauma. The narrative is told through sourced photos, video, journal entries, velvet curtains, and the color dusty rose. The materials used—candle wax, privacy glass, and tarnished beauty supply jewelry—discuss this gilded form of femininity that has been placed onto Black women for society to easily digest their existence. The show also includes books placed throughout, which viewers are invited to pick up and read. Speaking about her work, Reynolds has said, “A friend of mine once told me it was a lonely existence to be a Black woman in this world, and I knew she was right. This exhibition is not about legibility but more of an intuitive practice of gazing, staring, and perceiving.”

Katherine Simóne Reynolds practice works to physicalize emotions and experiences by constructing pieces that include portrait photography, video works, and choreography. In the process of making subtle changes to her practice she has learned that creating an environment built on intention brings the most disarming feelings to her work. Utilizing the Black body and her own personal Black experience as a place of departure has made her question her own navigation of ownership, inclusion, and authenticity within a contemporary gaze. I draw inspiration from Black glamour, the Black athlete, and the Church. Her practice generally deals in Blackness from her own perspective and she continually searches for what it means to produce “Black work.”

She received her B.A. in Dance from Webster University in Missouri and currently works and lives in St Louis. She has exhibited her work within many spaces and institutions around area including, Pulitzer Arts Foundation, Fort Gondo Compound for the Arts, Projects + Gallery, and The Luminary, where she is currently lead curator. Her works has also been exhibited nationally and internationally at the Sculpture Center in New York, The Common Field Convening Project in Miami, FL, and the Tapir Lab in Berlin, Germany among others. Additionally, Reynolds worked as a photographer for the ImPlusTanz, the largest contemporary dance festival in Europe, where she contributed to performance and photographic projects within the MUMOK, the Weltmuseum, and many other unique venues around Vienna, Austria. She was a visiting artist and performer for the Gallery Sessions at MoMA, and has spoken at The Contemporary Art Museum of Saint Louis and The Saint Louis Art Museum.

RULE Gallery, founded in 1991, has locations in Denver, CO and Marfa, TX. RULE represents emerging and mid-career contemporary artists and artist estates, with a focus on fostering investigative art practices while developing artists’ long-term careers. Outside their robust in-house exhibition schedule, RULE coordinates programming in prominent institutions and non-traditional settings, expanding community engagement with the work. In addition, the gallery actively endeavors to bring greater recognition of the region’s historic art movements to a broader audience. For more information, visit www.rulegallery.com