

WOMXN XWINDOWS

A PUBLIC EXHIBITION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Ben Thornborough, benthornborough@hauserwirth.com, 914 456 9302

Zehra Ahmed, zehra@womxninwindows.com, 401 699 4969

**Womxn in Windows Presents
AMERICAN GURL
at Hauser & Wirth Downtown Los Angeles
June 24 - July 30, 2023**



Still from 'Death Fantasy' by Kilo Kish - Courtesy of the artist.

Los Angeles (June 15, 2023) - [Womxn in Windows](#), a platform whose mission is to share the perspectives of women of color through video art, film, and performance, presents *American Gurl*, an ongoing curatorial project featuring work that explores all shades of American Dreaming. Co-curated by Zehra Zehra and Kilo Kish, *American Gurl* continues themes from Kish's musical work sharing the same title. This installment of the project will take shape as a film exhibition at Hauser & Wirth Downtown Los AngelesHaH that will present eight films by intergenerational artists with curiosity around the perspectives and nuances within the Black feminine experience and our relationships to beauty, success, freedom, and power in America.

"...the idea of the American girl is far from singular, which is why this is an ongoing curatorial project where we hope to show as many shades, nuances and perspectives of the American girl.", says **Zehra Ahmed** - founder and curator of Womxn in Windows. *American Gurl* is an exploration of pop culture, fantasy and consumerism through the lens of Americana and womanhood that aims to subvert the traditional ideas of the American Dream and reimagine them for the future.

“With these films, I am interested in exploring how we can reimagine the American Dream to include women of color along with our hopes and desires. These moving images represent the intersection of our past and present, exploring new ways of dreaming through their fusion,” said **Kilo Kish**.

This exhibition, includes: Ayanna Dozier, Ja'Tovia Gary, Kilo Kish, Savannah Leaf, LaJuné McMillian in collaboration with Marguerite Angelica Monique Hemmings, Lorna Simpson, Martine Syms and Carrie Mae Weems

The eight films presented examine the complex relationship, reception and circulation of Black bodies within popular culture, literature, spirituality, and through political and social discourse. Without offering a single answer or position, but emphasizing nuance and polyvocality, the works elucidate our relationships to beauty, success, freedom and personal power in the United States. [Read more about the filmmakers and their films.](#)

The exhibition and its complimentary performance programming are a play lab for reflection, connection and celebration from our unique perspectives, acting as mirrors to see our nation more clearly and completely.

Opening Event - Performance by Marawa, DJ Sets by Kitty Ca\$h + quinn blake
Hauser & Wirth Downtown Los Angeles
901 East 3rd Street
Los Angeles CA 90013
Saturday, June 24, 2023 | 6:00 - 9:00pm

The exhibition will kick off with an opening party on Saturday, 24 June from 6 – 9 pm. Join us in Hauser & Wirth's courtyard for a party featuring a two-part performance by Marawa and DJ sets by KittyCa\$h and quinn blake. RSVP available [HERE](#).

ABOUT WOMXN IN WINDOWS

[Womxn in Windows](#) is a platform for the perspectives of women on culture, identity and society. What started as an annual public exhibition of women-made art films in storefront windows is now on a mission to support intergenerational and cross-cultural dialogue. WxW has been regarded by the LA Times as ‘a video art show made for this moment’ and by LA Weekly as ‘an installation that challenges conventions of female representation’. Through the years WxW has shown the works of digital artists and filmmakers such as Ja'tovia Gary, Kilo Kish, Alima Lee, Christine Yuan, Yumna Al Arashi & Arshia Fatima Haq among many others. WxW was founded in 2019 by Zehra Ahmed (ZEHRA ZEHRA).

ABOUT THE CURATORS

Zehra Ahmed (ZEHRA ZEHRA) is the Founder of Womxn in Windows, a curator, and cultural producer with over a decade's experience in the art and design world. She founded WxW in 2019 to be an ever-evolving platform that presents video-based art and film when she saw a need for more women (cis, trans and non-binary inclusive) of diverse backgrounds to have opportunities to both show their work in public spaces and engage with one another.

Kish Robinson (KILO KISH) is an interdisciplinary artist and performer working in music, film, installation, performance and the written word. Kish works in a project-based format, diving into various genres and mediums to dissect her unsettled view of millennial life. Her work is characterized by existentialism, absurdity and humor, explored through popular media formats like songs and music videos.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS + FILMS

Ayanna Dozier - *Forever Your Girl*, 2022

Ja'Tovia Gary - *Quiet As It's Kept*, 2023

Kilo Kish - *Death Fantasy*, 2022

Savanah Leaf - *run*, 2023

LaJuné McMillian in collaboration with Marguerite Hemmings - *Antidote*, 2022

Lorna Simpson - *The Institute*, 2007

Martine Syms - *Kita Meditating*, 2021

Carrie Mae Weems - *Afro-Chic*, 2009 - 2010

ABOUT HAUSER & WIRTH DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

Hauser & Wirth opened its first Los Angeles location in 2016 in the heart of the burgeoning Downtown Arts District at 901 East 3rd Street. Occupying the former Globe Mills flour mill complex, Hauser & Wirth Downtown Los Angeles presents art exhibitions, events and learning activities which connect the local community in a vibrant architectural space.