

## Newest Target Gallery Exhibition Reinterprets Mythology from a Contemporary Lens

### *Mythos*

Saturday, September 19 – Sunday, October 25, 2020

Virtual Reception: Friday, October 9, 2020 | 7pm via  
[facebook.com/torpedofactory](https://www.facebook.com/torpedofactory)

**September 16, 2019– Alexandria, Va.** –The newest group exhibition in [Target Gallery](#), the contemporary exhibition space of Torpedo Factory Art Center, offers a new perspective on ancient mythologies and folklore in *Mythos*. It spotlights the impact that myth has on culture through symbolism and visuals, with each artist reimagining these ideas in a contemporary context. *Mythos opens Saturday, September 19, and remains on view through Sunday, October 25, 2020.* Torpedo Factory Art Center is located at 105 N. Union St. in Old Town Alexandria.

The exhibition features 20 artists, 13 of whom are from Virginia or the greater D.C. metropolitan area.

### Participating artists are:

Florence Alfano McEwin, Green River, WY  
**Petra Barth, Castleton, VA**  
**Ken Beerbohm, Columbia, MD**  
**Saya Behnam, Leesburg, VA**  
K. Johnson Bowles, Raleigh, NC  
**Nico Gozal, Suitland, MD**  
**Alice Kresse, Bethesda, MD**  
Kristi Kuder, Battle Lake, MN  
Rosemary Lockett, Wilmington, DE  
Virginia Maksymowicz, Philadelphia, PA  
**Cindy Packhard Richmond, Annandale, VA**  
M.A. Papanek-Miller, Chicago, IL + Becker County, MN  
**Katherine Pedrick, Washington, DC**  
**Kenneth Reed, Falls Church, VA**  
**Alessandra Ricci, Reston, VA**  
Annie Rochelle, Knoxville, TN  
**Jon-Joseph Russo, Washington, DC**  
**Michelle Simoneau, Reston, VA**  
**Judy Tallwing-McCarthy, Baltimore, MD**  
**Judith Thompson, Purcellville, VA**

Exhibition juror [Dr. Michele Greet](#) is a professor of modern art in Latin America as well as the director of the Art History Program at George Mason University.

“Works in the exhibition reimagine fairytales and magical creatures, or employ archetypes, allegories, or mythical narratives to explore personal tragedies and triumphs,” she said. “Shiva and Nike, griffins and unicorns, Medusa and Red Riding Hood occupy these walls together and speak to one another across time and culture.”

Saya Behnam’s *Talisman of Hard Days I* integrates concepts of Persian mythology and contemporary technology. Behnam depicts *Divs*, deities of chaos and disorder in Persian tradition, being stopped by talismans of contemporary technological or scientific patterns such as binary code.



Saya Behnam, *Talisman of Hard Days I*, 2020. Saffron, sacred bamboo, turquoise, lapis lazuli, ink and gold on handmade paper.



Annie Rochelle, *Europa and the Bull (The First Eurotrip)*, 2016. Watercolor, gouache, and pen on paper.

Annie Rochelle's *Europa and the Bull (The First Eurotrip)* takes a more satirical approach to the myth. In her reimagining gives power and agency back to the character of Europa, who was a victim in the original Greek myth.

M.A. Papanek-Miller makes multiple references to myth in *Preparing for Winter: Once Again the Animals Were Conscious of a Vague Uneasiness I*. Its abstract approach is reminiscent of ancient Greek tradition. The figures reference George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and nod at the idyllic myth of American agricultural life, representing a cautionary warning for political apathy.

*Mythos* is on view Saturday, September 19, through Sunday, October 25, 2020. Target Gallery hosts a virtual reception via Facebook Live on Friday, October 9, at 7 p.m, with a livestream premiere of a video tour of the exhibition by juror Dr. Michele Greet. Access it at [facebook.com/torpedofactory](https://www.facebook.com/torpedofactory). The [online catalogue](#) will go live by September 25.

Target Gallery is open Wednesday – Sunday from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. It is located in Studio 2 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, at 105 N. Union Street in Old Town Alexandria, Va. Target Gallery has a limited visitor capacity to allow for social distancing. Those who wish to visit Torpedo Factory Art Center are asked to adhere to current [Virginia Safer at Home guidelines](#), including maintaining a social distance with people from different households, wearing face coverings indoors, and frequent handwashing for 20 seconds or use of hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Private press viewings may be scheduled upon appointment.

#### About the Juror

**Dr. Michele Greet** is Professor of modern Latin American art at George Mason University and Director of the Art History program. She is also president of the Association for Latin American Art. She is the author of *Transatlantic Encounters: Latin American Artists in Paris between the Wars, 1918-1939* (Yale University Press: 2018) and *Beyond National Identity: Pictorial Indigenism as a Modernist Strategy in Andean Art, 1920-1960* (Penn State University Press: 2009). She is co-editor, with Gina McDaniel Tarver, of the anthology *Art Museums of Latin America: Structuring Representation* (Routledge: 2018). She has lectured widely on modern Latin American art and published articles in national and international journals including *Papers of Surrealism*, *Journal for Surrealism and the Americas*, *Artologie*, and *Journal of Curatorial Studies*. She has also written exhibition catalogue essays for MoMA (New York), Museu de Arte de São Paulo, El Museo del Palacio de Bellas Artes (Mexico City), Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and El Museo del Barrio.

#### About Target Gallery

Target Gallery is the contemporary exhibition space for the Torpedo Factory Art Center. The gallery promotes high standards of art by continuously exploring new ideas through a variety of visual media in a rotating schedule of national and international exhibitions. The gallery is open daily from 10 – 6 pm and until 9 pm on Thursdays. More information is available via [torpedofactory.org/target](https://torpedofactory.org/target).

#### About Torpedo Factory Art Center

Founded in 1974 in an old munitions plant, Torpedo Factory Art Center is home to the nation's largest number of publicly accessible working artist studios under one roof. The City of Alexandria manages Torpedo Factory Art Center through the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities as part of the [Office of the Arts'](#) family of programs and facilities. Just south of Washington, D.C., the Art Center overlooks the Potomac River in the Old Town section of Alexandria, Va. Each year, more than a half million national and international visitors meet and interact with more than 160 resident artists in 82 studios and seven galleries. For more information, visit [torpedofactory.org](https://torpedofactory.org) or follow the Art Center on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Pinterest](#) via @torpedofactory.

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High Resolution Images Available

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M.A. Papanek-Miller, *Preparing for Winter: Once Again the Animals Were Conscious of a Vague Uneasiness I*, 2018. Mixed media drawing, graphite, collage, and acrylic paint on paper mounted on wood.

