

*“Shakti”*

January 23 - March 8, 2014

Brand New Gallery, Milan

*Shakti is primordial cosmic energy and represents the dynamic force through which the whole universe moves.*

Shakti is the personification of the divine feminine creative power.

Brand New Gallery is pleased to present “Shakti”, an all-female collective that provides a bird’s-eye view on contemporary artistic practices adopted by emerging and established artists at an international level.

Forty years have passed since the publication of “Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?” (1974) by feminist art historian Linda Nochlin who explained how many historical circumstances – mainly the lack of access to training, exhibitions, commissions and critical forums – not genetics – have limited women’s artistic achievement. These circumstances changed quickly after World War II, and just as quickly, women have carved out positions of increasing importance in the field of visual arts. Today things have changed radically.

Conceived as a celebration of women’s role in the world of art, this exhibition is a snapshot of individual artistic practices, rather than a general statement on the subject. A comparison between different generations, with diverse styles, different approaches, and aims. Shakti does not postulate genuinely feminine art, but strives to focus on a core of substantial works to shed light on their identity-creating perspective. A dialogue in continuous evolution, characterized by a supreme female sensibility and a meticulous attention to visceral responses.

Njideka Akunyili, Alisa Baremboym, Gina Beavers, Gabriele Beveridge, Sascha Braunig, Judy Chicago, Ayan Farah, Keltie Ferris, Michelle Grabner, Joanne Greenbaum, Heather Guertin, Ella Kruglyanskaya, Larissa Lockshin, Agnes Lux, Servane Mary, Mary Ramsden, Amanda Ross-Ho, Ruby Sky Stiler, Shinique Smith, Kate Steciw, Mickalene Thomas, Patricia Treib, Wendy White, Letha Wilson, Molly Zuckerman-Hartung.