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Contact Information

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# 27<sup>th</sup> International Open

**February 28 – March 28, 2026 | Reception: Saturday, Feb. 28 | 4–7 PM**

**Artists Walkthrough: Saturday, March 28 | 2–4 PM CST**

**Juried by Nirmal Raja**



Artwork by Lydia Wickham

CHICAGO—Woman Made Gallery (WMG) proudly presents its 27th International Open, a juried exhibition showcasing work in all media by women and non-binary artists from around the world. Juror Nirmal Raja invited works that explore and push conceptual and material boundaries. Featuring 41 artists, the exhibition spans an exciting range of mediums and includes artists from across the United States, along with Canada, Europe, and Hong Kong.

*"The most fascinating aspect of an open themed exhibition like this is that it becomes a reflection of the zeitgeist. It has been an absolute pleasure to embark on a visual feast while looking at the submissions. A theme around the countless aspects connected to the body slowly coalesced as I reviewed the art. Most of the work in this exhibition articulates how the body is a site for exploring myriad themes- transience, subjectivity, identity, sexuality, pain, beauty, decay, bondage and more. It is not surprising that in this political moment of vulnerability as a nation highlighted by the fragility of the self, the body becomes a site for expression. These artists push the boundaries of materials and concepts, thoughtfully mirroring the corporeal and also the liminal in innovative and powerful ways. Thank you for the privilege of thinking about this work." -Nirmal Raja*

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## Exhibition Events

The exhibition opens with an artist reception at Woman Made Gallery, 1332 S. Halsted St. in Chicago, on Saturday, February 28, from 4 to 7 p.m.

The Closing Reception includes an Artist Walkthrough on Saturday, March 28 from 2 to 4 p.m., offering a final opportunity to meet the participating artists in person. Events at WMG are free and open to the public.

**Exhibiting Artists:** Katalina Barrera, Shweta Bist, Lauren Petrick Brooks, Amy Cannestra, Julie Carcione, Marcy Chevali, Shannon Cleere, Isabella Covert, Geornica Daniels, Jenie Gao, Lilly Handley, Fion C. Y. Hung, Andrea Jablonski, Natalie Jackson, Indira Freitas Johnson, Jori Jori, Kanishka, Yuliya Klochan, Ling-lin Ku, Xinchun Li, Lue LIKETHEHIGHWAY Khoury, Kimberly Lyle, Valerie Mann, Asia Mathis, Caroline McAuliffe, Kiki McGrath, Naomi Middelman, Kim Miller, Rebecca Oehler, Gina Lee Robbins, Emma Scarafiotti, Sandrine Schaefer, Andrea Seguraz, Rahimat Onize Shaibu, Meg Stein, Stevia Roxanne, Jessica Swank, Yidi Wang, Lydia Wickham, Isabel Zeng, Sihan Zhang

**Juror: Nirmal Raja** Nirmal Raja holds a BA in English Literature, BFA in studio art, and MFA from UW–Milwaukee, which named her "Graduate of the Decade." Her honors include the 2020 Mary L. Nohl Fellowship and 2022 Mildred L. Harpole Artists of the Year Award. Raja has exhibited nationally and internationally, with residencies at MASS MoCA, Vermont Studio Center, and Kohler. She collaborates with artists and curates exhibitions highlighting diverse cultures. Her practice explores migration's impact on women, cultural expectations across geographic boundaries, and material culture as testimony to these experiences. She is a member of Boston Sculptors Gallery and represented by Portrait Society Gallery in Milwaukee. For more information visit: <https://www.nirmalraja.com/>

**View the exhibition online:** <https://womanmade.org/27th-international-open/>

**Gallery Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 12–5 PM**

**Woman Made Gallery | <http://womanmade.org> | 312-738-0400 | [general@womanmade.org](mailto:general@womanmade.org) | 1332 S. Halsted St., Chicago, IL 60607 | Street parking; parking garage nearby**

IG: <https://www.instagram.com/womanmadegallery/> | [facebook.com/womanmadegallery.1992](https://www.facebook.com/womanmadegallery.1992)

## Statement on Organizational Neutrality

As a registered Illinois 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Woman Made Gallery is committed to its mission of supporting women and non-binary artists through inclusive and equitable programming. To maintain trust, legal compliance, and alignment with its values, WMG does not endorse or oppose political candidates or parties and refrains from promoting personal ideological or religious beliefs. All exhibitions, partnerships, and communications are guided by the gallery's mission, with a focus on artistic merit, diversity of perspective, and respectful dialogue. Staff, board members, and affiliates are expected to distinguish personal opinions from organizational positions and to use WMG's platform solely in service of its mission.

*Woman Made Gallery is supported in part by grants from [The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events](#); [The Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation](#); [The Illinois Arts Council Agency](#); a major anonymous donor; and the generosity of its members and contributors.*