

MEDIA RELEASE

Elise Rasmussen: Unbecoming

**Opens September 14th at the New Media Artspace,
Baruch College, CUNY**



Video still from *Fragment of an Imagined Place*, Elise Rasmussen, 2016.
Image courtesy of the artist.

NEW YORK, NY- September 14, 2016 – [Baruch College](#) presents *Elise Rasmussen: Unbecoming*, an exhibition of video works by Elise Rasmussen, curated by Katherine Behar, Assistant Professor of New Media Arts at Baruch College.

The show will open on September 14th, 2016 and run through November 30th, 2016 at the New Media Artspace gallery in Baruch's Library and Information Building, 151 E. 25th Street. The New Media Artspace will host a casual discussion with the artist for Baruch students on Wednesday, October 26th, from 1:30-3:30 PM in the New Media Artspace and room 415 of the Library and Information Building. Members of the public who wish to attend may RSVP to [katherine\[dot\]behar\[at\]baruch\[dot\]cuny\[dot\]edu](mailto:katherine[dot]behar[at]baruch[dot]cuny[dot]edu). A public artist lecture and closing reception will be held on Wednesday, November 30th, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, at the Baruch Performing Arts Center's Engleman Recital Hall.

Elise Rasmussen: Unbecoming

It is said that we become who we are by internalizing the stories we tell ourselves. Elise Rasmussen's artworks tell poetic yet unsettling stories about canonical episodes of cultural history. Her contemporary feminist retellings disrupt and reimagine the "unbecoming" meanings buried in established events, unmasking hidden voices, and unraveling tired

logics. *Elise Rasmussen: Unbecoming* presents four video works that engage a range of sources: Surrealism, Sophocles' *Antigone*, Modern Art, and the legacy of the heroic Earthworks artist Robert Smithson. In each, Rasmussen exposes how works that are typically regarded as politically utopic (Modernism, Earthworks) or moral (Surrealism, *Antigone*) nevertheless reiterate a patriarchal framing of history. Often unearthing feminine strength and resistance, she plays against conventions of so-called "unbecoming conduct" that decree what is socially permissible behavior.

* * * * *

Elise Rasmussen received her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago on a Merit Scholarship (2007) and her BFA with Honours from Ryerson University (2004). Elise is represented by ESP | Erin Stump Projects in Toronto, and her work has been exhibited, performed and screened at international venues including the Brooklyn Museum, CCS Bard Hessel Museum (Annandale-on-Hudson), Pioneer Works (NY), Night Gallery (LA), Standpoint Gallery (London), Werkschauhalle (Leipzig), ThreeWalls (Chicago), Dazibao (Montreal), TPW (Toronto), Gallery 101 (Ottawa), TRUCK Contemporary Art in Calgary and the Irish Museum of Modern Art (Dublin) where she was a recent artist in residence. She has been written about in publications such as *Art in America*, *BOMB Magazine*, and the *New Inquiry* and she has lectured at Parsons The New School (NY), School of Visual Arts (NY), OCAD University (Toronto), the Gene Siskel Film Center (Chicago), IADT (Dublin) and Kuvataideakatemia (Helsinki). Elise was a recent Fellow of the Art & Law Program in New York and is an artist in residence at the Nirox Foundation in South Africa this Fall. Originally from Edmonton, Canada, Elise is based in Brooklyn, NY.

* * * * *

Elise Rasmussen: Unbecoming is curated by Katherine Behar, Assistant Professor in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts in the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College. The exhibition is made possible by support from the Baruch Computing and Technology Center (BCTC) and the Newman Library.

Gallery Location: New Media Artspace at Baruch College, Library and Information Building, 151 E. 25th Street, New York, NY 10010

Gallery Hours: The New Media Artspace is open to the CUNY community during regular library hours. Members of the public may request access to the New Media Artspace at the security desk at the second floor entrance to the library. For this week's public hours, please check the gallery website: www.newmediartspace.info or dial a docent at 626-312-1664.

The New Media Artspace is a teaching exhibition space in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts at Baruch College, CUNY. Housed in the Newman Library, the New Media Artspace showcases curated experimental media and interdisciplinary artworks by international artists, students, alumni, and faculty.

About Baruch College:

[Baruch College](http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/) is a senior college in the [City University of New York \(CUNY\)](http://www.cuny.edu/) with a total enrollment of more than 17,000 students, who represent 160 countries and speak more than 100 languages. Ranked among the top 15% of U.S. colleges and the No. 4 public regional university, Baruch College is regularly recognized as among the most ethnically diverse colleges in the country. As a public institution with a tradition of academic excellence, Baruch College offers accessibility and opportunity for students from every corner of New York City and from around the world. For more about Baruch College, go to <http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/>.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Manny Romero, (646) 660-6141, manuel.romero@baruch.cuny.edu

Celene McDermott, (646) 660-6134, celene.mcdermott@baruch.cuny.edu