

Rachel Harrison & Carol Rama

Fergus McCaffrey St. Barth
December 30, 2020 – February 27, 2021

We are pleased to present *Rachel Harrison & Carol Rama* at the gallery's St. Barth location, on-view December 30th through February 27th, 2021.

Exhibiting together for the first time, the kinship between Harrison's and Rama's material sensibilities and singular, unorthodox process become apparent in the intimate environment of Grand Fond, on the wilder side of this culturally historic destination.



Two powerhouses of unbridled artifice, share a broad vernacular and linguistic style—found materials, readymades, applied content—that navigates form and narrative simultaneously, while making room for outside experience and enlightenment.

Carol Rama (1918–2015), the self-taught, impenetrable outsider, made use of such materials as glass eyes, medical syringes, animal claws, metal scraps, and decorative beads to create intensely visceral and uncanny works on paper and board. In 1970, with the introduction of rubber into this vernacular, the material would come to dominate her practice for the next decade, resulting in two of the works featured in this exhibition. The stark geometric forms and color tones, limited to a range of black and flesh-colored rubber, lend the work a minimalist and industrial aura, all the while hailing back to personal, traumatic reference.

Rachel Harrison's (b. 1966) collaborative, inclusive insubordination mines popular culture without diminishing it, sculpting with available, cheap and accessible materials to create generous and confounding objects that are more like visual treasure hunts than easy answers to hard questions. *Before You Have To* (2018) has the scale of a human figure, topped with a slogan quipped trucker hat—a chassis made up of crude furniture, a plastic armored knight and porcelain animals, polyester shorts and spray-paint. The humor and congestion of the physical presence masks a lingering impression of grace surrendering to form, directed by the corporeal construct of the shape of the sculpture.



The conversation between the two artists Fergus McCaffrey presents is philosophically transactional. It is an opportunity to consider the kind of dialogue that takes place in real time, by seeing a sculpture by one, and bricolages by another, alongside for a moment in time.

About Fergus McCaffrey

Founded in 2006, Fergus McCaffrey represents an increasingly global group of post-war and contemporary artists from the United States, Europe, and Japan. For over a decade, the gallery has developed a multifaceted program, representing over 24 artists and estates worldwide. Internationally recognized for its promotion of postwar Japanese and seminal western artists, Fergus McCaffrey has locations in New York, Tokyo, and St. Barth. In March 2020, the gallery launched its fully virtual, fourth location, FM Virtual, accessible 24 hours a day on fergusmccaffrey.com.

Gallery Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:30am – 12:30pm or By Appointment

To schedule a viewing, please contact:

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For press inquiries, please contact:

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Images:

1. Carol Rama, *Spazio anche piu che tempo*, 1970. Rubber, acrylic and copper wire on canvas, 39 3/8 x 47 1/4 inches (100 x 120 cm) © Archivio Carol Rama, Torino
2. Rachel Harrison, *Before You Have To*, 2018 (detail). Wood, cement, polystyrene, acrylic, enamel, glass, figurines, plastic putty knife, mesh shorts, hat, log, and stool, 47 x 47 x 33 inches (119.4 x 119.4 x 83.8 cm) © Rachel Harrison; Courtesy the artist and Greene Naftali, New York; Photo: Tim Nighswander/IMAGING4ART