

In conjunction with our current exhibition, ***Almost Home: Between Staying and Leaving a Phantom Land*** curated by Shlomit Dror, Dorsky Gallery Curatorial Programs is pleased to present:

## Place, Home, Identity

A Panel Discussion moderated by Shlomit Dror with presentations by artists Keren Benbenisty, Claudia Joskowicz and Esperanza Mayobre

SEATING IS LIMITED | RSVP 718-937-6317 or [rsvp@dorsky.org](mailto:rsvp@dorsky.org)

The panel of three artists from *Almost Home* will explore the concepts of home, place and identity in the context of international migration. These themes figure prominently in the works of these artists, all immigrants themselves. Panelists will discuss how the experience of migration informs their work—the tension between being a native and being an outsider; between living in one place, yet simultaneously identifying with a different cultural background; the desire to blend in and the imperative to honor one's roots.



**Keren Benbenisty**  
*Mare Nostrum*, 2016-2017

**Keren Benbenisty** (b. Israel) moved to Paris in 1998 where she graduated with honors from the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris in 2004. Benbenisty attended the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles in 2003, as part of an exchange program. In 2009, she was a resident at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. She has been a resident of New York since 2011. Benbenisty has participated in the ISCP (International Studio & Curatorial Program) in Brooklyn. Her work has been exhibited internationally in group and solo exhibitions, in Europe, the Middle-East and the U.S.

**Shlomit Dror** is a curator working in Greater New York. She has organized group exhibitions including, *In Her Eyes: Women Behind and in Front of the Camera*, (Newark Museum, 2012), *F. Il in the Bl nk*, (NARS Foundation, 2013), *Ready or Not: 2014 New Jersey Arts Annual*, (Newark Museum, 2014), *Seeing through Abstraction*, (Residency Unlimited, 2015), *Story of A Story*, (Smack Mellon, 2015), *Esther Naor: The Object is Present*, (A.I.R. Gallery, 2015), and *Partner in Crime*, (Paul Robeson Galleries, Rutgers University, 2016). Dror held the positions as the Consulting Curator of American Art at the Newark Museum, Curatorial Assistant at the 2011 Inchoen Women Artists Biennale, and has also been at El Museo del Barrio, Félix González-Torres Foundation and the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. Her writings have been published in catalogues for the Newark Museum, CUE Art Foundation, Point of Contact Gallery, as well as online essays. She was a guest juror at Fresh Paint Art Fair in Tel Aviv, Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, City Without Walls among others, and has served as a visiting critic at Residency Unlimited, NARS Foundation, The Wassaic Project, Wave Hill Visual Arts Program and the Elizabeth Foundation. Dror received an MA in Museum Studies from New York University and a BA in Art History and Latin American Studies from Bard College. She also took part in Independent Curators International's (ICI) Curatorial Intensive program.

**Claudia Joskowicz** (Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia) lives and works in New York and Santa Cruz. She received an MFA of New York University in 2000. Her work has been shown at the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Cartier Fondation pour l'Art Contemporain in Paris, The Roskilde Museum of Contemporary Art in Denmark, the 10th Sharjah Biennial, 29th Sao Paulo Biennial, 10th Havana Biennial, the 17th and 18th Videobrasil festivals of Sao Paulo, the Slought Foundation of Philadelphia, and LABoral Center for Art and Industrial Creation in Gijón, Spain, among others. Selected awards from the Cisneros Fontanals Foundation of Miami, Guggenheim Foundation, New York Foundation for the Arts, Fulbright Fellowship, and residencies at Sacatar Institute (Brazil), Lower Manhattan Culture Council and Bronx Museum of the Arts (NY).

**Esperanza Mayobre** is a Brooklyn-based Venezuelan artist. She grew up in Venezuela during the oil boom, and was raised between Caracas and Golindano. She holds a degree in cabinetmaking from the IACT in Caricuao and a Diploma in Fine Arts from the Museum School in Boston. Her current projects include a talk at Espacio Mercantil in Caracas, Venezuela and an upcoming solo exhibition at the Westchester Community College. She is the recipient of the Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship for investigating the collection of the National Air and Space Museum in Washington D.C., a Jerome Foundation travel grant for a Brancusi pilgrimage in Romania. Mayobre has been a resident at the Lower East Side Printshop, Smack Mellon Studio Program, the LMCC Workspace Residency, and a fellow at the Skowhegan School of Painting. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, the Bronx Museum, the Jersey City Museum, MIT Cava, Art Museum of the Americas, Washington D.C., the Contemporary Museum of El Salvador, the Incheon Biennial, Korea, el Centro Cultural Chacao, Venezuela, the New York Art Book Fair at MoMA/PS1, Hallwalls, among others. Her work has been reviewed in *Bomb*, *ArtVoice*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *The New York Times*, *Artnet*, *El Nacional*, *Arte al Dia* and *Artforum*.



**Esperanza Mayobre** *Welcome to the Yunaited Estai*, 2012

For more information about *Almost Home: Between Staying and Leaving a Phantom Land*, please visit [www.dorsky.org](http://www.dorsky.org) to download the PDF version of the brochure containing the curator's essay.



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