

# HG Contemporary

HG Contemporary presents Laura Kimpton's first New York solo exhibition,  
"If WORDS could SPEAK"

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527 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York

May 4 – May 31, 2017

NEW YORK – HG Contemporary Gallery of the Chelsea neighborhood in Manhattan is proud to announce a solo exhibition by multimedia artist Laura Kimpton May 4th through May 31st, 2017. "If WORDS could SPEAK," the title of the exhibition, considers the multivalent interpretations of words in text, speech, and sculpture, as they gain increasing importance through technology. The exhibition will include Kimpton's *Monumental Words* sculptures, in-gallery production, an installation of monkey-busts wearing the artist's jewelry, and mixed media two-dimensional works. Kimpton will activate the exhibition with performances and on-site art making.

"Laura's pieces stand alone and have an incomparable impact on all who experience them. Her art spreads positivity and encourages expression of self that Laura herself lives by in all aspects of her personality and work," says Philippe Hoerle-Guggenheim, founder and director of HG Contemporary.

Kimpton will debut a new series of *Wordsearch* pieces, which are composed of colorful salvaged metal letters from Indonesia. The three-dimensional tableaus, adorned by Kimpton's birds, will engage viewers in the word play. Also on view will be Kimpton's mixed media works including *The Way Women Do It*, *Her Words*, and the artist's self-portraits as birds. The pieces combine elements in an assemblage style reminiscent of Rauschenberg.

Kimpton explains, "We give words so much importance in our lives and relationships, but when I create art using words I make them even more powerful. Then they do speak...they come alive." The artist, who is dyslexic, fully understands the power that words hold and regains control of them through her sculptural works.

During the opening, a six foot gold *Monumental Word, EGO*, composed of plaster trophies and religious relics was smashed by Philippe, Laura and gallery-goers in a cathartic performance during the Opening Reception. The debris of the sculpture remains in the main gallery space while a smaller, three foot golden *EGO* has been placed in its wake.

*Rainbow LOVE*, also from the same series, but made in multi-hued steel cut out in Kimpton's signature bird pattern, will be on view as well as a photograph of *MAGIC* by long-time collaborating photographer Peter Ruprecht.

The California-based artist will be present during the first two weeks of the exhibition to create new works in the gallery that will be added to the installation. In one of the gallery's front rooms, there will be a "green-room" to house the artist's creations while in New York.

The exhibition will also include an installation of over a hundred monkey busts wearing Kimpton's jewelry in a room lined with shelves. The monkeys will be in pairs, one wearing "BE" with its partner wearing "ART," "KIND," or "LOVE" among other phrases in an alternating pattern. A 16-foot monkey sculpture wearing "BE ART" necklaces was outside the gallery during the opening.

About Laura Kimpton:

Laura Kimpton is a California-based, American contemporary artist whose work consists of painting, mixed-media installations, and sculpture. Her creativity stems from a desire to question traditional views on social interaction, therefore invoking through her art a reaction from her viewers that ultimately completes her projects. She is continually exploring new mediums in her search for revelatory communication. Her raw and original work uses photography, found objects, televisions, paint, and resin-fusing objects of history to convey a very personal message. <http://laurakimpton.com/>

About HG Contemporary:

In 2014, Philippe Hoerle-Guggenheim founded the HG Contemporary Gallery, which specializes in bold, process-oriented work by emerging and established artists. HG Contemporary is committed to developing its international program as a modern and contemporary art gallery by presenting ambitious and diverse exhibitions that emphasize both aesthetics and concept. The HG Contemporary Gallery opened its inaugural show with an exhibition by acclaimed street artist RETNA, known for his unique calligraphic script that he created through composing different aspects of language into one all his own. Other gallery exhibitions have featured work by artists Stuart McAlpine Miller, Jason Dussault, and Massimo Agostinelli. [www.hgcontemporary.com](http://www.hgcontemporary.com)

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527 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York 10011

212 - 366 - 4490

[info@hgcontemporary.com](mailto:info@hgcontemporary.com)

[www.hgcontemporary.com](http://www.hgcontemporary.com)

PRESS CONTACT:

John Weiss

Co-Founder & Co-CEO

CURICH|WEISS

(M): 203.536.3073

[John@curichweiss.com](mailto:John@curichweiss.com)

[www.curichweiss.com](http://www.curichweiss.com)