



GROUND FLOOR
CONTEMPORARY

Ground Floor Contemporary is pleased to present *I Offer This*, an exhibition of new works by member artists **Patty B. Driscoll**, **Catharine Friend**, and **Leah Karol**. The artworks define the personal threads from each artist exploring the meaning of historical female subjects traditionally celebrated and canonized within the framework of a patriarchal culture.

Join us for the Opening Reception on Thursday, February 7 from 5 – 7:30 pm.

The gallery is open on the following Sundays, Feb. 10, 17, 24 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm and will include the following event:

February 10 2 pm Artist talks

February 24 2 pm Reflections on Art Basel 2018: Lisa Mani, Melanie Grinney, Patty B. Driscoll

Inspired by the plight of St. Agatha of Sicily (a patron saint of rape victims martyred in 251 A.D.), **Patty B. Driscoll's** work represents the targets of unwanted attention while taking on the form of breastplates, armor, and decorative patterns of the victim's dress.

Catharine Friend presents a series of paintings celebrating early 20th Century women who excelled in notable pursuits transcending gender and race to become icons of female strength: Amelia Earhart, Marian Anderson, the women of Bletchley, and the symbolic 'Rosie the Riveter'.

A reverential portrait study inspired by early canonized female saints (e.g. St. Joan of Arc and St. Hildegard of Bingen), **Leah Karol's** photographic work aims to celebrate these figures while sparking the imagination and opening up anew our historical, religious, and patriarchal views for reconsideration in light of modern culture.

Patty B. Driscoll received her MFA from the California College of Arts after completing her undergraduate work in Studio Art and Art History at Skidmore College. Driscoll lives and works in her hometown of Birmingham, AL and is represented by Canary Gallery.

Catharine Friend received her BA in French and Art History from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA. For the past twenty years she has studied under such Birmingham notables as Mark Carder, John Lonergran, and Barbara Evans, and continues to take art workshops throughout the country. She is represented by Arceneaux Gallery.

Leah Karol is a fine arts photographer living and working in Birmingham, AL. She received her BFA from Auburn University in theatrical performance and began her own photographic journey over 20 years ago, honing her craft to become an award-winning local artist.

Ground Floor Contemporary is a cooperative art gallery committed to promoting and expanding the visual arts scene in the greater Birmingham area. The gallery space is open to the public from 1pm to 4pm on Sundays and by appointment. It is located at **111 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd S, Birmingham, AL 35233.**

Please visit <http://groundfloorcontemporary.com> for more information.