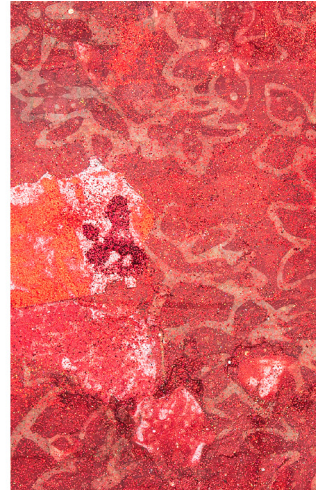
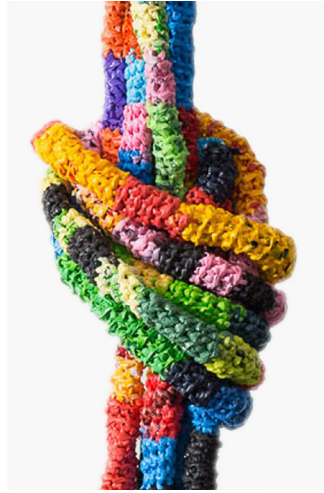


MINDFUL PRACTICES
Susan Newmark Antonia Perez
curated by Susan Newmark

Opening Reception Friday, January 6, 2017 from 6 - 8 pm



The Cluster Gallery is pleased to present **Mindful Practices**, a two person exhibition of mixed media collages by *Susan Newmark*, and crocheted wall hangings and sculpture from plastic bags by *Antonia Perez*. In the tradition of artists choosing artists for exhibitions, Newmark has "long sensed an affinity with Perez as they work in a common additive process and practice a meditative mindful approach to art making. *"Mindfulness", as defined by the neurologist John Kabat-Zinn, "is awareness that arises through paying attention, on purpose, in the moment, non-judgmentally... it is about knowing what is in your mind"*. And although the artist's materials and techniques vary, they both use the detritus of our culture to accumulate layers of details, density, repetition with variation, and welcome surprises as an invitations for discovery. Weaving and collage were perfected by women of earlier times who worked in the home making rugs, doilies, tablecloths and family scrapbooks, and it's a reaffirmation of those traditions that these important forms are being redefined and transformed by contemporary artists.

Antonia Perez has recently exhibited at El Museo del Barrio, the Childrens Museum of Art & Storytelling, No Longer Empty, Cuchifritos Gallery, and a number of Bushwick art spaces. She is a gifted teaching artist who has worked with children, teenagers and elders for many NYC arts organizations. Susan Newmark's work has been seen in solo exhibits at Figureworks Gallery and in group shows at the Brooklyn Museum, the Parrish Museum, the Center for Book Arts, Southampton Arts Center and the Carter Burden Gallery. She was the Director of Visual Arts at Abrons Arts Center Henry Street Settlement and has curated many group and solo exhibitions. She has been a novice student of Buddhism for the past two years.

The exhibition will open on **January 6th, and on view through January 28, 2017**, with an opening for the public on **Friday, January 6th , from 6 to 8 pm.**

The Cluster Gallery is an artist owned and directed space located in the Gowanus section of Brooklyn.

A part of the Brooklyn Art Cluster, which includes artist studios and an artist residency program, its curatorial program is international in scope and focuses on the contemporary arts.