Press Release

Blue Mountain Gallery

Elizabeth Bisbing

Near & Dear: collage, drawing, painting

September 2-27, 2025



Blue Mountain Gallery is pleased to present the work of Elizabeth Bisbing in *Near & Dear* an exhibition of collages, drawings, and painting.

This body of work explores the domestic as both sanctuary and constraint—a space where identity is shaped through the architecture of memory. Created between a **compact apartment in New York City** (near) and a **cottage on villa Il Palmerino in Florence**, (dear). The work is informed by two vastly different environments. Near can refer to closeness in distance as well as feelings. Dear is something or someone that is treasured. Il Palmerino is a cultural residence where artists, writer, musicians, etc. can enjoy both the quiet and the company. It's a place that nurtures creativity.

Floral and botanical motifs appear throughout from the lush New York Botanical Garden in NYC and the bountiful gardens of Palmerino as drawings and paintings.

These contrasting abodes influence how Bisbing thinks about space—not only as something lived in, but as something that lives in us. Creating collages through paper painted in gouache, she builds layered compositions that sit at the intersection of coziness and containment. Intimacy and pressure. Pattern is used as a means of crowding the spaces and to invoke the idea of horror vacui (a term in art that is associated with outsider art). This concept is also apparent in the scribbly ink botanical drawings.

Elizabeth Bisbing (b. 1958, Philadelphia, PA) exhibits paintings, drawings, collages, animations and videos. Recently in 2020 she participated in *Art Virus 2020* in South Korea as well as a *The Garzoni Challenge* a virtual exhibition in conjunction with '*The Greatness of the Universe in the Art of Giovanna Garzoni*' at the Pitti Palace in Florence, Italy. In the spring of 2014, she showed "The Metamorphosis" (an animation) in the *Half the Sky: Intersections in Social Practice Art Cultural Exchange and Exhibition* in Shenyang, China. Bisbing participated *in The Veil: Visible & Invisible Spaces*, an exhibition, which traveled across the country from 2008 through 2013. She was a member of the Soho20 Gallery NYC from 2002 to 2023 and recently joined the Blue Mountain Gallery also in NYC. Bisbing's work has been written about in the *New York Sun*, *Distinction Magazine*, and *New York Magazine*. She earned her BFA in painting from Moore College of Art & Design in Philadelphia and her MFA from Vermont College of Fine Art. Her work is in many private collections as well as Rowan University's Art Gallery and the Fremantle Foundation in Florence Italy. She lives and works in New York City.