

Unprotected: A Women's History Month Event
Thursday, March 30th and Friday, March 31st: 7:30-9:30



Harsh Collective is pleased to present an art exhibition and discussion in collaboration with Beyond the Beez focusing on the female experience of sex and sexuality. Conversations draw inspiration from the Beyond the Beez Book Club presentations on “My Body,” “Beyond Shame,” and “Pleasure Gap.” The art featured will be by Chloe Colvard and Kelly Chuning, whose work focuses on their female identities.

Drinks will be included with the purchase of a ticket. Artwork by Chloe Colvard and Kelly Chuning is for sale. Merchandise from both Beyond the Beez and Harsh Collective will be available for purchase. All attendees will receive complimentary goodie bags from Harsh Collective and Beyond the Beez.

“Latex Collection”

This series is a digitized representation of Chloe Colvard’s dating history. In these images, Chloe photographed and edited various condoms. She then created a digital overlay of real text messages that she has received from the men she has dated and slept with. By using these out-of-context messages, Chloe hopes to allow the viewer to fill in the blanks with their own context, personal to them, or simply from their own imagination. By doing so, Chloe aims to not only bring awareness to the power of words, but to isolate the text in a way that allows it to be investigated for harmful stereotypes and language. Colvard's collection "Latex" invites female-identifying viewers to reflect upon their own experience with disrespect, gaslighting, and verbal abuse in sexual and romantic relationships. Since beginning this project, Chloe has worked with Harsh Collective to begin receiving anonymous screenshots of texts submitted for a chance to be featured in this project, and thus has created an even wider range of femme experiences in this collection.



“Eat Your Words”

Is a four image series which combines Chloe Colvard’s love for text-based art with photography, which was then turned into digital art. These images may appear as simplistic and innocent in nature, however, upon further investigation they pack a punch. By doing this, Chloe aims to discuss the impact that advertising, media, and sex has on a consumer. Chloe chose food as the through line of these pieces, as all people are also consumers of food. Furthermore, these act as a subtle nod to the fascinating world of gendered food marketing. By taking on these iconic symbols of food, which include the famous (Leslie Buck) Greek coffee cup, a Fortune Cookie, alphabet soup, and finally, a banana and condom that reads “Your partner can easily use a condom if you want them to use one, Don’t be a Dick.” These images make subtle nods to what some may deem as “harsh” Feminist messages, all the while hidden in a savory and soft set of pastel colors.

“Object Permanence” (Bras, Mirrors)

In her 2 object-oriented displays, Chloe Colvard chose to use two well-known symbols of femininity. First, the handheld mirror, which has been used by women for years to access parts of their bodies that they might not normally be able to see, as well as to perceive themselves. Second, she chose to use lingerie. Chloe is intrigued by the idea of “private” objects being in the public eye, as well as the constant discourse around the act of wearing (or not wearing) a bra. She chose bras, while mulling over the toxic sentiment that your bra “shouldn’t” show, however, you “should” also be expected to wear one. As a lover of double meanings, Colvard also thoroughly enjoys the use of objects to imply commentary on objectification and sex.

Chloe Colvard (b. 1998) is a visual artist and writer living in Brooklyn. Her work explores various themes, from childhood and family, all the way to femme experiences and dating. Much of her work addresses toxic behavior and sexism. Chloe’s ‘Latex’ collection was published by Curated by Girls, and she was the former Editor-in-Chief of the award-winning lit journal *12th Street*. Additionally, Chloe is a former Artist-in-Residence at *Carrie Able Gallery* in Williamsburg, the same gallery where her work has been featured in two group exhibitions; *Liminal Frames: Body Agency* (April - May, 2022), and *Here Resides Fantasy* (August - September, 2022). Chloe has worked passionately on creative projects since 2018, with her love of writing and art leading her to earn a BA in Creative Writing from The New School. Her Chapbook, ‘Anything You Can Do’ was published by Bottlecap Press in 2022.

Beyond the Beez (BTBz), BTBz is a stigma-free resource guide, e-commerce platform, and social community supporting young people’s sexual wellness journeys. We curate the best research and product recommendations to help you explore sex at your comfort level. We also



host events and create educational programs that make sex education engaging, informative, and free of judgment. Using BTBz's resources on sexual wellness and empowerment, guests will be able to have a healthy and well informed conversation about sex and sexuality.

Kelly Chuning (b. 1997) is an interdisciplinary Latinx artist from southern Utah currently based in Detroit, MI. She received a BFA in Studio Arts from Southern Utah University. Chuning utilizes felting, mark-making, and derogatory language as a form of activism within her practice to examine the power dynamics attached to gender, racial identity, and language. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, with her first solo exhibition at The Red Arrow Gallery (TN) in 2022. Her work has been featured in *The Nashvillian*, *create! Magazine*, *All SHE Makes*, *Artsin Square*, and *Friend of The Artist*. She recently completed residency at Stove Works in Chattanooga, TN and her work is in collections at Onna House in East Hampton, NY and the Southern Utah Museum of Art. Chuning is currently pursuing her MFA in the Fiber Department at Cranbrook Academy of Art, where she was awarded a Gilbert Fellowship.