

The Call Sheet

STUDIO ONE

a multicultural space

About Studio One

Studio One, an arts initiative. Co-founded by CSC, executive director Steven Herrick & BeBop Theatre Collective Founder SaMi Chester. Launched in mid-2022 with support from Creatives Rebuild New York, Studio One provides free arts education for actors, playwrights, and poets, offering exhibition space for visual artists. From Monologue Mondays to the Poetry Workshop, our diverse classes foster creativity and a “safe space,” for artisans to grow.

The Advisory Board

Nina d'Alessandro | Caridad De La Luz
Russel G. Jones | Brenda Maloy | Cori Thomas
Steve Wilson

Executive Director, Cooper Square Committee
emilyclarkstudio.com Mail - Studio One's November/December Newsletter!

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THE BIG SHOW

EMILY CLARK'S SCULPTURES & DRAWINGS: "RELICS"

The exhibit was set to begin at 7:00 PM, but guests started arriving at 6:30 PM and there were too many to turn away. Thus, it began. The exhibit was initially quiet, with only a few people walking around either by themselves or in pairs, admiring Emily Clark's range of sculptures and pictures. Emily Clark created a space for many, many people to unite, drink, and talk in a shared space with each other. Of course, she was the star of the show, and she was talking to everyone nonstop throughout the opening.

RELICS is an exhibit that makes the audience look at least twice at the pieces they are looking at. Composed of an array of sculptures and drawings worked on from 2018 to 2023, there is an amassed total of thirty-eight sculptures, drawings, & bas-reliefs. Many of them are seemingly abstract, yet there is something so hyper-realistic that keeps them grounded into reality. This is because each piece is inspired by the natural world. Works look like organs, roots, and crustaceans somehow all are mixed in together in a grotesque, yet elegant way. For example, a visitor, Anita, said they recently saw a horseshoe crab at the beach, which reminded her of the art at the exhibit. There are multiple pieces depicting horseshoe crabs, and other crustaceans are depicted as well. Still, many viewers, including us, could not tell that the sculpture or drawing was some sort of crab. Everything seems natural, as if one were to dig into the Mojave desert sand where there's no civilization for miles, just dirt, and you would end up finding one of Emily Clark's pieces. Anita wonders what Emily's imagination is like, and associates the art of these seemingly harmless horseshoe crabs with horror movies. She believes the art is imaginative, creative, and also a bit scary!

Like Anita, many viewers believed the art showed a darker side of Emily, especially considering some of the pieces were so huge. More specifically, her uncle Ron and cousin Elizabeth Emily. Elizabeth Emily was the second person to express that Emily's art depicts a darker side to her, one unlike her personality. As she said this, we took a glance around the room and honestly wondered what she meant by that. Was it the displays of parts of large, fossilized jaws that were slightly terrifying? Or the sculpture of the enlarged heart that seemed to be a 3-dimensional version of her ink drawings? Even a week after seeing Emily's art, we still don't see the darkness that the visitors seemed to have taken out of her pieces.

The piece that everyone had their eyes on was the sculpture smack in the middle of the room once someone opened the door to the studio: DRAPED 2023 (Painted resin, 2023). A life-sized sculpture of a draped woman on the floor, seemingly lying in distress, yet at peace simultaneously. Every little wrinkle in the cloth is sculpted with great detail.

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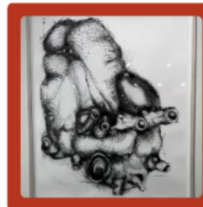
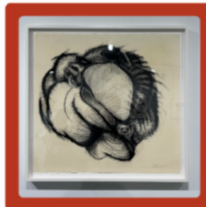


RELICS by Emily Clark

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THE BIG SHOW (Continued)
EMILY CLARK'S SCULPTURES & DRAWINGS: "RELICS"

As we were bartending, numerous individuals commented on this specific sculpture, and the word “beautiful” came up over and over again. However, Emily herself stated that even though it was the biggest piece, it was far from her most favorite. The biggest art pieces she has done seem to exude the most obvious flaws, according to her. When we asked her what her favorite piece was, consequently, it was LEMON 22 (Ink on Yupo, 2022). When we first looked at the piece, it seemed like it was some type of organ or even an animal, being paired next to the huge depiction of a human heart. We initially could not wrap our minds around the drawing in front of us being a fruit. The connections between all of these elements is Emily's form of art itself.

When I spoke to Rebeccah, a long-time artist and friend of Emily, she was in no way surprised by Emily's work. “I've seen her draw crazy things for a long time,” was what she said with a laugh. Similarly, her assistant of ten years, Genesis, expressed that her sculptures often have a drop of color that brightens the piece. She sees this as a part of Emily's bright personality shining through her work. We realized then, that pops of blue within her sculptures were an element we had completely missed as we traversed through the exhibit ourselves.

Finally, there was an impromptu speech by SaMi Chester, Artistic Director of Studio One, in the middle of the exhibit opening. He declared that real New Yorkers were the people who were artists back then in the Lower East Side, the people who hugged and looked out for each other. Today, the evil landlords and the corporations are not representative of New York at all. Emily Clark is truly a real artist and Studio One is bringing back the real New York that SaMi speaks of, through art itself. To end this review, it seems fitting to include a quote by Emily herself, which she said as she casually went downstairs to put away some equipment. “I'm good at being alone and making shit,” is what she declared. From one point of view, she's embracing solitude as a positive aspect, suggesting self-sufficiency and a reliance on her own creative abilities. The phrase “making shit” might also carry a sense of rebellion against conventional norms or commercial expectations. This could be interpreted as a rejection of societal standards and a commitment to creating art for its own sake rather than for external validation or market appeal. In the end though, it does not quite matter. That's the beauty of art.

ABOUT THE WRITERS & STAFF

RITHIKA CHOWDHURY

Rithika is an intern at Studio One, a part of the CUNY Cultural Corps program at Hunter College. They are currently studying Biology, Computer Science, Psychology, and English at their college. They strive to keep the arts and creativity in their life while pursuing other careers!

JAKE XIE

Jake is an intern at Studio One, a part of the CUNY Cultural Corps program at Brooklyn College. He is a psychology major, additionally minoring in children's studies and sociology. He's interested in learning more about art, along with its intersection with social justice.

NIAMH MARIE ZANGHI

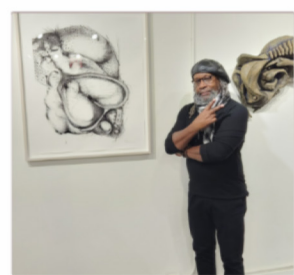
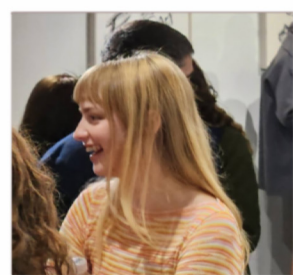
Niamh Marie is an intern at Studio One, a part of the CUNY Cultural Corps program at Brooklyn College. They are studying theater arts and are preparing to become an arts educator after graduation. They are excited to continue exploring the arts.

HIGHLIGHTS



“It's about external & internal spaces... that whole drawing exists so there can be a little slice inside.”

“To me, the drawings are not dark but are drawings of nature.”



IN THE NEXT CALL SHEET...



- A Year In Review.
- News: Winter/Spring session for Weekly Work begins January 8th, 2024. Sign-ups begin December 15th.
- A deep look into being a Weekly Work Student.
- A conversation with the Artistic Director of Studio One

SaMi Chester

THE WEEKLY WORK



#1 MONOLOGUE MONDAYS

SaMi Chester | 7 PM | 5-Week Intensive

Now is the perfect time to shine up those audition monologues. Bring old work, new works, let's get to WORK! Stay tuned for an important announcement regarding this class!



#2 AUDITION FOR THE CAMERA, TUESDAYS

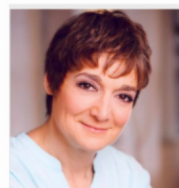
Neal Lerner | 7 PM | 5-Week Intensive

If you plan on auditioning for TV and/or film, you need this workshop!

#3 BOOK LEARNIN': EXPLORING THE NARRATIVE

Nina d'Alessandro | 7 PM | 5-Month Commitment

Join us for the Studio One Book Club! All participants will meet monthly.



#4 SCENE WORK: TEAM WORK

Becky London | 7 PM | 5-Week Intensive

Take a deep dive into working the scene. The call and response of the work. The intimacy of the exchange. The truth of it.

#5 POETS PLAY THURSDAYS

Caridad De La Luz “La Bruja” | 7 PM

The written/spoken word. The feel, smell, and taste of it. A must for serious poets. Come and share the knowledge of one of the great poets and writers of a generation. (Last Thursday of every month)



#6 PLAYWRIGHTS INCUBATOR

SaMi Chester | 7 PM | Weekly Fridays

Attention playwrights, this one's for you. Pull together your actors and director and hear your work at a three day table read.

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