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BIOGRAPHY

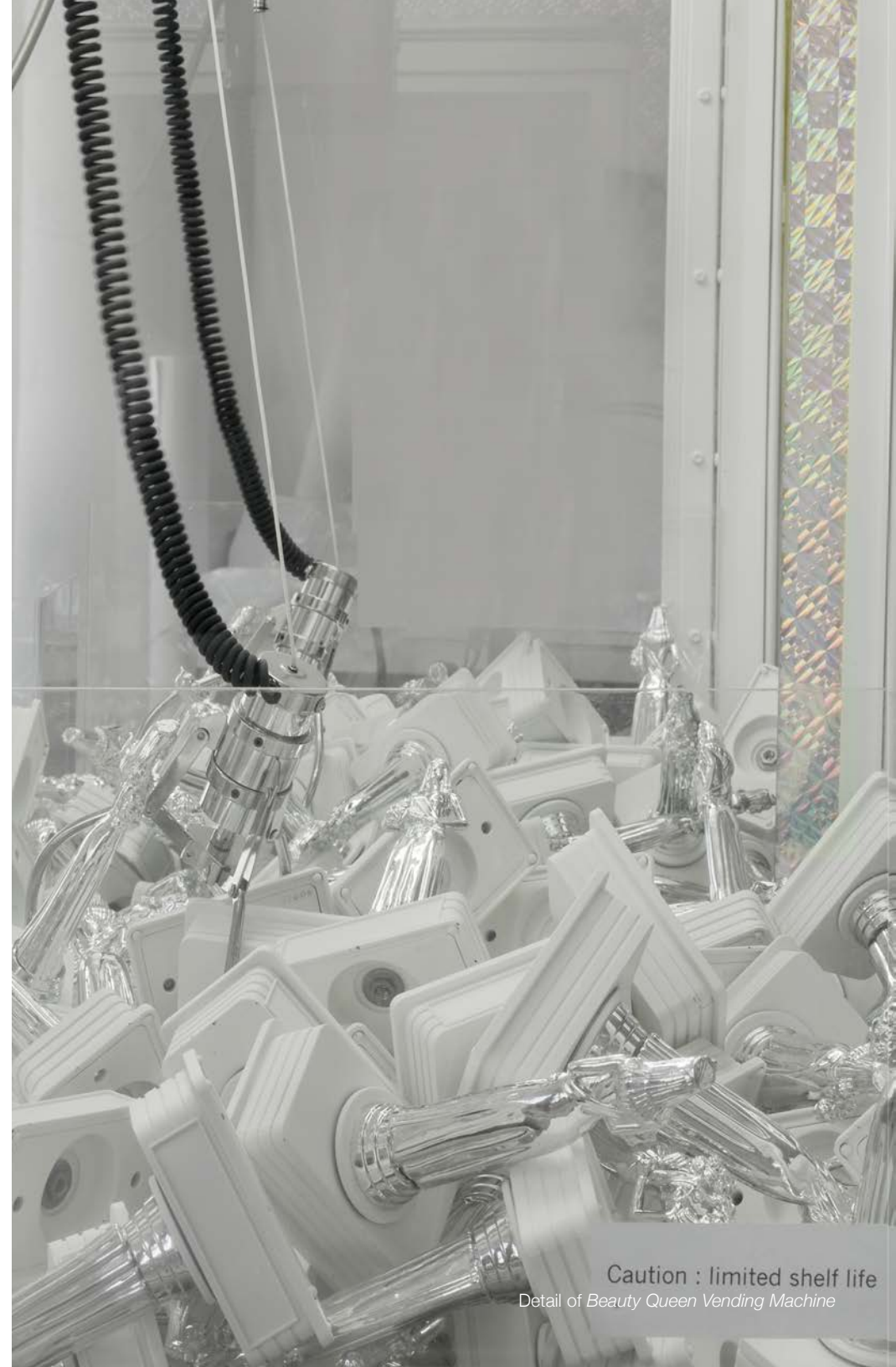
Rachel Lee Hovnanian is a conceptual artist and painter. Hovnanian's work examines the complexities of the human experience and invites viewers to confront the inauthentic and fragile veneer of contemporary life. She questions societal pressures and narratives imposed on women and investigates our cultural obsession with beauty and perfection, the rise of digital addictions, and the resulting breakdown of our collective sense of belonging. Hovnanian's belief in the power of art to prompt connection and conversation has led her to create a multidisciplinary body of work spanning sculpture, installation, painting and performance.

Hovnanian received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Texas at Austin and completed postgraduate studies at Parsons School of Design of in New York. Hovnanian's work is part of numerous private collections and has been exhibited at galleries and institutions internationally, including in the United States, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Select venues include the 59th Biennale Di Venezia (Venice), Chiesa e Chiostro di Sant'Agostino (Pietrasanta), Untitled Art Fair (Miami Beach), Ann Norton Museum and Sculpture Gardens, C O U N T Y (Palm Beach), Jason McCoy, Leila Heller Gallery (New York), Dallas Art Fair (Dallas) and Joyce Gallery (Beijing), among others. Born in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and raised in Houston, Texas, Hovnanian spends her time between studios in Miami, New York, and Pietrasanta, Italy.

[ARTIST CV](#)

SELECT WORKS

- *White Narcissus Panels*
- *Beauty Queen Vending Machine*
- *Perfect Baby Showroom*
- *Poor Teddy in Repose*
- *Body Armor*
- *Happy Hour*
- *Beyond the Hedges*
- *N.D.D. Immersion Room*
- *You Are Not Alone, Angels Listening*
- *PURE*



Caution : limited shelf life
Detail of Beauty Queen Vending Machine



White Narcissus Panel (Jupiter)

Porcelain, waxed cotton, linen, in artist's frame

[Artwork Information](#)



Beauty Queen Vending Machine

Mixed media

[Artwork Information](#)

“Hovnanian works in a wide range of demanding media to confront how personal beauty is codified and embedded in our lives—as a touchstone of social prestige and power... as a commodity that can be bought but not owned... and ultimately as an obsession that treats growth, maturation, aging and death as problems that can be solved...”

— *Michael Clive, Cultural Reporter*



Perfect Baby Showroom
Interactive mixed media installation

[Artwork Information](#)



A natural choice.

The Evan

Detail of Perfect Baby Showroom

“Navigating the post-internet world, the artist merges photography, video, sculpture, painting and installation art into surreal environments that challenge viewers to examine and reevaluate their own cultural values and relationship with digital technology.”

— Elisa Ali, *Art She Says*



Artist photographed at a foundry in Pietrasanta, Italy



Poor Teddy in Repose
Cast bronze with black patina

[Artwork Information](#)



Body Armor II (The General)

Polished aluminum, black painted patina bronze base

[Artwork Information](#)

Body Armor II (Soldier)

Brushed aluminum, black painted patina bronze base



“Perfection remains a constant theme throughout Hovnanian’s oeuvre. It stems from a preoccupation during her own adolescence marked by the desire to be a ‘good girl’.... Hovnanian began unpacking the hypocrisy of the culture she had always been warned about...”

— Sarah Hassan, Harper’s Bazaar Arabia



Pink Panty Dropper
Mixed media on canvas

[Artwork Information](#)



Where the Hedges Meet the Sky

Oil on linen

[Artwork Information](#)



N.D.D. Waiting Room

Interactive mixed media installation

[Artwork Information](#)

“Over the last decade, the New York-based artist has examined the digital world’s growing influence on how we interact with our culture, skillfully synthesizing issues of gender, technology and personal autonomy... She is adept at crafting conceptual worlds that both refract and mirror our present.”

—Laura Feinstein, Design and Tech Editor



Detail of N.D.D. Waiting Room



N.D.D. Immersion Room
Interactive mixed media installation

[Artwork Information](#)



You Are Not Alone, Angels Listening

Five-part installation featuring mixed media, interactive and sensory elements

[Artwork Information](#)



"I craft conceptual worlds that both refract and mirror our present moment, inviting us to examine the tension between aspiration and reality—the societal pressures to conform to a standardized ideal of beauty and perfection and the inevitable unraveling that occurs when we confront the impossibility of these ideals."

— Rachel Lee Hovnanian



PURE

Interactive mixed media installation with performative elements

Artwork Information

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

The New York Times

Nature With Chirps,
but No Tweets

[Read more on The New York Times](#)

Forbes

How One Artist is Using
Teddy Bears and Angels
to Redefine the Way
We Communicate

[Read more on Forbes](#)

CULTURED

Rachel Lee Hovnanian's
Woman's Trilogy Project
Arrives at Leila Heller

[Read more on Cultured](#)

THE BROOKLYN RAIL

Rachel Lee Hovnanian's
Woman's Trilogy Project
Arrives at Leila Heller

[Read more on The Brooklyn Rail](#)

Galerie

4 Works at the Heart of
Rachel Lee Hovnanian's
New Show

[Read more on Galerie](#)

PALMER

Rachel Lee Hovnanian
Discusses her New
Palm Beach Show

[Read more on Palmer](#)

