

moniquemeloche

451 N Paulina Street, Chicago 60622
312 243 2129 moniquemeloche.com

teenVOGUE

Brooklyn Museum's "Nobody Promised You Tomorrow" Exhibition Celebrates the Future of Stonewall's Legacy

"How are some of these artists pulling from the archives but creating something that's new and imaginative and kind of reflecting current moments?"

BY **GABE BERGADO**



BROOKLYN MUSEUM/JONATHAN DORADO

Stonewall is not a monolith. In the 50 years since the riots at Stonewall Inn — catalyzed by LGBTQ+ activists including [Marsha P. Johnson](#), [Sylvia Rivera](#), and Stormé DeLarverie — took place, the evolution of what the landmark means is different for everyone in the LGBTQ+ community. And in a month filled with rainbow-saturated gatherings, performative activism, and jubilant parades to celebrate how far the LGBTQ+ community has come since the [1969 riots](#), many

moniquemeloche

451 N Paulina Street, Chicago 60622
312 243 2129 moniquemeloche.com

hope to explore what equity and visibility actually look like in the 21st century — while also paying homage to the changemakers of the past.

Enter Brooklyn Museum's exhibition "[Nobody Promised You Tomorrow: Art 50 Years After Stonewall.](#)"

"We're at once thinking about how these younger generations of artists are paying tribute to trans and queer ancestors, as well as thinking about the future of queer and trans lives in New York," Margo Cohen Ristorucci, Public Programs Coordinator at Brooklyn Museum, tells *Teen Vogue*. "We met many of these artists in person, either at their studios or through walkthroughs like we're doing right now in the museum. We sat down in the café for coffee, and oftentimes we asked them, 'What does Stonewall mean to you? Does Stonewall have resonance in your work? Is it relevant to you?' And we really had a range of responses from the artists and that really guided our direction for organizing the show."

The exhibition was a cross-departmental juncture, with people from different parts of the museum coming together to curate it. Since it's a contemporary exhibition, there's work from 28 artists who were all born after 1969 and at least half of the artists in the group made new work for the show. While there are a number of exhibitions about Stonewall happening throughout New York City, Brooklyn Museum's exhibit is much more about the lasting impact of the riots and the art they can inspire. Four themes emerged from conversations with these artists and helped organize the show: Revolt, Heritage, Desire, and Care Networks.

"As living, breathing queer people who continue to create and build, how are we both looking back but also looking present and future?," asks Lindsay C. Harris, Brooklyn Museum's Teen Programs Manager. "I think that's something that has been a lot of the frame for this show, specifically. How are some of these artists

moniquemeloche

451 N Paulina Street, Chicago 60622
312 243 2129 moniquemeloche.com

pulling from the archives but creating something that's new and imaginative and kind of reflecting current moments?"



Still from *Salacia*, 2019. Video, color, sound; 6 min., 4 sec. Co-commissioned by the Brooklyn Museum and High Line Art, presented on the High Line by Friends of the High Line and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation.