

Meet the Artist: 5 Questions with Kate Gilmore



Kate Gilmore, *Through the Claw* (performance), 2011. Photo by Carly Gaebe.



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New York-based artist Kate Gilmore will be featured at the Everson Museum this summer in a solo exhibition entitled ["Touch like this, Hold like that."](#) The show combines a collection of her video art (which Museum guests will be able to view starting this weekend) and an outdoor performance art aspect which will be added in June. Gilmore's work utilizes humor and physical endurance to create strikingly memorable performances and videos that often explore contemporary feminine identity and gender stereotypes. She recently took some time to answer five questions about her artwork:

1.) You're known for working in a variety of media. What in particular about video and performance art appeal to you?

I am interested in the physical body and how that relates to objects. I use video and performance as a way to include the body (or bodies) in a conversation about status in society and how we, as individuals, relate to our own existences.

2.) What kind of discussions do you hope your work generates?

I hope that people enjoy themselves, appreciate the beauty in the work, laugh, and then think about how they relate to the piece and how these bodies and objects might be addressing certain hierarchies or expectations of both the performers and the viewers.



Kate Gilmore, still from "A Tisket, A Tasket," 2013. Everson Museum of Art

3.) Where do you find inspiration for your work?

I find inspiration in my daily life. From my family and friends, to the news, to pop culture. Everything seeps in and gets digested...

4.) What is unique about your exhibition in Syracuse? How does it differ from other shows you've done?

This show will be a great survey of my past video work in combination with an ambitious outdoor piece. We are bringing pieces of the Museum into the installation and performance outside which is pretty unprecedented, and we are using the architecture of the Museum as the sculptural inspiration for the piece. The goal is for the installation to be in conversation with the Museum, its collection, its architecture, and the audience. So it really is unique to Syracuse.

5.) What is the significance of the title "Touch like this, Hold like that"?

The performers in the exhibition will be interacting with ceramic pieces from the Everson collection. They will be touching the ceramics, holding them, whatever they want (not breaking, of course!). So, this seemed a good title... I stole it from a Celine Dion song!

View Kate Gilmore's indoor video work starting this weekend and running through August 14, or plan a visit based around one of these upcoming special events at the Everson Museum:

- Celebrate the opening of this and other summer exhibitions at the [Opening Night Reception](#) on June 3.
- See the premier of Gilmore's outdoor performance piece at the [Everson Annual Summer Picnic](#) on June 16.
- Experience Gilmore's entire exhibition for free as part of the [Plazapalooza](#) festivities on June 18.
- Take in the outdoor performance during your lunch break on a [Food Truck Friday](#) from June 24 - August 12.