

**ARTSY**

Clare Rojas: "5 Artists on Our Radar This January"

By Artsy Curatorial and Artsy Editorial

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"Artists on Our Radar" is a monthly series produced collaboratively by Artsy's Editorial and Curatorial teams. Utilizing our editors' art expertise and our curators' unique insights and access to Artsy data, each month, we highlight five artists who have our attention. To make our selections, we've determined which artists made an impact this past month through new gallery representation, exhibitions, auctions, art fairs, viewing rooms, or sale inquiries on Artsy.

**Clare E. Rojas**

B. 1976, Columbus, Ohio. Lives and works in San Francisco.



Clare E. Rojas, *Fuscia*, 2020

Courtesy of Jessica Silverman

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Clare E. Rojas, *Boulders In My Way*, 2020

Courtesy of Jessica Silverman

The esteemed Bay Area-based artist and musician Clare E. Rojas joined the roster of tastemaking San Francisco gallery Jessica Silverman in September 2020 and will open her first solo show at the gallery this year. Rojas, who featured in Jessica Silverman's recent online viewing room for Art Basel in Miami Beach, approaches artmaking as a means of storytelling. In art and music—her musical lyrics often inform her artworks and vice versa—she distills narratives down to their most crucial elements.

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Clare E. Rojas, *Untitled (Lady and Barn)*, 2009

Courtesy of Kavi Gupta

With her art practice, spanning painting, drawing, printmaking, and murals, Rojas dips in and out of figuration. Her recent work has involved a focus on singular forms, which she creates instinctively or lifts from her natural surroundings. Those forms sit at the core of her works, which range from hard-edged abstract blocks of color to flatly rendered birds and floral motifs to figurative paintings featuring humans or animals navigating enigmatic landscapes. She's often portrayed female protagonists, exploring notions of "women's work" and gender issues. "I like to represent women in their times of strength, with grace and vulnerability that I believe is courageous," Rojas said in a 2019 interview.

Rojas's works are included the permanent collections of major institutions including the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Walker Art Center, and the Denver Art Museum.

—Casey Lesser

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