

Susan Eley

Fine Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 6, 2018

PRESS CONTACT:
917.952.7641

The Night Garden: New Paintings by Allison Green

April 19-May 31, 2018

OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 6-8 PM

Susan Eley Fine Art is pleased to announce the opening of "The Night Garden: New Paintings by Allison Green," on view from April 19-May 31, 2018. This is Green's fourth solo exhibition at SEFA, following "Deeply Rooted" (2011); "Entwined" (2012) and "Teeming" (2015). "The Night Garden" comprises paintings from three recent series: *The Night Garden*, *Celestial Navigation* and *Dream Weavers*. We will celebrate the opening of the exhibition with a reception for the artist on Thursday, April 19, 6-8 pm.

THE NIGHT GARDEN

With each subsequent exhibition, Green has expanded the botanical content from single trees, bushes and weeds to now entire gardens--teeming with growth and rich with animal and plant life. Depicting plants blooming and thriving during the night, her cast of anthropomorphic characters includes Starlings, Stargazer Lilies, King and Queen Proteas, Peace Lilies, Royal Mushrooms and Monarch Butterflies. Enveloped in darkness yet illuminated by the starry sky, Green's lush and mystical environments invite viewers to sit amidst the gardens of metaphors and uncover the stories within. The crown jewel of this series is the monumental and eponymous painting *The Night Garden*, a single artwork made up of six panels, totaling an impressive 6 foot tall x 12 foot wide. As in each luscious, nocturnal landscape in the series, Green offers us a look at what we mortals are typically

not privy to, as we lay asleep indoors. Green shows us the private, nocturnal world outdoors, where plants convene and dance in the night sky, naked and arching north, lit by stardust and moonbeam.

CELESTIAL NAVIGATION

Celestial Navigation is a series of large-scale paintings inspired by butterfly migration. Guided by an inner directive, butterflies often find their way across continents, driven by an internal system called celestial navigation. Using this instinctual navigation, they ultimately arrive at their far off destination by observing the sun, moon and stars along the way. This series, in hues of deep blue, rose and gold, explores the mysteries and metaphors of the butterfly, while also encouraging us to examine similar intuitive forces we all hold within.

DREAM WEAVERS

Like the 2015 *String Theory* series, the *Dream Weavers* takes its cue from the African Weaver Birds and their spectacular nest making skills. In these paintings the Weaver Birds create various iconic forms, such as a solemn grief box surrounded by a garden of tulips, or the dense, ball-like nest to attract a mate. Both fantastical and allegorical, this surreal series anthropomorphizes the Weaver Bird and emphasizes the charged emotions attached to the universal and symbolic iconography of building and nesting.

CAROLE EISNER SCULPTURES

Two of Carole Eisner's indoor sculptures are included in "The Night Garden." *Moon Fish* was selected for its lunar and nocturnal properties, and *What Knot* for its bright silhouette of a butterfly. When paired, Allison and Carole's artwork conjures a pleasing symbiosis, and in fact, their work has been featured side by side in several art fairs in New York and Miami.