



119 Gallery Presents: ZINE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOWELL- This September 119 Gallery will exhibit zines from several corners of the country showcasing everything that this ultimate form of free media has to offer. Zines, short for magazine, are independently created publications that forgo the glossy celebrity banter to focus on alternative thoughts and ideas. The tools used to create zines haven't changed much over the last twenty years- glue sticks, staples and photocopy machines are still the tools wielded by zine makers. They like it that way.

119 Gallery has a tradition of de-mystifying non-traditional art. In addition to showcasing new art media, we educate viewers about the tools artists use to express themselves. By hosting this exhibit, 119 Gallery hopes to remove any reservations those curious about zines may have.

We'll have plenty of zines on hand to peruse and purchase- covering everything from art to radical feminism. You can pull up a chair at one of our vintage desks or couches to pour yourself over back issues of local favorite OUTLET or view original cover art from a host of zines from around the country.

Zine art shuns new technology in favor of more direct expression on paper. Zines are about communication and removing barriers to self-expression. There are no rules- the artists can do whatever they want. Self- publication does not involve editors or guidelines that block provocative and risky voices. The artist can reveal secrets they want to share but not tell.

In this day of electronic publishing and blogs, why zines? Because zines defy classification. They can be graphic novels, radical political monologues, social satire, heartbroken poetic collages and *anything* else. They arrive in craftily bound paper booklets, often created in basements and spare bedrooms. Zines are hands-on. They forgo the digital for the tangible.

Zine art is not underground, just under represented. The exhibit will showcase artists from Lowell, Boston, New Hampshire and beyond. The artists include creators of the local OUTLET zine along with Gina Kamensky , Mike Dailey, Heather Noeker, Dei Xrist, Gareth Hinds and more.

Stop by the 119 Gallery at 119 Chelmsford St. Tues-Sat, 12-5 p.m. or call 978/452-8138 for more information.