

# Les Femmes Folles

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APRIL 9, 2016 tags: GALLERYTALLY SUSAN LIZOTTE LOS ANGELES CONTEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS THIS IS GOING TO BE EPIC: GALLERY TALLY AT LACE, REVIEW BY SUSAN LIZOTTE

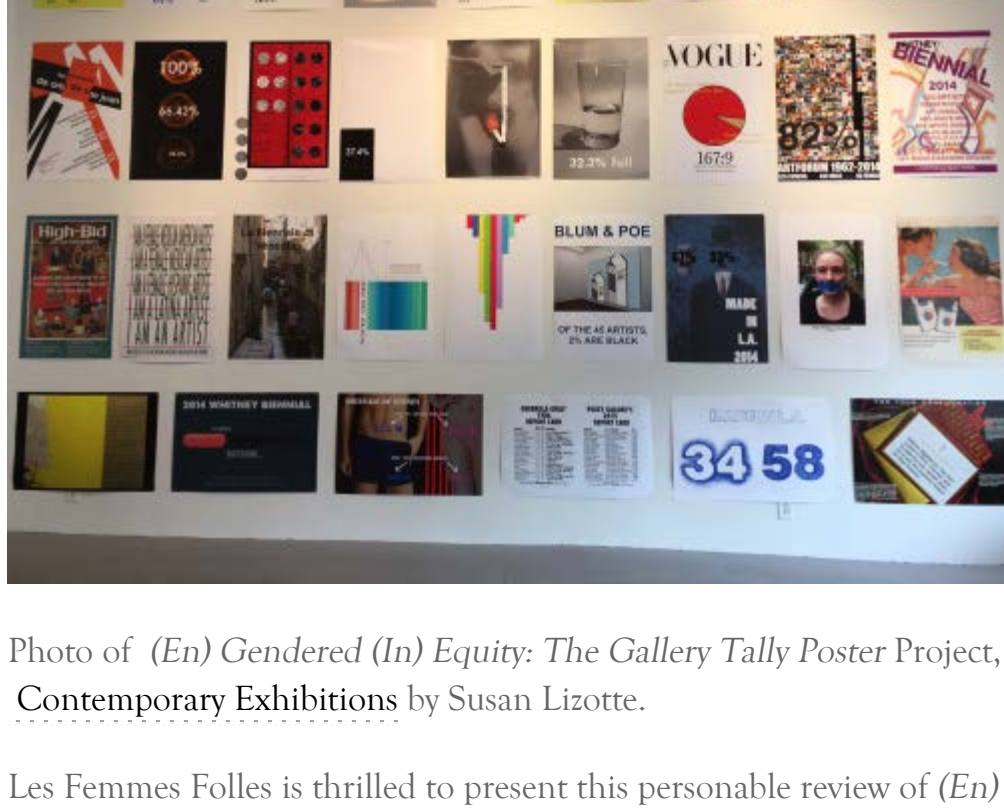
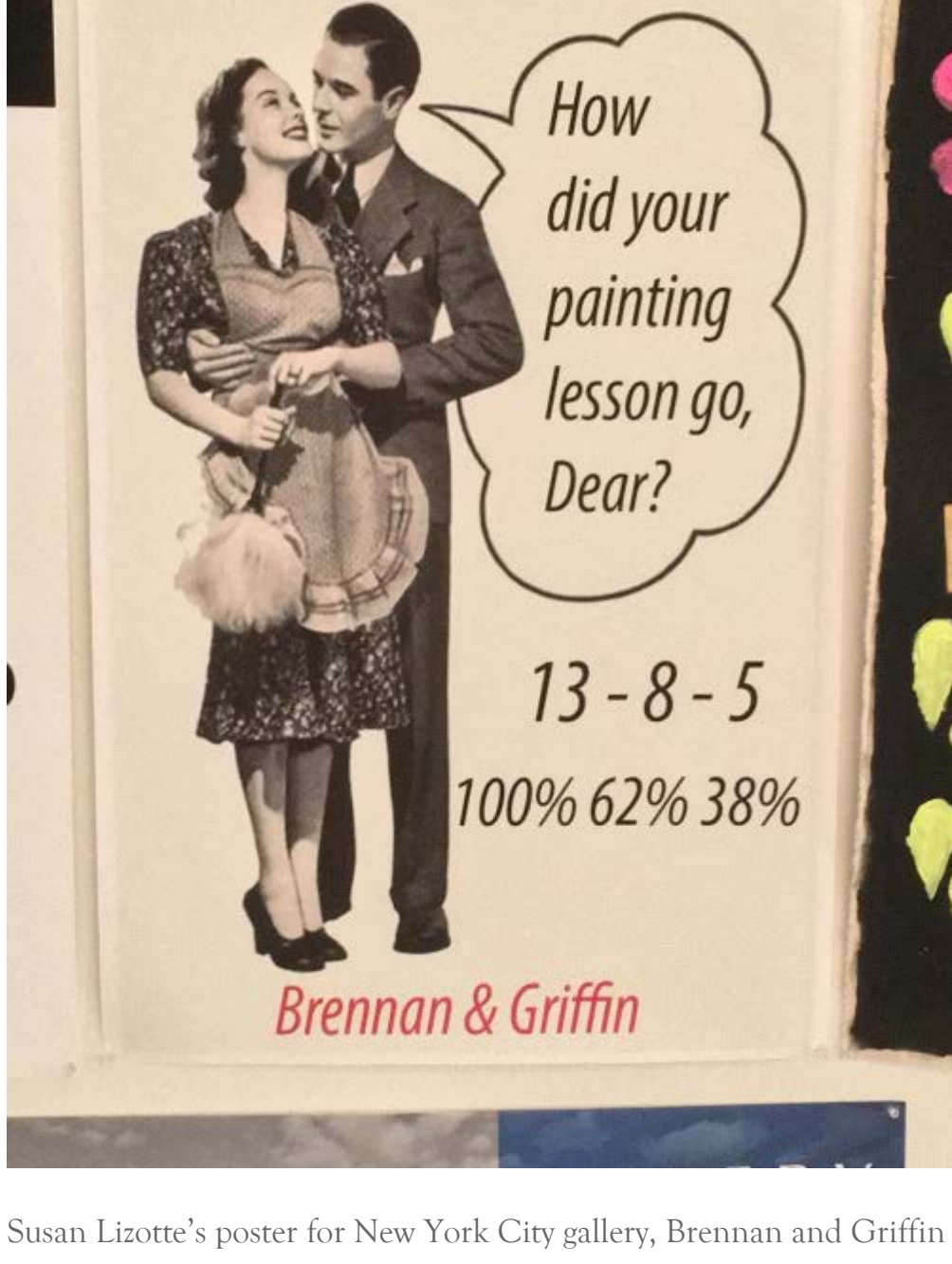


Photo of (En) Gendered (In) Equity: The Gallery Tally Poster Project, at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions by Susan Lizotte.

Les Femmes Folles is thrilled to present this personable review of (En) Gendered (In) Equity: The Gallery Tally Poster Project, at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions up through April 17, 2016. There have been several concurrent events organized by Gallery Tally initiator, organizer and artist Micol Hebron, including the forthcoming Femmes Video Art Festival, April 14, 16 and 17 at LACE, and April 23 at LA's The Situation Room.

Gallery Tally is a crowd-sourced, social engagement art project in which 2000+ artists from around the world have joined the effort to collect and visualize statistical data regarding ratios of male and female artists in top contemporary art galleries. Artists have been invited to make one poster for each gallery, in whatever style or medium they chose. All posters are 24" x 36". The project started with galleries in Los Angeles, and is now deep in data, with a collection and visualization of gender statistics from cities around the world. (Text from welcometoLACE.org.) See posters at gallerytally.tumblr.com.



Susan Lizotte's poster for New York City gallery, Brennan and Griffin

-This is Going to Be Epic-

by Susan Lizotte

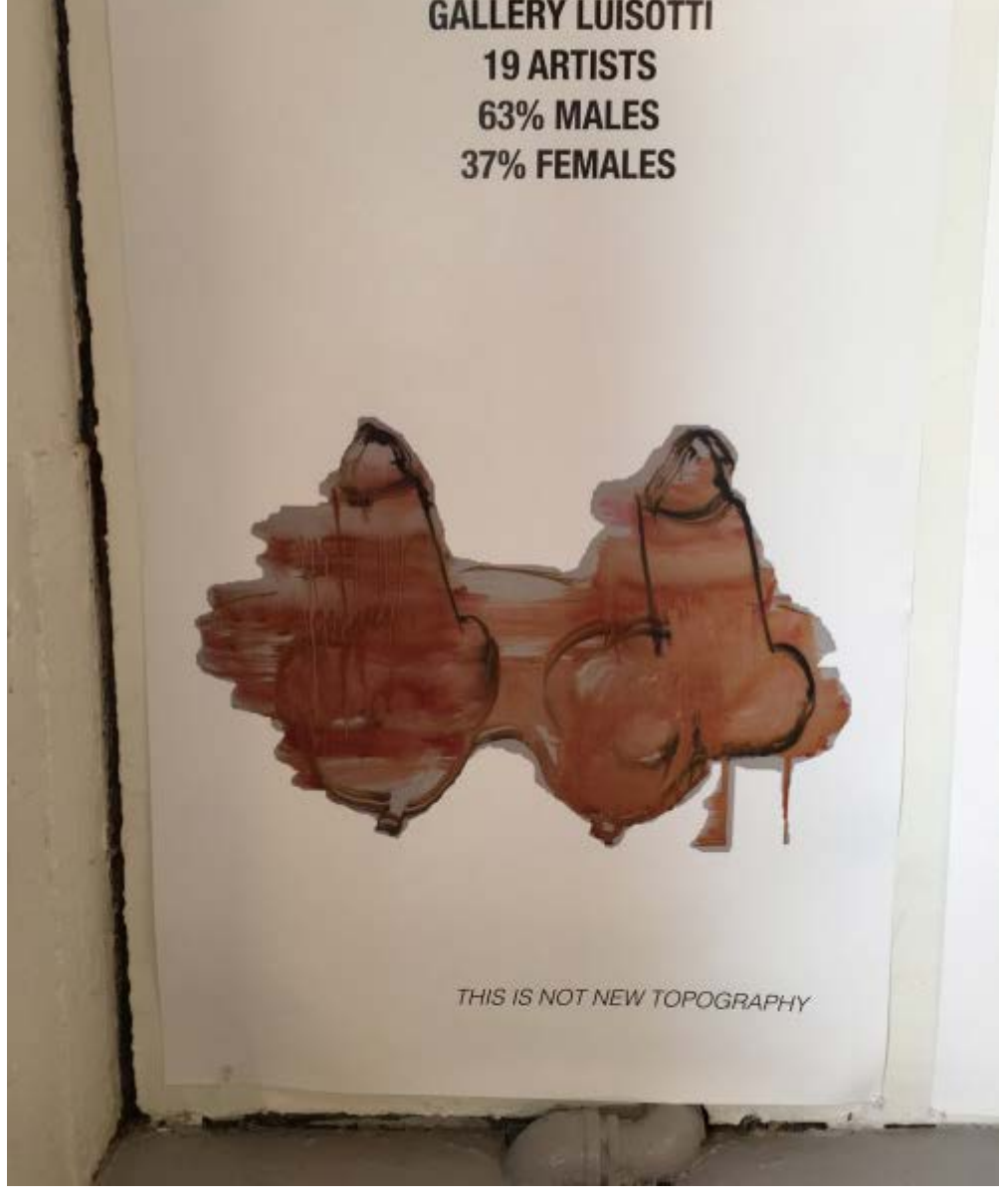
I have to take you back to the Spring of 2013 when I was reading my Facebook newsfeed. A new post by my friend, fellow artist, Micol Hebron popped up. Micol was asking for people to help create posters representing gender inequality at galleries in Los Angeles. She was starting a Gallery Tally Project and the requirements for the posters included a size of 24 by 36 inches, although one could orient the poster vertically or horizontally. Each poster needed to include the gallery name, number of male/female artists and show the percentages for each gender somewhere on the poster. Other than these requirements there was total artistic freedom. There was a Google doc so that participants could sign up for a specific gallery without any overlap.



Photo of gallery wall text at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions by Susan Lizotte

I think I was still actually reading Micol's post as I watched the comments start piling in with people offering to make posters. I did not hesitate, especially after I read the final line in Micol's post, "this is going to be epic."

I was one of the first to sign up and have since made two posters for galleries in Los Angeles and one poster for a gallery in NYC.



Poster by Julia Schwartz, photo by Susan Lizotte

In October 2013 the first show of 70 posters was held at West Los Angeles College. In 2014 several hundred posters were shown at For Your Art at Wilshire Boulevard. Now it is 2016 and over 400 posters are currently on display (through April 17th) at LACE on Hollywood Boulevard.

These posters impressed me with such different styles.

Some posters are very graphic, some are simple and direct and some are patterned and ornate. Each poster is as individual as its creator.



Posters by Evan Senn (left) and Kireilyn Barber (right), photo by Susan Lizotte

As you walk into LACE you see five rows of posters hung (vertically) fifteen feet high. As you look inside the posters just keep going and going. The scale of this exhibition is quite formidable in person. I walked through both rooms chock full of posters with literally no space in between them, and the creativity is dazzling. I wish I could invite Madeline Albright to see our Gallery Project. Her quote "there is a special place in hell for women who don't help other women" has special significance given the two thousand mostly women artists who have donated their artistic, time, financial resources, time and energy into making Micol's project a reality. Seeing this project from its earliest beginnings morph into such a spectacular collaboration has indeed been "epic!"

~Susan Lizotte

LACE, 6522 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood CA, 323-957-1777, closed Sundays/Mondays

www.welcometolace.org

Les Femmes Folles is a volunteer organization founded in 2011 with the mission to support and promote women in all forms, styles and levels of art from around the world with the online journal, print annuals, exhibitions and events; originally inspired by artist Wanda Ewing and her curated exhibit by the name Les Femmes Folles (Wild Women). LFF was created and is curated by Sally Deskins.

LFF Books is a micro-feminist press that publishes 1-2 books per year by the creators of Les Femmes Folles including the award-winning Intimates & Fools (Laura Madeline Wiseman, 2014) and The Hunger of the Cheeky Sisters: Ten Fables (Laura Madeline Wiseman/Lauren Rinaldi, 2015). Other titles include Les Femmes Folles: The Women 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 available on blurb.com, including art, poetry and interview excerpts from women artists.

A portion of the proceeds from LFF books and products benefit the University of Nebraska-Omaha's Wanda Ewing Scholarship Fund. See the latest call for the Submissions page - we welcome reviews, interviews of many kinds!

