

# Joy Curtis

## *Horns, Holes, Skins, and Branches*

April 3 - May 9, 2026

Opening reception: Friday, April 3, 6-8PM

Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Joy Curtis, opening April 3 and running through May 9, 2026.

Curtis's exhibition features sculptures sewn from hand-dyed fabrics, each of which can be displayed and encountered in multiple ways—pinned to or draped from the wall, free-standing, or worn on a person's body. These works include protrusions that evoke horns, nipples, trunks, or branches. Several pieces unfold into half-circle forms and are dyed with pigments made from organic materials using a Shibori resist technique. Whether wall-mounted or embodied as a sculptural garment, the emergent patterns emphasize the fan-like structure of the sewn fabric, while referencing water channels and other structures from ecology and the natural world.

A group of tunic-inspired works appear as squares and rectangles when hanging on the wall. These pieces feature stitched details and cylindrical protrusions arranged to suggest a sense of cosmic rotation or cellular life seen under a microscope. Another type of sculpture takes the form of a tree, made of dyed fabrics but standing upright in the gallery. Each tree has a fixed trunk and long branching extensions that end in a beard and mustache that can be worn and activated.

Interactivity has long been a sculptural concern of Curtis's, shifting viewers from spectators to participants. This places her practice in a lineage with a range of predecessors from the Brazilian Neo-Concrete movement such as Lygia Clark and Hélio Oiticica, as well as artists like Yoko Ono, Allan Kaprow, and Fluxus performances. In those practices, artists emphasized transformation, viewer participation, and a challenge to the preceding dominance of geometrically driven art. Curtis's sculptures are not meant to remain static; visitors are encouraged to activate them by wearing or repositioning the pieces, allowing the human body to become part of the work's evolving form.

*Joy Curtis lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. She has exhibited at the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, the Museum of New Art in Portsmouth, New Hampshire; the Pelham Art Center; and Ohio University Art Gallery. Her practice has been covered in the New Yorker, The Brooklyn Rail, Hyperallergic, and Artcritical.*

For images or more information please contact the gallery at 212-777-7756 or email [klaus@klausgallery.com](mailto:klaus@klausgallery.com).

Gallery Hours: 11AM–6PM, Tuesday through Saturday

Subway Directions: 1 train at Franklin Street, 4 5 6, J M, N R Q W, and A C E at Canal Street



Artist in studio with *Holzer*, 2025