

NIGHT GALLERY

JO NIGOGHOSSIAN

NEW WORK

Night Gallery is pleased to present new sculptural work from New York-based artist Jo Nigoghossian.

Centered on a fitful negotiation between material, image, and firsthand experience of a sculptural object, Jo Nigoghossian's recent work attempts to locate, crop, and describe a sculpture's potential to trespass. Her preoccupation with persistent materials that demand reaction and consideration is present in the pieces on view—anthropomorphic steel buttresses variously corseted and punctuated by neon and rubber. Gestural, and at times menacing, these works belie the obsessive observations that precede their making: a taxing research into the rules that dictate space and govern activities of destruction and preservation.

With the belief that “when things are easy to see, something's being hidden,” Nigoghossian considers the space occupied by human thoughts, moods, and capabilities, the human desire for structures of control, and the subsequent reaction against those restraints. She uses sculpture as a means to study the physical changes engendered by proximity. Strongly influenced by German Expressionists Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and Otto Dix, Franz Xaver Messerschmidt's Neo-Classical character heads, and theorist Hannah Arendt, Nigoghossian's material manipulations embody the fragile state of shifting orders, temperaments, confrontations, and limits in which she creates them.