

**March 26, 2019**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Media Contact: Charlie James

[Charlie@cjamesgallery.com](mailto:Charlie@cjamesgallery.com)

213.687.0844

**ALEXANDRA BELL**

***Counternarratives***

**April 6<sup>th</sup> thru May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**ARTIST'S RECEPTION: April 6, 2019, 6-9PM**

Charlie James Gallery is delighted to announce our first solo show with 2019 Whitney Biennial artist Alexandra Bell titled *Counternarratives*, which opens Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This is Bell's first solo show in Los Angeles.

"It's imperative to show how a turn of phrase or a misplaced photo has real consequences for people at the margins who are still suffering under the weight of unfair and biased representation."  
—Alexandra Bell

Presented as a series of boldly reworked *New York Times* articles, each of the six works exhibited in *Counternarratives* perform visual examinations that reveal news media's complicity in perpetuating racial prejudice in America. Through redactions of original text, revised headlines, and margins replete with red sharpie annotations, Bell reveals the implicit biases that control how narratives involving communities of color are depicted and in turn disseminated under the aegis of journalistic 'objectivity.' Bell identifies misleading frameworks and false equivalencies in journalism's coverage of events like the murder of the unarmed 18-year-old Michael Brown by Ferguson, MO police officer, Darren Wilson in 2014, which is explored in her work "A Teenager With Promise." Overall, the series demonstrates the extent to which white-centered, sympathetic news coverage remains pervasive within even liberal news organizations. By arguing back and calling out these inequities, Bell gives voice to the ways in which power operates through language to articulate our lived, bodily experiences in the world.

**Alexandra Bell** (b. 1983, Chicago, IL) is a multidisciplinary artist who will exhibit this year in the 2019 Whitney Biennial in New York City. Her work has been exhibited at MoMA PS1, Jeffrey Deitch, We Buy Gold, Koenig & Clinton Gallery, The Nathan Cummings Foundation, Atlanta Contemporary, Pomona College Museum of Art, Spencer Museum of Art, and Usdan Gallery at Bennington College. She received the 2018 International Center of Photography Infinity Award in the applied category and is a 2018 Soros Equality Fellow. Bell holds a B.A. in interdisciplinary studies in the humanities from the University of Chicago and an M.S. in journalism from Columbia University. She lives and works in Brooklyn, NY