

# MARISA NEWMAN PROJECTS

NATASHA SWEETEN

*What You Missed That Day You Were Absent*

May 24 – July 28, 2021

Show of Paintings & 7 Collaborations with

**Kelly Chorpeneing, Jeri Coppola, Jeff Feld, Paul Keir, Kirsten Nash, Sam Nichols and Tamara Zahaykevich**

Fully illustrated exhibition book with a conversation between Natasha Sweeten and Jeremy Sigler will accompany the show.

For the artist's first exhibition at Marisa Newman Projects, Natasha Sweeten will exhibit new paintings alongside 7 pieces that are collaborations done with 7 artists.

The title -“What You Missed That Day You Were Absent” - was borrowed, with permission, from Brad Aaron Modlin's poem “What You Missed that Day You Were Absent from Fourth Grade” from his book *Everyone at This Party Has Two Names*, published by SEMO Press. It is a response to the harrowing feeling of being disconnected during a year of forced-isolation.

Sweeten's new oil on panel paintings continue the artist's exploration in culling from nature, architecture and personal real-life experiences to create her own abstract vocabulary. These intimate paintings may sometimes appear as neural networks, charts or pathways. The abstract forms act as a metaphor for a more physical and spiritual inter-connectedness amongst our friends, family, community writ large on a global level. While the paintings are intimate, the collaborations vary in medium, size and play with representation vs. abstract vocabulary. There will also be an outdoor work installed at Grand Flag (179 Grand St near Bedford Ave. Brooklyn) from June 25 through August 1, 2021.

Natasha was born the year of Woodstock in Lexington, Kentucky, and grew up there and in southern Indiana. She studied at the Cleveland Institute of Art (BFA, 1993) and Bard College (MFA, 1996), settling in New York City in 1993. Her work has been included in several exhibitions and she has been awarded various artist grants and residencies, including the MacDowell Colony (1997), Yaddo (2000, 2001, 2003, 2005), a Project Space Studio in the PS 122 Space Program (2003-04) and a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in Painting (2006). Natasha lives with her family and bird in Brooklyn.