

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CUSP GALLERY PRESENTS

"Some Birthday, America"

Photographs by Tracy Weisman

Newport, RI — June 27 - July 19, 2026

CUSP Gallery is proud to present *Some Birthday, America*, a new exhibition by multi-disciplinary artist Tracy Weisman, marking an unflinching reflection on the United States at its 250th anniversary. Drawing from Weisman's long-standing engagement with visual metaphor, textiles and vintage materials, this body of work examines inheritance, responsibility, and national identity at a time of monumental change.

Working primarily with textile and mixed-media forms, Weisman centers the colors of the American flag as both image and metaphor. Collaged surfaces, disrupted seams and unexpected materials reference historic craft traditions while carrying a psychological and moral weight that extends beyond the personal. The works read as individual stories and ask viewers to slow down and contemplate their own place in America's narrative.

With its overt political commentary, *Some Birthday, America* occupies a space between affection and unease. Familiar symbols—flags, hands, fragments of text—are rendered with precision and sarcasm, suggesting a nation shaped as much by quiet choices as by historic proclamations. The work posits that America's survival will require leaders of character and integrity, as well as individual and communal reckoning and engagement.

To that end, Weisman's exhibition features a Christmas-in-July fundraiser inspired by George Washington's 1790 letter to the congregation of Newport's Touro Synagogue (walking distance from CUSP Gallery) in which he promised that the new country would give "...to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance." Those words, replicated on hundreds of scavenged local quahog shells, adorn a lavish "No Bigotree." The sale of the shells —plus other handmade patriotic ornaments—will benefit Newport's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, a central service provider to at-risk individuals, families and seniors.

Weisman's practice is rooted in an ethic of making that values patience, material intelligence, and emotional honesty. Bridging the intimate and the collective, *Some Birthday, America* reminds viewers that the future of our proud yet fragile democracy rests entirely in our hands.

Some Birthday, America will be on view at CUSP Gallery from June 27 through July 19, with an opening reception on June 27 from 5:00p - 8:00p.

For additional information, images, or press inquiries, please contact:

CUSP Gallery

curtis@cuspgallery.com

401.519.8598

curtisspeer.com

cuspgallery.com

IG - cuspgallerynewportri