

CINDY LISICA  
GALLERY

**PRESS RELEASE: DEBORAH G. NEHMAD**  
**TARGETED DISSONANCE**

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**Opening Reception:** Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 6-8:30PM  
**Exhibition Dates:** February 10<sup>th</sup> - March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday - Saturday 10:30AM-5:30PM



Deborah G. Nehmad, 2016  
*what's wrong with this country? - the next twelve months* (one of twelve needlepoint canvases), 14 x 14 inches

The deeply moving artwork of Deborah G. Nehmad brings stunning layers of materials and concepts, revealed through multiple series of an extensive body of work. Her contemporary style embodies a seamless blend of Abstract Expressionism and Minimalism to present mixed media works that engage audiences in rhythmic patterns and designs. The artist's latest series, on view for the first time, turns to the more traditional craft of needlepoint and the use of QR codes that can be read with cell phones to convey powerful messages to the viewer. The visually enlightening effects of her techniques employed on paper include burning, etching, scraping, scoring, stamping, puncturing, typing, writing, and drawing. Each individual mark or hole provides its own narrative, marking of time, process and presence.

Initially stemming from the artist's own personal pain, her work from the *wasted* series addresses anguish on a broader scale, incorporating compulsive mark making to translate what cannot always be conveyed adequately through verbal interactions. The tension applied to and implied by her artwork draws serious attention to disquieting issues, such as gun violence and political turmoil in the United States. This exhibition urges the viewer to unmask and recognize our humanity in troubling times, while also introducing seductive, captivating and aesthetically arresting material. **targeted dissonance** is accompanied by an illustrated catalog with written contributions by David A.M. Goldberg, Georgianna Lagoria de la Torre, and Dr. Cindy Lisica.



**Deborah G. Nehmad** (b. 1952) is a Honolulu-based artist who brings her background practice of politics and law into her artwork. She received her MFA in printmaking from the University of Hawaii, and holds a BA in government from Smith College and Juris Doctor from Georgetown University. Nehmad has participated in several solo and group exhibitions nationally and internationally, including her most recent and critically-acclaimed exhibition, *WASTED*, held at Kim Foster Gallery in New York and Honolulu Museum of Art in Hawaii. She has been awarded for her art by the Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and the Arts, has received the Individual Artist Award for Excellence in the Visual Arts, and was one of six artists included in the Sixth Biennial of Hawaii Artists at The Contemporary Museum in 2003. Her work is in numerous corporate, private, and

institutional collections, including the Achenbach collection at the Fine Art Museums of San Francisco, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Yale University Art Gallery, the Davis Museum and Cultural Center at Wellesley College, Smith College Museum of Art, Hood Museum at Dartmouth College, the Hammer Museum of UCLA, the Hawaii State Art Museum, and the Honolulu Museum of Art.