



YERBA BUENA  
CENTER FOR  
THE ARTS

**YBCA Presents *Proposal for a 28th Amendment? Is it Possible to Amend an Unequal System?* by artist collaborators Alex Strada and Tali Keren**

*This iterative and site-specific participatory exhibition invites the public to critically engage with and reimagine the U.S. Constitution*



Installation view of *Proposal for a 28th Amendment? Is it Possible to Amend an Unequal System?* at the Queens Museum.  
Photo credit: Courtesy of the Queens Museum Photo: Hai Zhang

(San Francisco—October 11, 2022) **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA)** is proud to present [\*Proposal for a 28th Amendment? Is it Possible to Amend an Unequal System?\*](#) by artist collaborators **Alex Strada and Tali Keren**. The participatory exhibition critically engages with the U.S. Constitution through video installations and sound sculptures, inviting visitors to question systems of power, and the ways these affect the boundaries of justice and the country's social fabric. The exhibition will be open to the public **Thursday, October 20, 2022** through **March 19, 2023**.

The U.S. Constitution famously opens with the phrase “We the People,” yet it was written by and for wealthy white male property owners. To date, only 27 amendments have been ratified to change the original document. Strada and Keren’s exhibition poses two central questions to visitors: What 28th Amendment would *they* propose, and is amending an unequal system even possible? These questions are rendered visible on large-scale colorful banners translated into the dominant languages of the Bay Area.

Strada and Keren explore issues of structural racism, settler-colonial violence, heteropatriarchy, reproductive justice, and the contemporary climate crisis in the context of the Constitution’s text, the amendments that have modified it over the centuries, and the jurisprudence that has grown around it. Video interviews feature the hands of legal scholars as they mark-up, redact, and re-write the document, providing insights into the history and evolution of the Constitution. Sonic soapbox sculptures invite visitors to have their own voices heard, emphasizing the importance of listening, mutuality, and accessibility.

The soapbox sculptures, central to the exhibition, emit in-progress responses to the project’s questions, which have been recorded by visitors themselves, serving as participatory oral archives that will continue to grow over the course of the exhibition. YBCA’s site-specific adaptation will open with responses gathered at the Queens Museum in New York, where the first iteration of this project was shown. YBCA visitors are invited to engage by listening and using the recording station to add their voices.

In collaboration with YBCA, Strada and Keren will develop a series of public workshops that will activate the space, as well as conversations around the exhibition and the guiding questions it raises. These gatherings will bring people together to collectively consider, question, and debate systemic repair, radical change, and abolition. They will serve as a contribution towards a collective reimagining of more equitable futures in the Bay Area and beyond.

*Proposal for a 28th Amendment? Is it Possible to Amend an Unequal System?* opens alongside the major multidisciplinary exhibition [Brett Cook & Liz Lerman: Reflection & Action](#), on October 20, 2022. Comprising more than 150 individual works that weave together video, dance, installation, painting, and other interactive works, visitors are invited to immerse themselves in the complexity and wide-reaching social impact of Cook and Lerman as catalysts for enacting change in the world. In addition, Liz Lerman’s new dance theater piece ***Wicked Bodies*** will be performed at YBCA from October 28 - 30, 2022.

For more information on these exhibitions and more, please visit [ybca.org](http://ybca.org).

### **About Alex Strada and Tali Keren**

Alex Strada (she/hers) and Tali Keren (she/hers) are NYC-based artists and educators who have been collaborating together since 2016. Their projects have been shown at the Queens Museum, NY; Anthology Film Archives, NY; Socrates Sculpture Park, NY; Goethe-Institut, NY; Museum of Moving Image, NY; MuseumsQuartier, Vienna, Austria; Kaunas Biennial, Kaunas,

Lithuania; and on the screens of Times Square with Times Square Arts' Midnight Moment. Their projects have been featured in *The New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *Vice*, *Montez Press Radio*, *New York Magazine*, and on NPR's *The Brian Lehrer Show*. Strada and Keren both received an MFA in Visual Arts from Columbia University. They are recipients of the 2022 New York Artadia Award and are 2022-2023 artists-in-residence at the Wexner Center for the Arts.

In addition, Keren has had solo exhibitions at Eyebeam, NY; Ludlow 38, NY; CCA, Tel Aviv, Israel; MOCAD, Detroit, MI; and the James Gallery, NY (forthcoming). Strada is an alumnus of the Whitney Museum's Independent Study Program, a recipient of the NYFA Women's Fund and NYSCA Film Grant, and is an Assistant Professor of Art at the Tyler School of Art at Temple University.

### **Support**

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### **About YBCA**

Opened to the public in 1993, YBCA was founded as the cultural anchor of San Francisco's Yerba Buena Gardens neighborhood. Our work spans the realms of contemporary art, performance, film, civic engagement, and public life. Centering artists as essential to social and cultural movement, YBCA is reimagining the role an arts institution can play in the communities it serves. For more information, visit <https://ybca.org/>.

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