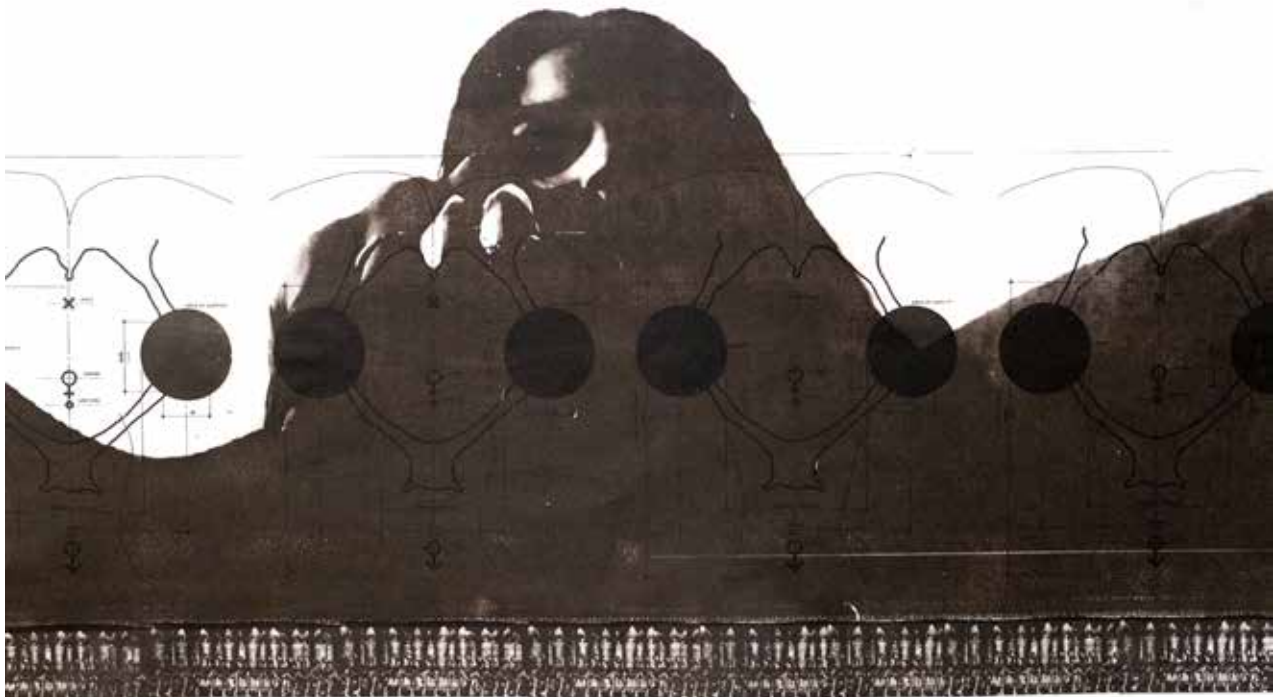


**ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION INVITES  
DARYA DIAMOND  
24 FEBRUARY–3 APRIL 2022**



Darya Diamond, *Untitled*, 2022. Digital photograph. Courtesy the artist.

Zabludowicz Collection is pleased to present an Invites exhibition by London-based Mexican-American artist Darya Diamond. Working across print, sculpture, audio and film, Diamond's practice depicts the body as a site of power, pleasure and labour.

The installation's materiality encapsulates a new multi-channel sound work of covertly recorded and abstracted exchanges between the artist and clients. A complex, emotionally vulnerable excerpt from a series of one-hour sessions of 'the girlfriend experience' – a sub-genre of prostitution in which the prostitute plays the client's 'ideal' girlfriend – Diamond destigmatises sexual labour by documenting an unexpected personal interaction. By immersing her viewer in a shared space surrounded by domestic tropes and fragments of intimacy, Diamond peels back the fetishisation of the sex industry to employ its healing and transformative power.

The installation extends from the artist's 2020 film *Judgement Proof*, in which she captures the banal scenes and conversations of sex work. Motel rooms and seaside towns form a backdrop for audio recordings of client interactions. Deconstructing the film down to its individual frames and using repeated imagery of lingerie and pornography, Diamond contextualises her past work across screen-printed and rubber-stamped cotton bedsheets.

Responding to the Methodist chapel history of the Invites space, the artist wraps her prints around the beamed architecture, creating a connection to past clients through an altar of cast artefacts and offerings to La Santa Muerte, the Mexican deity of death. The installation is fully carpeted in emerald green and features wall-mounted fixtures: in it, Diamond intersects the motel and the domestic, reclaiming sites of past transactional intimacies. A metaphor for the ritualistic routines of sex work, the installation overlays myth, spiritualism and antiquity to accommodate clients' emotional and sexual needs.

## BIOGRAPHY

Darya Diamond (b. 1991, Bay Area, California, USA) received an MFA from Goldsmiths, University of London in 2020. Recent solo exhibitions include *Judgement Proof*, Piloto Pardo, London (2020) and *My Mother the Doctor*, Leimin Gallery, Los Angeles (2017). Select group exhibitions include: *Meatspace*, The Koppel Project Hive, London (2021); *Rabbit Hole*, F Magazine, Houston (2021); *Redirecting*, Tree Art Museum, Beijing (2020); London Grads Now, Saatchi Gallery, London (2020); and *Rabbit Hole*, Niche Gallery, Los Angeles (2020). Diamond was selected for the 2021 Bloomberg New Contemporaries and participated in the Frans Masereel Residency programme in Belgium.

## NOTES FOR EDITORS

**ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION INVITES:** Dedicated to solo presentations by UK-based artists without UK commercial gallery representation.

## ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION

Zabludowicz Collection is a philanthropic organisation including a growing collection of contemporary art and a programme of international exhibitions, events and artists' residencies. Founded in 1994, the Collection is dedicated to fostering new audiences and a sustainable environment for contemporary art, offering a variety of opportunities and support for artists and art organisations. All of its activities are privately funded and free for the public to access.

### For more information, images or any other press enquiries please contact:

Julia Greenway  
+44 (0)20 7428 1651  
[julia@zabludowiczcollection.com](mailto:julia@zabludowiczcollection.com)

## VISITOR INFORMATION

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to the gallery. Our priority is keeping all visitors and staff safe.

### Admission: FREE

Thursday–Sunday,  
12–6pm or by appointment

### Café, Library and Shop

The **Shop** sells limited edition artworks,  
50% of the proceeds go directly to the artist.  
[shop.zabludowiczcollection.com](http://shop.zabludowiczcollection.com)

### Address:

176 Prince of Wales Road, London NW5 3PT  
+44 (0)207 428 8940

### Transport (TFL stations):

Chalk Farm or Kentish Town West

[info@zabludowiczcollection.com](mailto:info@zabludowiczcollection.com)  
[zabludowiczcollection.com](http://zabludowiczcollection.com)  
[twitter.com/Zabludowicz\\_Col](https://twitter.com/Zabludowicz_Col)  
[instagram.com/zabludowicz\\_collection](https://instagram.com/zabludowicz_collection)  
[facebook.com/ZabludowiczCollection](https://facebook.com/ZabludowiczCollection)