

Barbara Cole Debuts Newest Series *Surfacing* at Galerie LeRoyer this April, Celebrating Female Empowerment and Resilience

Cole's self-referential subjects and ethereal imagery contributes to an important dialogue about communal healing and overcoming social stigmas

MONTREAL – FEBRUARY 21 – Artist Barbara Cole's newest collection of works and upcoming exhibition, *Surfacing*, represents triumph, survival and self-actualization. The underwater photographic series on display this April at Montreal's Galerie LeRoyer depicts rising shimmering figures against an enigmatic backdrop of the ocean. Much like Cole's underwater images, there is a fantastical elegance to her work. Yet this series, fueled by personal history in many ways, is an ode to the power of will and strength.

Capturing the motion of rising through water, Cole metaphorically depicts the trials which bring us ultimately toward resilience, allowing us to arrive at a place of true empowerment. With depth as a common motif in both the physical setting and greater message, *Surfacing* is the embodiment of what it means to rise and conquer. Cole's female subjects are certainly a representation of herself but also of the many women that prevail through daily turmoil and issues that often are tagged with various stigmas.

Cole entered the fashion and photography world at a time when it was a predominantly male industry, navigating unfamiliar waters, so to speak, is a familiar feeling for the artist.



“The metaphor echoes my own struggles as well as my personal and artistic accomplishments. These women are taking back power and leading the way.”

Barbara Cole's *Surfacing* stands as a beautiful testament to strength and perseverance, and has a powerful autobiographical undertone/quality.

DETAILS

Barbara Cole
Surfacing
April 1 - 30, 2019
Galerie LeRoyer (GLR60)
60 St-Paul Street West
Montréal, QC
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