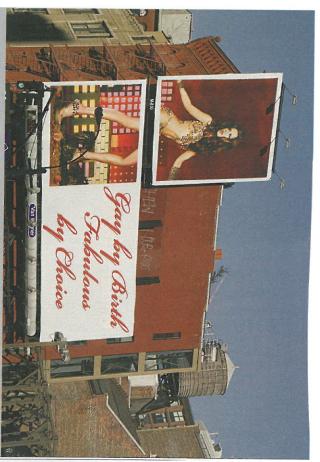
METROWEEKLY

FEBRUARY 5, 2015 Volume 21 / Issue 39



"Fabulous" Archival Ink Jet Print 2015

Allied Artist

Linda Hesh pays tribute to gay rights at Dupont's Hillyer

AY IS GOOD!" "DON'T FEAR THE QUEER."

them to billboards in original cityscape photographs tion from the many "heartfelt" homemade signs waved at gay rights rallies. Taking many of the gay-affirming slogans that have been in circulation, she digitally adds Linda Hesh, explaining her recent series of artworks, which draw inspira-"Wouldn't it be great to have big billboards like that all over?" says artist

Tribute to Homosexual Civil Rights. "When I got the opportunity to do this show, I decided I wanted to do a show only about gay rights," she says. Dupont Circle's Hillyer Art Space, Linda Hesh's All Gay Review: A Heterosexual's seven series along the same lines, all of which factor into her latest solo show at Over the past decade and a half, the photography-based artist has developed

and exploring those problems that I grew up with." when I'm doing this work about civil rights, I feel like I'm sort of doing reparations grew up, I realized that my father was homophobic and a racist and misogynist. So although, of course, as a child, I didn't know what the difference was. And then as I men," she explains. "I always knew there was something different about these men, "My mother was a fag hag - literally that's what it is. Her two best friends were gay Chicago-reared Hesh has been a straight ally for as long as she can remember

er option to snap a photo wearing a "gay" hat, a "gayer" necklace or a "gayest" sash. ects — a cutout allowing exhibit-goers to take "a selfie with a gay," as well as anoththat animal." More recently she's created a couple interactive selfie-inspired projclose and then read the text underneath [which] tells you the same-sex behavior of ing "like a normal wildlife calendar, with beautiful wildlife pictures — until you get Another series of works in the Hillyer show is a calendar Hesh describes as look-

pose and kiss "in any combination." Says Hesh: "I'll be serving milk and cookies and taking photographs." - Doug Rule Next weekend Hesh will staff a Valentine's Day Kissing Booth, where people can

The opening reception for Linda Hesh's All Gay Review is Friday, Feb. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m., while the Valentine's Day event is Saturday, Feb. 14, from 1 to 4 p.m. Exhibit runs to Feb 28. Hillyer Art Space at International Arts & Artists, 9 Hillyer Court

NW. Call 202-338-0680 or visit artsandartists.org.