



## Statement regarding “Love and Fear” exhibition at the Montclair Public Library

April 12, 2019

During the installation of the “Love and Fear” exhibition, Studio Montclair removed a piece of art by Gwenn Seemel to be in compliance with what they thought was library policy. This was a very unfortunate misunderstanding. Evidently in the past, previous library directors had objected to works with nudity or profanity. Studio Montclair believed they were following Library policy.

The Montclair Public Library does not have policy restricting what artwork is hung in the library. We support free speech and abhor censorship. Ms. Seemel and Studio Montclair have rehung the painting at our request and it will be on display through the end of the month with the rest of the exhibition “Love and Fear.” We hope it promotes thoughtful conversation and discourse.

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