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Brookline Arts Center
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2022, Brookline, MA - The Brookline Arts Center (BAC) is excited to announce the opening of *Fractured & Found*, a photography-based mixed media exhibition by Jessica Burko. The exhibition will open at the Beacon Street Gallery, 1351 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA, on Saturday October 1, 2022, and will remain on view until Sunday January 15, 2023. There will be a gallery reception on Friday, October 7th, 6-8pm, and Burko will be holding an art making workshop in the gallery on Sunday, December 11th, 2-4pm. Beacon Street Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday 11:am-7:00pm, and Sunday 1-5pm

The exhibition presents an ongoing series that combines photography and encaustic medium inside reclaimed wooden drawers. Burko says of her work, "The work makes connections between interior being and being on display, creating emotional divisiveness while in demand by conflicting forces. Searching for balance between selfhood, motherhood, working, and rest. Every role becomes compartmentalized, fitting into one another as a modular ever-changing form." Thirteen of the drawers contain photographic images of primarily fragmented self-portraits transferred into the encaustic surface. The remaining drawers come together around them pieced into towering and teetering structures. In addition to the sculptural works in the exhibition, Burko includes *Origin Story Portraits* as archival pigment prints of the drawers as found on curbsides throughout the greater Boston area.

The December 11th art making workshop, *Many Sides of Me*, is an exploration of identity and the varied aspects of personhood. During the workshop participants will create their own artwork in containers suggestive of the pieces in the exhibition. Using reclaimed materials such as shoeboxes and magazines along with a range of art supplies, artist Jessica Burko will guide the making of assemblages. Through their personal creative process each participant will make work about the complexities of their own identities. The workshop is for people of all ages, especially children and adolescents.

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About Jessica Burko: Jessica Burko has been an exhibiting artist since 1985. She holds a BFA in Fine Art Photography from Rhode Island School of Design, and an MFA in Imaging Arts and Science from Rochester Institute of Technology. Burko has shown in exhibitions throughout the United States including recently in New England with a 2018 solo show at ArtProv Gallery, Providence, RI, also in Exposure 2019 at the Photographic Resource Center, Cambridge, MA, and a 2020 solo exhibition at the Shelter In Place Gallery, Boston, MA. Her work has been reviewed in the Boston Globe, Art New England, and Artscope Magazine. Jessica Burko's studio is in the Wareham Studio Building in Boston's South End where she has been producing her photography-based mixed media work since 2006. To learn more about Jessica Burko visit www.jessicaburko.com.

About Brookline Arts Center: Founded in 1964, the Brookline Arts Center (BAC) has a reputation throughout Greater Boston for being one of the most forward-thinking and comprehensive arts centers around. The BAC serves more than 5,000 individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities each year through classes and workshops, community outreach programs, exhibitions, public art activities, and special events within and beyond the art center's walls. **To learn more about the BAC visit www.brooklineartscenter.com.**