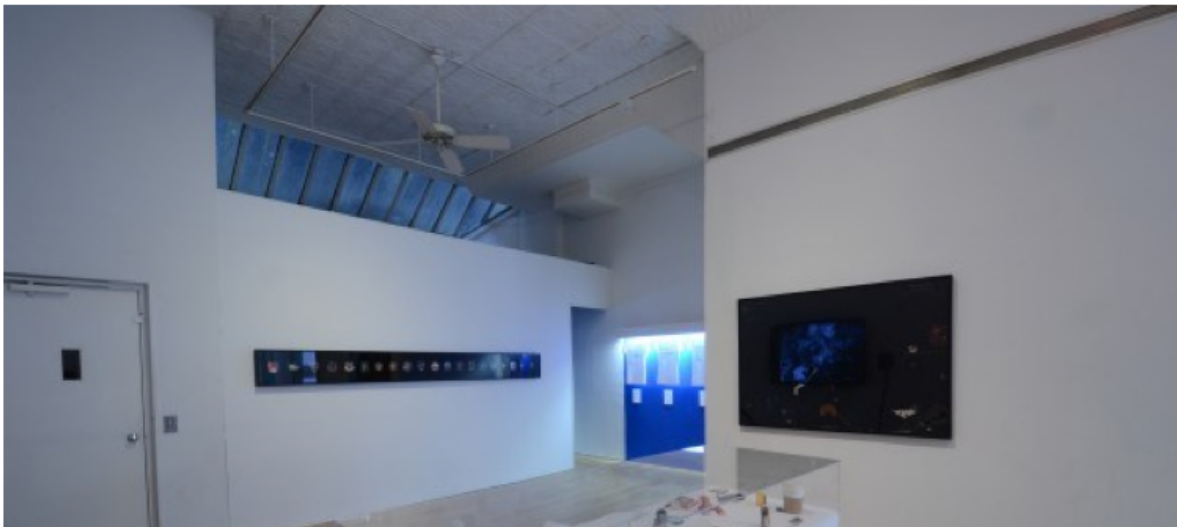


# APEXART: PRIVACY IN FLUX



SABEENA KHOSLA – JANUARY 30, 2014

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Over the weekend I paid a visit to [apexart](#), a non-profit gallery in SoHo. Their current show, *Private Matters*, explores the idea of surveillance in our lives, specifically the question of how much privacy we actually have in our technologically driven world.

Trevor Paglen's *Untitled (Predator Drone)* is a photograph with clear references to the presence of drones in our lives, though the print itself is deceptively warm with its range of color. Directly in the center of the space is Becca Albee's and Kathleen Hanna's *In Case Of – New York City*. It's a vitrine containing objects individuals have kept with them "in case of emergency."

# apexart

The work questions what we need to feel secure on a daily basis. And then there's Nilbar Güres' *Webcam-Sex*, which brings forth the notion of Internet voyeurism and how it affects our construction of the self. These and the other works made me question how much I choose to put out in the world, how the process has defined me, and more importantly, how it's made me feel over time.

This wasn't my first visit to the space. A couple of years ago I sat down with founder and executive director Steven Rand, and operating director Julia Knight. They told me all about their Unsolicited Proposal Program – a curatorial open call for anyone to enter regardless of experience.



Application to apexart requires no images or names. The jury judges each submission as anonymous artists. *Private Matters* was one of the program's winners. Julia mentioned to me how anger was a prevalent sentiment in previous proposals, and how particular themes emerge with each round.

As I looked around the room and examined the pieces I felt a lingering sense of the anger Julia discussed: anger that has shifted into anxiety, of uneasiness about potential threats to our security, whether on a global, long-term scale, or a personal everyday one.

While the concept of "anyone can make art" is almost a cliché at this point, apexart's mission revolves around "anyone can present it." It's indicative of Steven's goal of creating a viable platform for artists/curators to speak for themselves and allow for genuine expression. Yet the exhibit doesn't leave you feeling bombarded. Its message is clear. This show is intuitive, honest, and due to the efforts of apexart, truly relevant.

Pay [apexart](http://apexart.org) a visit before the *Private Matters* show ends March 1st. Tell them we sent you.

<http://daepnyc.com/culture/privacy-flux-apexart/>

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