### Art Museum of Southeast Texas

### 500 Main

Fall 2019

The Legacy of Narcissus

### PRINCE VARUGHESE THOMAS

On View September 24 through December 1, 2019 Opening Reception Friday, October 4 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Family Arts Day, Saturday, October 26 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

his exhibition will feature works by Prince Varughese Thomas, a multidisciplinary artist who is part of what has come to be known as the Indian Diaspora. Thomas is Indian by birth, naturalized in the US, and raised primarily between India and the United States. His work reflects his sense of the world growing up outside of the dominant culture in which he exists. Thomas's immersive multimedia exhibition will fill the entire gallery space of the museum including brand new works of photography, video, drawings, and three-dimensional installations. The Legacy of Narcissus explores the intersection of Social Media, Art, and Politics that speak about our collective Narcissism as a culture.

Thomas received his B.A. in Psychology from the University of Texas at Arlington, and his M.F.A. from the University of Houston. He is currently a professor at Lamar University. He is an Art Prize 7 award recipient in time-based media, and is a Texas Biennial Artist. His work has been included in over 200 solo and group exhibitions at museums, galleries and alternative spaces nationally and internationally. His recent exhibitions include a solo exhibition of charcoal drawing at Hooks-Epstein Galleries in Houston, a multimedia exhibition at the Asia Society Texas Center, and video at the CICA Museum in South Korea. He is currently represented by Hooks-Epstein Galleries in Houston, Texas.



Prince Varughese Thomas, *Portrait of Lilly Singh, from Masters of the Universe series*, 2019, pigment print on photo rag paper, 20 x 20 in.,

Loan Courtesy of the Artist and Hooks-Epstein Galleries

This exhibition is generously funded, in part, by Kathé and Jim Hendricks, Kim and Roy Steinhagen, Alexandra Irvine, the City of Beaumont, the Wesley W. Washburn M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

### EMILY PEACOCK: Awake and Breathing Hard

On View December 14, 2019 through March 1, 2020 Opening Reception Friday, December 13 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Family Arts Day, Saturday, February 15, 2020 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Emily peacock: Awake and Breathing Hard will welcome visitors into the world of multimedia artist Emily Peacock, whose work explores issues of identity, intimacy, loss, motherhood, protection and safety. She also addresses her battles with Postpartum depression, a public health issue that affects 10 to 15 percent of mothers. By talking with new mothers and making visual work for a public audience, Peacock encourages women to open up about their experiences without fear or shame and start to de-stigmatize this disorder. This exhibition will be driven by autobiographical explorations through photography, sculpture, and video works.

Born in Port Arthur, Texas, Peacock earned her degree at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, and her Masters at the University of Houston. Her work has been exhibited in exhibitions at galleries and art spaces including the Houston Center for Photography, Art League Houston, Lawndale Art Center, Anzenberger Gallery in Vienna, Austria, the Galveston Arts Center, and Blue Star Lab in San Antonio. among others. She is currently a professor at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas and lives in Houston. Texas. Her work is included in the collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.



 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Emily Peacock, } \textit{Safety Suit \#2, 2018,} \\ \text{archival inkjet print mounted to aluminum, 30 x 20 in.} \\ \text{Loan Courtesy of the Artist} \end{array}$ 

This exhibition is generously funded in part by the City of Beaumont, the Wesley W. Washburn M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

### DAVID MCGEE: Black Paintings

On View December 14, 2019 through March 1, 2020 Opening Reception Friday, December 13 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Family Arts Day, Saturday, February 15, 2020 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



David McGee, *Ragnar*, 2016, 60 x 48 in. Loan Courtesy of the Artist and Texas Gallery

his exhibition is composed mainly of thirty paintings by Houston-based painter David McGee. The abstract series titled *Urban Dread* consists of mixed-media paintings that are black

and white, with hard edged diagonals, squares, rectangles, crosses, and loops evoking the buildings, streets, and signage of an "urban" neighborhood, the word "urban" being a long held euphemism for "African American." McGee calls on the inspiration of Barnett Newman's Stations of the Cross as the germ of the idea for *Urban Dread*. The series will be in dialogue with other oil and mixed media paintings. Through thoughtprovoking paintings McGee explores his role as a black, male artist in 21st century America. Challenging labels, his work comments on contemporary culture and his place within it.

Born in Lockhart,
Louisiana, David McGee
currently resides in Houston,
Texas. McGee received
his BA from Prairie View
A&M University, and
since has become one
of the most prolific and
renowned painters in the
Houston art scene and
beyond. His paintings

have been the focus of several solo exhibitions at DiverseWorks and Texas Gallery. McGee's work is held in the collections of many prominent institutions including The Menil Collection, Art Museum of Southeast Texas, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Addison Gallery, Dallas Museum of Art, and Harvard University Museums. He is the recipient of multiple prestigious grants from the Ioan Mitchell Foundation, the Mid-America Arts Alliance, Texas Artists and Lawyers for the Arts, and the Houston Art Alliance. His work has also been featured in a variety of publications including The Village Voice, The Wall Street Journal, Art in America and ARTnews.

This exhibition is generously funded in part by the City of Beaumont, the Wesley W. Washburn M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, the Texas Commission on the Arts and the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation.

### CAFÉ ARTS SERIES

FOR LOCAL ARTISTS

## CRAIG ODLE: Experiments and Evolution

On View August 29 - November 17, 2019



Craig Odle, *I Don't Want No Water Ma!*, 2019, mixed media on canvas, 16 x 20 in.

#### **Artist Bio**

Craig Odle was born in Houston, Texas in 1987 and grew up in Beaumont, Texas. He is a pop-surrealist/lowbrow painter who finds inspiration in day-to-day life. The concepts he uses in his paintings come to him from conversations, music, movies, dreams and sometimes just odd thoughts. The titles used for his pieces generally speak to whatever idea that was used in the conception of the piece. Sometimes his pieces have a deep or dark meaning while other times the piece may seem like a riddle or a pun.

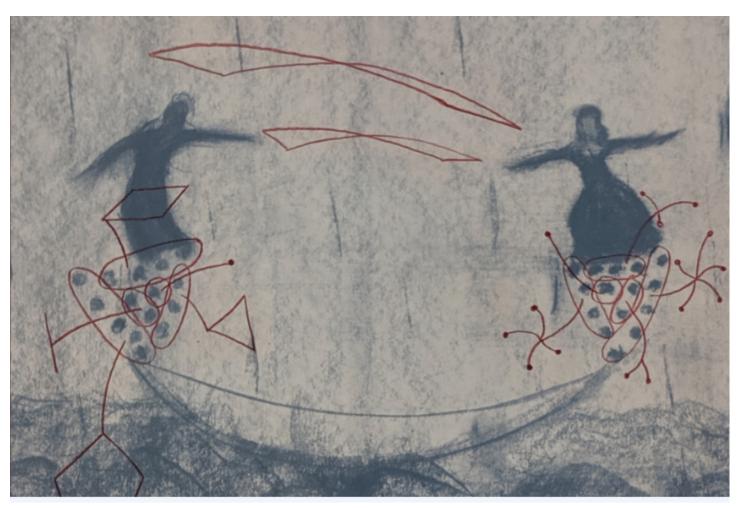
### **Artist Statement**

If we look at life and the world all around us, we can see evolution firsthand. I believe that my experience and progression with my passion to create is no different. I had an experience around four years ago that changed my outlook on art and what it would take to move forward

with my craft, and since then I have, one day at a time, moved further away from my comfort zone. Over time I have begun to believe that my art is a living thing-when it is pushed and nourished it evolves like every other living being in the universe. These pieces showcase many of the

experiments that took place to help my painting practice grow into what it is currently. Only time, and the evolution that takes place during that time, will tell as to what the future holds for me and the canvases that cross my path. - Craig Odle

# ON VIEW IN THE CONN GALLERY: CHARMAINE LOCKE & JAMES SURLS



Charmaine Locke and James Surls, *Dancing on the Water Making Magic Together* (detail), 2007, chine-collé etching, commissioned for AMSET Gala 2017, PC 2013.01.01

harmaine Locke and James
Surls live and work in Carbondale,
Colorado, although their roots are
planted deep in Southeast Texas.
They both attended college in
Texas, and lived for many years
in Splendora. They have exhibited
their work in numerous state and
national institutions, and have been
key figures in promoting awareness
of Texas Arts and Artists. Their
public installations can be seen

throughout Houston, New Orleans, Corpus Christi, and their work is included in private and public collections all over the world. This year, AMSET is proud to honor both Charmaine Locke and her husband James Surls at its 32nd Annual Anniversary Gala, not only for their inimitable works of art, but also for their monumental contributions to the Texas arts.

hrough abstracted gestures, language and symbols, or recognizable imagery, Charmaine Locke's paintings awaken visions of space and our place in our environment. In *Synaptic Potential*, a space is revealed to us in the lower portion of the painting. It seems to try and connect with the space above it, though the space seems almost immeasurable. Non-traditional materials like micro-crystalline wax are combined with language in *Tears*,

### CONT.



Synaptic Potential, 2005, mixed media on panel, Loan Courtesy of the Artist



*Tears*, 2005, mixed media on panel, Loan Courtesy of the Artist



Night Wonders, 2005, mixed media on panel, Loan Courtesy of the Artist

evoking associations that lead to a deeper message in the piece; a contemplation and response to the fact that over 200 million people were killed at the hands of other humans in the 20th century for religious reasons, territorial disputes, world wars or regional, ethnic atrocities. Charmaine Locke sheds light on this darker side of human nature, with an emphasis on altering those

impulses. We are led into a peaceful offering by a female figure in *Night Wonders*, leaving us with thoughts of the possibilities of peace in the space we occupy. Charmaine Locke utilizes her background in psychology to portray human behavior and motivations in a visual format, translating through an art lens so that her sense of human life may be read through visual symbols.

ames Surls creates sculptures, drawings and prints which reflect his unique sensibility towards fluid and evocative natural form. Using gestures that are seen reflected in nature such as leaves, flowers, and ripples, we are transported to a world where nature takes over how we

translate our own world. Wood is transformed into an object in motion in *Walking in Abstract*, marked with eyes, the artist's symbols acknowledging the object's being. *In Standing Water Flowers*, the newest addition of the artist's work into AMSET's permanent collection, a string of flowers is seen



Walking in Abstract, 1979-1980, wood, gift of Alys E. Holden in memory of William Holden II, PC 2010.09

### CONT.

suspended in time as they seem to spiral and roll as one collective. Similarly, patterns emerge from unified symbols in the drawing We Walk in Abstract. Below it is an object which is at once inviting and also threatening with its soft edged thorns attached to a playfully spotted core. Small Dragon recalls the dichotomy of nature, as creator and destroyer.

Upon entering the museum, there is a large, suspended sculpture in the foyer. Look and Listen is made of wood and steel and invites one to spend time in its presence, looking at and listening to the surroundings. This piece is in the permanent collection of AMSET, and will be here to visit and enjoy for years to come.



Look and Listen, 1987, pine and steel, museum purchase, PC 2013.02.01



Standing Water Flowers, 2006, stainless steel and bronze, gift of Barbara and Michael Gamson, PC 2019.07



Installation photo from the Conn Gallery, Fall 2019

## WEST HALL SPOTLIGHT: JOHN ALEXANDER



The Beast, Arnhem Land, Northern Australia, 2001, pastel and charcoal on paper, museum purchase with funds from Regina Rogers, Barbara and Robert Quinn, Rita and Richard Ashley, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Parigi, Frances Bethea, Victor Rogers, and Gilbert Low, PC 2003.02

he work of John Alexander reflects nature in its true forms, depicting undisturbed beauty and vibrant natural wonders. Many of the works throughout the artist's career have been inspired by the Southeast Texas region that the artist called home for many years. Born in 1945 in Beaumont, Texas, Alexander remained in southeast Texas until entering graduate school at Southern Methodist University in Dallas in 1969. Upon completing an MFA in 1970, he moved to Houston, established a studio and became a member of the art faculty of the University of Houston. In the late 1970s, Alexander left Texas for New York where he currently resides, although he often revisits the Southeast. Alexander has exhibited extensively in the United States and around the world and has had major retrospectives at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. The Art Museum of Southeast Texas is honored to have six works by John Alexander in our permanent collection. Four of these are on display along the walls of the West Hall, along with two works currently on loan to the museum. We are proud to have Beaumont native John Alexander as our honorary chair for this year's annual Gala.



*Big Spring*, 1998, oil on canvas, gift of James Surls and Charmaine Locke, PC 2006.07.01

### In the Eye of the Beholder:

An Evening of Art & Hors D'oeuvres



he Art
Museum of Southeast
Texas (AMSET)
hosted "In the Eye
of the Beholder:
An Evening of Art
& Hors D'oeuvres,"
an art sale and
museum fundraiser,
on Thursday, June
27, 2019. The event
was chaired by Jan
Fulbright and Kathy
Gober and was a huge
success.

Over 100 pieces of artwork were available for purchase. Most of the artwork included those that were a part of John Gaston Fairey's collection of Mexican Folk Art. Fairey donated over 1,000 objects from his collection with the intent of offering some pieces for sale. Proceeds from the Fairey sale items are





Event chairs Kathy Gober & Jan Fulbright

helping to offset the expenses of caring for the objects designated for the permanent collection. There was a wide selection of ceramics, textiles and mixed media objects.

The sale also included works on paper by the late George Wentz, a local Beaumont artist, as well as original drawings by the late Ruth Orr, a Beaumont-area artist and art teacher, as well as a selection of international posters. There was also a silent auction comprised of 20 pieces of artwork, including premier selections from the Fairey Collection.

### ART MUSEUM OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS

## ancing HATER

32nd Anniversary Gala

### HONORARY CHAIR

JOHN ALEXANDER

### ARTIST HONOREES

CHARMAINE LOCKE & JAMES SURLS

### GALA HONOREE

ALBERT NOLEN, Fine Art Patron

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### AUCTION COMMITTEE

NIKKI ALBANESE KAREN BABINEAUX LISA COON GERALD FARHA CANDICE WALTERS

Help AMSET celebrate its 32nd anniversary as we are Dancing on the Water at the Event Centre on Saturday, September 28th this year! Cocktails will begin at 7:30 p.m. with dinner provided by Bandos Catering at 8:30 p.m., followed by dancing to the Flava band. There will also be exciting live and silent auctions.

The gala will feature honorary gala chair John Alexander and recognize our gala honorees, internationally recognized artists, James Surls & Charmaine Locke, and the extraordinary museum patron Albert E. Nolen. A powerhouse gala committee of Judy Black, Sandra Clark, Sandy Fertitta, Karen Fuljenz, Kathé Hendricks, Aggie In, Janey Phelan and Kim Steinhagen will oversee the logistics of this fundraiser party.

Led by emcee Roy Steinhagen and auctioneer Gary Moncla, a talented auction committee of Nikki Albanese, Karen Babineaux, Lisa Coon and Candice Walters



will be sure to delight party goers with some amazing and creative live and silent auction packages.

Please join us in

raising funds to support exhibition and education programming. Shimmery attire optional/cocktail chic.

Contact AMSET at (409) 832-3432 or visit www.amset.org for further details.

he Art Museum of Southeast Texas is launching an exciting new program called AMSET: First Thursdays with Jazz. The museum will stay open until 7:30 p.m. each first Thursday evening of the month, except in January when it falls on January 2, and in July, due to the July 4th weekend. From 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday, we will provide live jazz musical entertainment and light refreshments. This programming is in response to the new Downtown Beaumont Cultural Arts District designation that was recently recognized by the Texas Commission on the Arts. First Thursdays aim to grow into a downtown collaborative event and eventually a city-wide event. This new program targets audiences of art and jazz lovers and evening event participants while generating further interest in the museum. It is always free to the public!

### First Thursday

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Admission: Free

Wine & beer for purchase + light refreshments

Art Museum of Southeast Texas



### AMSET: First Thursdays with Jazz Calendar

October 3, 2019, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

November 7, 2019, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

December 5, 2019, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

in conjunction with the Holiday Tree Lighting

No January event due to New Year's

February 6, 2020, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

March 5, 2020, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

April 2, 2020, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

May 7, 2020, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

June 4, 2020, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

No July event due to July 4th

August 6, 2020, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

September 3, 2020, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Goodyear Beaumont Chemical & Chisum Resources Management

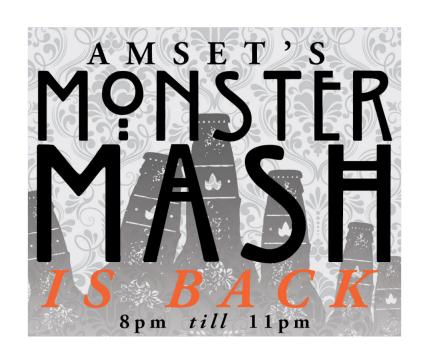
First Thursdays began at Katharine and Company, a local lunch-time restaurant, a few years ago. Katharine and Company started staying open late the first Thursday of every month to serve dinner. To enhance the evening crowd, they also invite area local artists to sell their art on the sidewalk around the restaurant with live music. Since then, other businesses in their area have joined in. AMSET's First Thursdays will act as a catalyst to entice people to AMSET to see the current exhibitions and to hear great jazz and then to go out for dinner.

Musician Toby Castro is scheduling the jazz programming with a different featured jazz artist each month accompanied by talented bands. The line-up of musicians include Rick Condit – director of jazz studies and professor of saxophone at Lamar University, Kelly Dean – a saxophone player and vocalist, Dennis Dotson – a trumpet player and Jimmy Simmons – acclaimed saxophone, clarinet and piano player.

Admission: FREE

### BPPS & BREWS: AMSET'S MPNSTER MASH

rab your Freakster Friday friends and float on over to The Monster Mash....an AMSET Bash from 8 – 11 p.m. on Friday, October 18 to enjoy the groundbreaking spooky sounds (music) by Still Cruisin. Chaired by Lisa Coon, this event is for ages 21 – 210. There will be spirited libations as well as Octoberfest and pumpkin brews from Del Papa and Giglio Distrubiting Co., including the popular hard ciders. Grub good enough for goblins will come from the cauldrons of Two Magnolias. A creative costume contest will ensue with prizes for the scariest, most creative, and best couple. Pre-sale tickets are \$35 and \$40 at the door. Tickets can be had in a myriad of mystical ways such as.... bought on the AMSET website, contacting your favorite "Boo-ya" board member or by going on-line www.amset.org, or by calling (409) 832-3432.



BookClub
ART MUSEUM OF

SOUTHE	AST	TEXAS	3
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Date	Tuesday: November 12: 2019
Time	5:30 p.m.
Address	Art Museum of Southeast Texas 500 Main St., Beaumont, TX 77701
Book Selection	<i>The Art Forger</i> by Barbara Shapiro
Details	Join us for light refreshments & a discussion of <i>The Art Forger</i>

Kindly RSVP by emailing ktimberlake@amset.org or calling 409.832.3432

### AMSET BOOK CLUB

ur next book club meeting will be Tuesday, November 12th at 5:30 p.m. in the library at AMSET. We will be discussing *The Art Forger* by Barbara Shapiro.

Bring your appetite for refreshments and a hearty conversation over the novel! Invite your friends because it's bound to be a literary success.

Kindly RSVP by calling 409.832.3432 or emailing ktimberlake@amset.org.

### EDUCATION

Atten-tion! Boot Camp comes to AMSET, graphic novel style. In partnership with Lamar University, AMSET will be hosting a Comic Boot Camp one Saturday every month from September through December!

Enlistees will learn to professionally create an 8 page Mini-Comic, from the beginning stages all the way to final printing. Comic Boot Camp drill sergeants, Christopher Troutman and Zachary Dubuisson, will demonstrate tips and techniques such as drawing, inking and layout. Throughout the camp, comic enlistees will play drawing games, learn about comic artists and have fun creating their own unique visual narratives!

Comic Boot Camp reservations were open to the public and filled quickly.



#### **About the Drill Sergeants:**

Christopher Troutman received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in drawing and painting from Bradley University in 2003 and his Master of Fine Arts in drawing and painting from California State University, Long Beach in 2008. He is currently an Assistant Professor at Lamar University where he teaches all levels of drawing.

Zachary Dubuisson received a Bachelor in Arts in General Studies from Lamar University in 2005 and a Master of Fine Arts in Photography from Indiana University Bloomington in 2011. Dubuisson is currently an Instructional Designer at Lamar University and has previously taught Art Appreciation and Design classes at Lamar University.









### **EDUCATION**

### October 26, 2019 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### **Admission: Free**



\*Thanks to Bill Clark Pest Control who provides the fried crickets!

"Eat a Bug!" Family Arts Day is one of AMSET's most popular events, where children and their families are tempted to eat fried crickets. Handson art activities will focus on the many cultures of our region and the current exhibit on view, *Prince Varughese Thomas: The Legacy of Narcissus*. Entertainment includes Latin American music and dancing. Children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes.

For more info, visit amset.org or www.facebook.com/amsetx.



Holiday Tree Lighting, 2018

### Holiday Tree Lighting Party

It's almost time to get your family's Santa hats and holiday sweaters ready, because the 2019 Holiday Season will begin Thursday, December 5th at 4 p.m. with the traditional Downtown Museum District's Holiday Tree Lighting.

Bring your children to meet representatives of AMSET and our neighboring museums and organizations. Children will enjoy the holiday atmosphere, make an ornament for the most beautiful holiday tree in downtown, visit with Santa, write a letter to him to remind him about toy and clothing wishes and decorate a cookie to eat.

And most of all, children will delight in creating Spin Art Ornaments - one for our tree, one for yours - with the Art Museum of Southeast Texas. Don't miss this child and family oriented holiday season kick-off!!!

## Gingerbread House Workshop.

Saturday, December 7, 2019 | 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Members - \$40 for one house; \$60 for two houses Non-Members - \$50 for one house; \$70 for two houses (Maximum - two people per house)

Circle the date! Clear your calendar! Call your friends! AMSET invites you to join us for our Annual Holiday Gingerbread House Workshop.

Make plans to join us from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 7th to create your very own gingerbread house to add to your home's holiday atmosphere.

Sign up early! Gingerbread is prepared and decorations are customized especially for this tasty workshop. Because advanced preparation is required, space is limited and registration is required.

Registration begins November 4, 2019. Visit amset.org for more information or call (409) 832-3432 for more details and to register.



2018 Gingerbread House Workshop participants

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How was your visit? We'd like to know! Leave AMSET a review on Facebook or TripAdvisor.





### **Art Museum of Southeast Texas (AMSET)**

2018 - 2019 Contributors of \$250+

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Café Arts Series for Local Artists -Craig Odle: Experiments and Evolution August 29 - November 17, 2019

PRINCE VARUGHESE THOMAS: The Legacy of Narcissus On view September 24 - December 1, 2019

32nd Anniversary Gala: Dancing on the Water

Saturday, September 28, 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.

Annual Meeting & Reception

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m.

First Thursday at AMSET

Thursday, October 3, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

Fall Exhibition Opening Reception

Friday, October 4, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

Comic Boot Camp: Session #2

Saturday, October 12, 2019 @ 1 p.m.

Boos & Brews: AMSET's Monster Mash

Friday, October 18, 2019 @ 8 p.m.

"Eat a Bug" Family Arts Day

Saturday, October 26, 2019 @ 10 a.m.

Comic Boot Camp: Session #3

Saturday, November 2, 2019 @ 1 p.m.

First Thursday at AMSET

Thursday, November 7, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

Taste of the Arts Lecture Series

Friday, November 8, 2019 @ 12:30 p.m.

**AMSET Book Club** 

Tuesday, November 12, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

Collectors Club Home Tour

Thursday, November 14, 2019 @ 6 p.m.

Café Arts Series for Local Artists - Jerome Cabeen: Window to the World-The People & The Places

November 21, 2019 - February 2, 2020

Holiday Tree Lighting

Thursday, December 5, 2019 @ 4 p.m.

Gingerbread House Workshop

Saturday, December 7, 2019 @ 9:30 a.m.

Winter Exhibitions Opening Reception

Friday, December 13, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

EMILY PEACOCK: Awake and Breathing Hard

On view December 14, 2019 - March 1, 2020

DAVID MCGEE: Black Paintings

On view December 14, 2019 - March 1, 2020





