CURRENT EXHIBITION

JOOYOUNG CHOI:
BIG TIME DREAMING
IN THE AGE OF UNCERTAINTY

On View March 16 through June 2, 2019
Opening Reception Friday, March 22 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Featured Speaker: Artist JooYoung Choi

JOOYOUNG CHOI: Big Time Dreaming in the Age of Uncertainty
is a mixed media, site-specific installation inspired by Choi’s ongoing investigation of her Cosmic Womb mythology. Born in Seoul, South Korea, Choi was adopted at the age of one and grew up in Concord, New Hampshire with American parents. In 2007, she was reunited with her birth family. As an adopted child and one of the only Asians living in her New Hampshire community, she grew up feeling different and lonely – her imagination became her creative salvation. Choi is a “world building artist” who lives and works in Houston. She uses puppets, props, home videos, toys and drawings inspired from her childhood to explore her on-going and fictional world, the Cosmic Womb. Choi’s installation resembles a dream-like, make-believe world. Viewers entering the Cosmic Womb will experience an out-of-this-world phenomena of large-scale soft sculptures, a video station, as well as puppets and mixed media paintings. The artist participated in a residency at AMSET during her installation, interacting with museum visitors throughout the process. She also taught a flower workshop, open to the public prior to her installation, inviting participants to create a flower that she then incorporated into her installation. A documentary film by Ronald Jones about Choi and her work is on view in the Conn Take pART Gallery as part of our interpretative programming.

JooYoung Choi, Tourmaline, the Celestial Architect, 2018, acrylic paint and paper layered on canvas, 60 x 48 inches, Loan Courtesy of the Artist, photo credit Tom DuBrock

This exhibition is generously funded, in part, by an award from the Edaren Foundation, the Texas Commission on the Arts, an anonymous donor, the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Beaumont, the Wesley W. Washburn, M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund and the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation.
To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.
JULES BUCK JONES:
FUTURE FOSSILS

On View March 16 through June 2, 2019
Opening Reception Friday, March 22 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Featured Speaker: Artist Jules Buck Jones

Jules Buck Jones, Wrong Wind, 2018, ink, watercolor, and pastel on paper, 72 x 114 inches, Loan Courtesy of the Artist

Jules Buck Jones: Future Fossils features artwork inspired by animals of America, including vibrant paintings, sculpture, drawings and mixed-media in a site-specific installation. Upon entering the gallery, viewers will be confronted by a monumental “Mosasaur” skeleton sculpture suspended from the ceiling. The walls are embellished with a wrap-around diorama behind new paintings and drawings, acting as the scenic backdrop. Renditions of extinct animals and threatened species, along with a sound piece, give the gallery a feeling of entering a wild and wacky natural history museum. Mixed media framed works will be on display in the adjoining gallery space.

Jones also has an Animal Facts Club that creates and envisions interactive performances for children, educating them on animal and biological facts. Jones attended Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond (2005) and received an MFA in Painting at the University of Texas at Austin. The artist participated in an artist residency at AMSET during his installation. A monograph, Wild: Jules Buck Jones, published by the artist is available in the gift shop, and a book signing will take place at the opening reception.

This exhibition is generously funded in part by Sheila & Jerry Reese, Rob Clark & Jerry Thacker, an award from the Edaren Foundation, the Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Beaumont, the Wesley W. Washburn, M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund and the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation.

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UPCOMING EXHIBITION

SELECTIONS FROM THE
PERMANENT COLLECTION:
GULF COAST LORE & LURE

On View June 15 through September 1, 2019
Opening Reception Friday, June 21 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

This summer exhibition will feature works from AMSET’s permanent collection with a seaside theme. As stated in our institutional mission, we strive to provide education, inspiration and creative vision throughout Southeast Texas through our unique collections, exhibitions and public programs. Over the years, AMSET’s permanent collection has grown from 200 to nearly 2,000 objects, focusing our collections on contemporary Texas artists and regional folk art. The generous donations of our museum patrons, collectors and artists allow us to continuously build our collections. This exhibition of selections, solely from the permanent collection, will feature works that draw inspiration from our rich coastline. Gulf Coast Lore and Lure will entice Southeast Texans to view artwork that gives our area its regional appeal and artistic inspiration.

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

David Bates, Low Tide, 1990, oil on canvas, 86 x 48 inches, Museum purchase with funds provided by the Carol Tyrell Kyle bequest and the gift from Mrs. Anna Marie Brown.
Artist Statement

“Happy accidents” is a term used by my watercolor professor, Robert O’Neil. He knew that beginner watercolorists are afraid to make "mistakes." He made us realize that even though watercolor may be difficult to control, if accidents happen, they can enhance the work and therefore be “happy accidents.” Most of the works in this exhibition are products of a “happy accident.” I normally start by wetting the paper and applying paint; I primarily use the “wet on wet” technique. I like the fluid results it produces and the blending of colors on the paper. It is fast paced, immediate and exciting, resulting in an explosion of color.

Having initially learned oil painting, I approach watercolor from a different perspective. Many times, my first attempt does not achieve the results desired. I later wash off the top layer of paint, which yields wet paper and a patina of underlying colors. I then apply wet paints onto the surface. Sometimes this process is repeated as many as three times until I receive the desired results. The objectives of the painting may change, but it is the end result that is important.

All of my landscape paintings are created outside, en plein air, at the Tyrrell Park Garden Center. I am grateful to Doug Oldbury and the staff at the garden for creating an inspiring environment. Painting in the park is always a winner for me. Even if the painting does not turn out well, I have had a nice day in the peaceful park setting while meeting friendly people.

During my working years I did not have the time or energy to paint. After retirement, I decided to get back into art and focus on landscape painting – nature has a story to tell regardless of the season. The color of trees constantly changes over the course of the year, transitioning with the new greens of spring or the chilling blue colds of winter. I appreciate the cloud shapes and colors that set the mood of a work. I love capturing the peaceful moments as dusk approaches with nature's last intense burst of light and color.

When I retired, I returned to watercolor painting. The best advice came from my college buddy and art educator friend, Jamie Paul Kessler. He told me to “enjoy myself.” Over the last four years I have enjoyed myself while continuing to learn my craft in an effort to produce good art.
A Vintage Valentine, our first annual Valentine’s wine pairing dinner/fundraiser was a huge success. Art museum love must have been in the air that day because it was a sold-out affair. Who knew we could accommodate 226 people to a sit-down dinner inside of the art museum without using the galleries? The net profit for the event was just over $17,000 and our goal was $10,000. The 15 big red balloons containing the prizes were a hot sales item. We sold out in the first 30 minutes of the party. Everyone loved the food provided by Two Magnolias with smoked salmon from Seafood Lover and desserts prepared by The New Southerner, and of course the wine.

We owe a great deal of gratitude to our chair, Sandra Clark, who plans well in advance to make events like this a success and our logistics chair, Albert Nolen, who is a wizard at ticket sales and seating. Camille Ohmstede came through yet again with her brilliant decorations. It was her idea to use the desserts as the centerpieces and to give each table a “sweet” take home box. She is a quick thinker and an excellent problem solver. Thanks also goes to Kathé Hendricks who meticulously planned out the menu. Karen Fuljenz, who is the busiest worker bee that seems to magically appear when we need her, helped with all tasks. Sandy Fertitta was instrumental in securing the red balloon prizes and Aggie In and Pat Klein helped in a myriad of other ways.

All funds raised for this event will go towards supporting our exhibition and education programs.
AMSET hosted its first book club meeting on Tuesday, November 13th, and it was one for the books! Book lovers gathered together to discuss Zachary Lazar’s novel, Vengeance, over light snacks.

Our next book club meeting will be Tuesday, April 9th at 5:30 p.m. at AMSET. We will be discussing Loving Frank by Nancy Horan. 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 April 4th to: ktimberlake@amset.org or call 409.832.3432.
On Thursday, February 21st, teachers, friends and family joined the Art Museum of Southeast Texas staff for the opening reception of the 33rd Annual Protégé Competition & Exhibition. Twenty exhibitors were selected from entries submitted by 11 different high schools.

Scholarships donated by Lamar’s Friends of the Arts were awarded to the first, second and third place winners. First through third place winners, honorable mentions, and the teacher of the first place winner all received gift cards for art supplies.

Prizes were awarded to:
1st Place Alex Wilson, Evadale High School
2nd Place Angela Lopez, East Chambers High School
3rd Place Drashti D. Patel, West Brook High School
Two Honorable Mentions were awarded to:
Maggie Mayo, Chester High School
Gabriel Mouton, Evadale High School

This program is sponsored by Market Basket, who has been the sponsor since its inception.

The exhibition will be on view at AMSET until March 24th, and then it will tour various schools in the area until May 2019. Call 409-832-3432 for tour details.

Join us from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 18, 2019 for Family Arts Day! This fun day will be about creating works of art inspired by our spring exhibitions, JOOYOUNG CHOI: Big Time Dreaming in the Age of Uncertainty and JULES BUCK JONES: Future Fossils.

This popular event is FREE and open to the public. So don’t miss it and bring your friends!
Summer ArtVentures 2019

Join AMSET for Summer ArtVentures 2019. This year’s line-up of week-long, half-day workshops, from June 3 through July 12, is more exciting than ever, with architecture, sculpture, two-dimensional mixed media, melt-able media, clay and much more!

ArtVentures is offered Monday through Friday with two workshops per day: morning classes are from 9 a.m. to noon; afternoons are 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. A one day-long workshop from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. is offered for TeenVentures week. Children ages 5-14 may choose from many class options for a high-quality, intensive art education experience. All courses are taught by artists and art professionals, and the participants work closely with these respected artists in a variety of mediums.

Campers are divided into three age groups, with each course designed for age-appropriate art activities:

· **Young ArtVenturers** – Children ages 5-7 will have the opportunity to sample clay, paint and mixed media through simplified projects formatted for their age group. These classes will be augmented with art-related story times and outdoor activities.

· **ArtVenturers** – Children ages 8-11 will have many exciting courses to choose from including melt-able media, clay, mixed media, and even sculpture.

· **TeenVentures in Art** – Keep teens active and engaged in making art – a valuable life skill. TeenVentures in Art is a special week, July 1-July 5, just for 12 to 14-year-olds interested in exploring more advanced artmaking practices. This summer, teen campers will investigate America’s exceptional modern art movements in order to gain the inspiration needed to create their own unique works of art.

The cost for Summer ArtVentures is $75 for members, $135 for non-members for the first child’s first class, $75 for each additional child and $70 for each additional class. The non-member fee includes a one-year family membership. Scholarships are also available.
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Protégé 2019
On view February 21, 2019 - March 24, 2019

JooYoung Choi: Big Time Dreaming in the Age of Uncertainty
On view March 16, 2019 - June 2, 2019

Jules Buck Jones: Future Fossils
On view March 16, 2019 - June 2, 2019

Go for the Gold
Thursday, March 21, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

Spring Exhibitions Opening Reception
Friday, March 22, 2019 @ 6 p.m.

AMSET Book Club
Tuesday, April 9, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

Café Arts Series Featuring Sandy Walker
On view April 18 - June 23, 2019

Spring Family Arts Day
Saturday, May 18, 2019 @ 10 a.m.

Summer ArtVentures Creative Kids Camp
June 3 - July 12, 2019

Selections from the Permanent Collection
On view June 15 - September 1, 2019

Summer Exhibition Opening Reception
Friday, June 21, 2019 @ 6 p.m.

Café Arts Series Featuring Jennifer Thompson
On view June 27 - August 25, 2019

Summer Family Arts Day
Saturday, August 10, 2019 @ 10 a.m.

Art Museum of Southeast Texas
500 Main Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701
(409) 832-3432, www.amset.org
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5

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