

Art Museum of Southeast Texas

500 Main

Winter 2022

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

Francesca Fuchs *Serious and Slightly Funny Things*

December 18, 2021 -
March 13, 2022

If you haven't had a chance to visit the museum recently, come by and see two fantastic exhibitions, one showcasing work from the John Gaston Fairey Collection and the other shining a light on a rising star in the Texas Art scene. This winter, the Art Museum of Southeast Texas (AMSET) is exhibiting *Francesca Fuchs: Serious and Slightly Funny Things* on view December 18, 2021 through March 13, 2022 and *Collecting a Master: Carlomagno Pedro Martínez from the John Gaston Fairey Collection of Mexican Folk Art* (on view now through March 12, 2023).

Houston-based artist Francesca Fuchs creates paintings and sculptures about artifacts from our daily lives. Looking at mugs and thrift-store paintings, objects made by children or collected from her parents' home, Fuchs considers how these things might describe the world around her. In some instances, she traces an object's journey across decades; a mug she used in Germany in the 70s – inspired by Mexican painting traditions – is now remade in Houston, almost five decades later. Fuchs' work asks visitors to consider what it means to live with something, to use it every day, and to see its relationships to different types of objects in other homes. In

paintings marked by subtle color and shadow, Fuchs dissolves the distinction between high and low, between personal and public, between what we feel and what we know.

Born in London and raised in Münster, Francesca Fuchs moved to the U.S. in 1996 for the Core Program at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Fuchs' work was featured in the 1992 New Contemporaries and has been shown in venues including The Whitechapel Art Gallery, London; The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth; The Suburban, Illinois; and in a solo exhibition at the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston. She was the 2017 Josephine Mercy Heathcote Fellow at the MacDowell Colony, New Hampshire, and was Art League Houston's 2018 Texas Artist of the Year. Fuchs lives in Houston, Texas, and is represented by Inman Gallery (Houston) and Talley Dunn Gallery (Dallas).

On Friday, December 17, 2021, AMSET will hold an opening reception from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Fuchs and essayist Dean Daderko will be in attendance to speak about the exhibition. This exhibit will have a published catalogue that will be released in January 2022. Please watch the AMSET website for details.

Opening Reception: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Friday,
December 17, 2021

Family Arts Day: 10:00 – 2:00, Saturday,
February 12, 2022

Taste of the Arts: TBD

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.amset.org or call (409) 832-3432.



Francesca Fuchs, *Painted Rock (yellow/green)*, 2021, acrylic on canvas, 25" x 18 3/4", image courtesy of the artist

This exhibition is generously funded, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts, Texas Commission on the Arts, the Wesley W. Washburn, M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation, the City of Beaumont, and the members of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas. Additional funding provided by The Honorable Marcia and Walter "Seth" Crone.

To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.

Current Exhibitions Cont.

COLLECTING A MASTER COLECCIONANDO LA OBRA DE UN MAESTRO

CARLOMAGNO PEDRO MARTÍNEZ
FROM THE
JOHN GASTON FAIREY
COLLECTION OF MEXICAN FOLK ART



Carlomagno Pedro Martínez, *Mazorca de Vida*, n.d., Oaxacan clay and wire, Promised Gift of the John Gaston Fairey Estate

Carlomagno Pedro Martínez is a Mexican artist from San Bartolo Coyotepec, Oaxaca, Mexico, who specializes in “barro negro” or black clay ceramics. Martínez was trained by his parents in the Zapotec pottery tradition, and began formal artistic training at the age of 18. Martínez draws his inspiration from the cultural wealth he observes within daily life in Mexico, as well as the history of pre-colonial Mexico. Although the majority of the sculptures he creates are inspired by traditional Oaxacan characters and imagery, he also includes humorous portrayals of present-day personalities and events. His work has been exhibited in Mexico, the U.S. and Europe, and he has been awarded national and international awards, including Mexico's National Prize for Arts and Sciences in the popular art category. Today, he is also the director of the Museo Estatal de Arte Popular de Oaxaca (MEAPO) in his hometown. *Collecting a Master* features some of Carlomagno's most extensive sculptural installations – all from the John Gaston Fairey Collection

of Mexican Folk Art. The works drawn from the Fairey Collection represent one of the largest holdings of Martínez's work in a public collection in the United States.

AMSET would like to thank its underwriters for their continued support and funding of its exhibitions. *Francesca Fuchs: Serious and Slightly Funny Things* would not be possible without generous funding, in part, by the Texas Commission on the Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, 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 City of Beaumont. Additional funding provided by the Honorable Marcia and Walter “Seth” Crone and the members of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas.

Collecting a Master would not be possible without the support of the Texas Commission on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Wesley W. Washburn, M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, the

C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation, Rob Clark and Jerry Thacker, the City of Beaumont, and the members of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas.

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Interested in a group tour? Contact the Education Department at agardner@amset.org.
*The museum is now offering Spanish-language tours. There is limited availability. If you are interested in booking a Spanish-language tour, please contact agardner@amset.org.

Love Francesca's exhibition? Pre-order a catalog for the show from Caitlin Clay, Curator of Exhibitions, at cclay@amset.org or consider making a donation to an upcoming exhibition.

On View

October 9, 2021 - March 12, 2023

This exhibition is generously funded, in part, by the Texas Commission on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Wesley W. Washburn, M.D. and Lulu L. Smith, M.D. Endowment Fund, the C. Homer and Edith Fuller Chambers Charitable Foundation, the City of Beaumont, and the members of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas. Additional funding provided by Rob Clark and Jerry Thacker.

To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.

UPCOMING EXHIBITION

Billy Hassell: Topography

Opening Reception: 6:30 – 8:30 pm., Friday, April 8, 2022
Family Arts Day: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, Saturday, May 14, 2022
Taste of the Arts: TBD

March 26, 2022 – June 19, 2022

In March 2022, AMSET will present an exhibition of Billy Hassell's newest artwork. The exhibition will include 15 to 20 artworks, ranging in media, from paintings, to sculptures, to works on paper and a site-specific installation. Hassell is well-known for his depictions of Texas flora and fauna, and his work often emphasizes the need for conservation of these species. This exhibition will focus on showing works from Mr. Hassell's oeuvre that depict animals and plants that are local to Southeast Texas communities, as well as extinct animals that were native to the area. The exhibition will emphasize to viewers the importance of conservation and preservation on the local and state-levels, as well as include programming that allows community members to participate in these efforts.

AMSET is located in Beaumont, Texas, which is part of Southeast Texas and an important ecological area. Beaumont is located on two of the four migratory flyways in the U.S. for bird migration (Central and Mississippi flyways). Beaumont is also home to 250 bird species annually, including: pelicans, egrets, roseate spoonbills, ducks, ibis, doves and red-winged blackbirds. The wide range of birds is due to Beaumont's four distinct habitats, which include woods, wetlands, marsh and shore. Monarch butterflies also migrate through the area, using the Coastal Flyway as a path to northern areas of North America. In addition, Beaumont is a designated Bee City. Many of these animals make an appearance in Billy's paintings, demonstrating the diversity of our local and state ecosystems.

Programming for this exhibition will include other local organizations and emphasize the need for conservation and action to participants. Keep an eye on your email and our social media platforms for announcements about upcoming programs. A full color exhibition catalog will also be available for sale through the museum's gift shop.

AMSET would like to thank its generous underwriters for funding *Topography*.

Interested in underwriting this exhibition?

Email Caitlin Clay, Curator of Exhibitions, at cclay@amset.org.



Billy Hassell, *Saltwater Life*, 2019, oil on canvas, framed 38" x 82"

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

CAFÉ ARTS SERIES

FOR LOCAL ARTISTS

CURRENT | MELODY MONTERO-ORTIZ: ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL
November 18, 2021 - February 13, 2022

Opening reception: Sunday, January 9, 2022, 2:00- 4:00 p.m.

The museum is pleased to present a new café exhibition, *Melody Montero-Ortiz: All Things Bright and Beautiful*, for the winter quarter. Born in Tampa, Florida, Melody Montero-Ortiz has called Beaumont, Texas home since 1993. She did not pursue painting until after her children were born. She studied under the tutelage of Jerry Newman, Judy Crowe and Colley Whisson and has taken workshops from nationally known artists such as Qiang Huang, William Jameson, Robert Liberace and Suzie Baker. All these artists have helped her take her art to the next level. Melody says that her goal as

an artist is to be able to communicate visually in such a way as to stimulate the viewer's imagination to see not only with their eyes but also with their



Melody Montero-Ortiz, *Blossom I*, 2010, oil on canvas, 18 X 24

hearts. She hopes to evoke a mood to which viewers will respond. She works to have the commitment, self-discipline and perseverance that will take her further in her artistic career. Despite her work spanning multiple genres – landscapes, portraiture, still lifes, etc. – the encompassing theme of Melody's work is her interest in depicting life and light.

Please join the museum staff and Melody for her reception on January 9, 2022, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. The reception is free and open to the public. Light snacks and a cash bar will be available.

UPCOMING | CAMERA CLUB BEST OF SHOW WINNER: LYNE RAFF
February 17, 2022 – May 15, 2022

Last spring, the Café Arts for Local Artists Series presented its first juried group exhibition in collaboration with the Beaumont Camera Club (BCC). The exhibition included over 20 photographs that were selected from BCC active members by a committee of Camera Club officers. Dennis Kiel, director of the Dishman Art Museum at Lamar University, selected first, second, and third place prize winners from the group exhibition. Lyne Raff won first place for her photograph *Cicada* and was awarded a fully funded solo exhibition in the Café for this February 2022.

Lyne Raff was born in Roosevelt, Oklahoma, but moved to Beaumont from Austin in 2002 with her husband. Her interest in photography began when she was young, and several

of her family members pursued photography and camera collecting as a hobby. Through her father, she was introduced to the dark room, and she continued to grow her dark room skills in college while also pursuing a degree in printmaking. Lyne's love of photography and horses led to a position at Art Horse Magazine, the "international journal of horses, art, and history". Her work with the magazine resulted in an appreciation for equestrian and human portraiture. Now semi-retired, Lyne keeps busy through several means, including: assisting Art Horse Magazine with archiving their print issues, running a portraiture photography business, directing the Camera Club as their current Vice President, and preparing for her show this February! Lyne's

exhibition will include 12 to 15 new photographs and will explore her interests in historical photographic processes, literary traditions, and bridging the gap between classical and contemporary portraiture.

- Want to attend Lyne's reception? Keep an eye out for a showcard announcement in your mailbox with the date and time.
- Interested in underwriting Lyne's exhibition? Contact Caitlin Clay, Curator of Exhibitions, at cclay@amset.org or at 409-832-3432.
- Interested in joining the Beaumont Camera Club? Visit their website at <https://www.beaumontcameraclub.com/> or contact the Club at BeaumontCameraClub@gmail.com.

Check out Lyne's photography at: <https://www.lyneraffphotography.com/>

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Robert Rogan *Self-Portrait*, c. 1955, hand-colored etching, Gift of Charlotte and Jimmy Fontenot

The Board of Trustees has officially voted to acquire a work on paper by the late Robert Rogan. This work was generously donated by Charlotte and Jimmy Fontenot. It depicts the artist Robert Rogan, who was a professor and the Art Department Chair at Lamar University from 1961 to 1990. This significant piece is a mixed media work on paper, consisting of graphite drawing over an etching print. It depicts a somber portrait of Dr. Rogan, who meets the viewer with a piercing gaze. Although Robert Rogan's practice

covered many different styles and techniques, he is most known for his abstract rather than figurative works; the museum currently has two abstract paintings by the artist in the collection. The addition of a figurative piece, a self-portrait, is an important addition to the collection because it preserves a greater understanding of Rogan's practice. AMSET is grateful for the recent acquisition of these three works by Dr. Robert Rogan because of his key contributions to the Beaumont arts community.



Robert Rogan, *Self-Portrait*, n.d., hand-colored etching, 13" x 9"

David Cargill, *Passengers on Earth*, 1973, cast bronze, Gift of Mark Kever

Visitors who attended David Cargill's recent exhibition at AMSET may remember *Passengers on Earth* on display. It is a whimsical cast bronze work by the artist which has been generously donated by Mark Kever, a Dallas-based collector. It is our pleasure to announce that the work has been accepted for acquisition into the permanent collection by both the Board of Trustees and the Acquisitions Committee. David Cargill is an exceptional artist and long-standing member of AMSET whose contributions to the local arts community cannot be understated.

Passengers on Earth depicts a fantastical scene where human figures interact with bears, camels, and other animals. It is an etherial and active composition that invites the viewer to imagine the figures dancing together in space. This work is a smaller version of the sculpture which is permanently installed outside of the Beaumont Public Library Main Branch. It is a significant work that will join many others by David Cargill in our permanent collection, and we are honored to keep them in our care for years to come.



David Cargill, *Passengers on Earth*, 1973, cast bronze, 24" x 22" x 5.5"

COLLECTORS CLUB PROGRAMMING

November Home Tours were the place-to-be!

On Thursday, November 18th, AMSET hosted its annual Collectors Club home tour at the homes of sculptor David Cargill, the Dishman Art Museum's Director Dennis Kiel and local businessman Chris Miller. Attendees had the opportunity to speak with each home owner about their personal art collections and to snack on various baked goodies.

David Cargill's house – which he built himself – included a tour of his sculpture garden and a perusal of his living room, full to the brim of sculptures made over the course of his 80+ year career. Club members were greeted by a candle lit driveway and enjoyed boudain dip from Two Magnolias and a selection of wines. A quick detour was made next to the office of Club member Heather Petkovsek, who graciously allowed visitors to see her beautiful Patricia Cargill painting.

Members then made their way to Dennis Kiel's house, where they were greeted in the driveway by none other than fellow Collector's Club member Andrea Karlin! Dennis presented members with a fabulous array of contemporary photography and music posters. Club members sampled mini muffaletas (homemade by Lynn herself!), and crab dip from Two Magnolias.

The final stop was at the home of Chris Miller, owner of Fred Miller's, located in Nederland. Chris's home was a feast for the eyes, and included a wide array of decorative art objects, Texas art, and antique rugs. The night was capped off by a round of desserts and champagne, including a beautiful ginger cake with pineapple whipped cream (made by Lynn), million dollar bars (provided by Two Magnolias), and citrus orange juice cookies (made by Caitlin).

Overall, it was a wonderful night full of laughs, curiosities, and really good food! Interested in joining the Collector's Club? Contact Caitlin Clay, Curator of Exhibitions, at cclay@amset.org.



Image inside living room of sculptor David Cargill's house.



Detail image of cornerstone at sculptor David Cargill's house. Contains signature of sculptor and address of house.

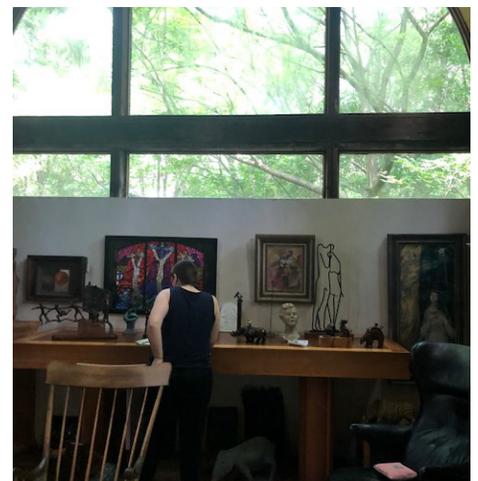


Image inside living room of sculptor David Cargill's house.

CONN GALLERY

C-O-L-O-R



Joseph Wippler, *Adios Abel*, 1987, acrylic wash on canvas with hand-painted frame, PC 1988.01, museum purchase

Colors play such an important role in our world. For example, when we think about seasons, they are often symbolized by colors. Bright green is synonymous with the new growth of spring, while gold and brown evoke feelings of autumn. When we think about clothing and colors that people wear, it can often reveal an area of the country that they live in. Think about how people in New York City typically dress. They wear more somber hues versus people in Hawaii or Florida who like the bright, tropical colors. Also consider how color plays a role in motion. What does red mean when we are driving? How about green and yellow?

This exhibition examines the ways that we respond to color and how some artists use color to create a mood and signature style based off of their color palette. Visitors will see distinct examples of how color schemes can create a feeling within a work of art. Paintings by Lee N. Smith, Ron Hoover, Sarah Williams and Joseph Wippler are four such examples. Next to each painting in this gallery there is a color block painted on the wall. This color block is one of the signature colors in the painting that the artist has used to help create the mood in the painting. Visitors are invited to sit in front of the color block and take a selfie using a facial expression and body language that emulates the mood the artist has created. Then they are encouraged to (re)view the two exhibits in the main gallery by Francesca Fuchs and Carlomagno Pedro Martínez to see how color is used by these artists.

SPECIAL EVENTS

MARDI PARTY GO FOR THE GOLD

Mardi Pardi
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022

Have you heard the news? Beaumont is hosting a Mardi Gras celebration this year! Not to be left out in the beads, the Art Museum wants to start the Krewe of AMSET. We're planning a Mardi Pardi kick off celebration on Thursday, February 24. This Pardi will be low key, casual, affordable and fun. Please watch our website at www.amset.org for more details after the holidays.

2022 GO FOR THE GOLD
THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022

Go for the Gold will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2022. Back live and in-person, a \$100 ticket admits two people into the museum for dinner and drinks all night, and a great opportunity to watch the highly entertaining reverse drawing. Most importantly, you have a chance to win \$10,000 in pure GOLD! Second prize wins \$1,500 and third place wins \$1,000. You need not be present to win. We will also raffle off fun prizes all night. 500 tickets will be sold this year (last year we sold out!). Please reach out to a museum board member for tickets or contact AMSET at 409-832-3432 or visit www.amset.org.

Now in its 36th year, the *Protégé Competition and Exhibition* was created specifically to encourage graduating high school seniors to begin taking the steps necessary to become part of the world of art.

This year, Lamar University Professor and Distinguished Faculty Research Fellow, Kurt Dyrhaug will jury the *Protégé Exhibition and Competition*. Kurt Dyrhaug is originally from St. Paul, Minnesota, but his recent sculptures and drawings include agricultural, nautical and industrial imagery filled with mechanical forms found in the Southeast Texas landscape. Dyrhaug earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design (1989) and his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Minnesota (1993).

Since 2008, Dyrhaug's sculptures and drawings have been included in over 200 juried and invited exhibitions including international exhibitions in Germany, Japan, and Poland. Solo exhibitions include the Galveston Art Center, Dishman Art Museum, Lawrence University, University of Dallas, and the University of Louisiana Monroe.

This year AMSET is pleased to announce that thanks to

a generous bequest left by Stewart M. Chisum and Bessie Fisher Chisum, AMSET is offering a \$2,500 scholarship to the first place winner should they declare art as a major in any two or four year art program.

In partnership with Lamar University Friends of the Arts, AMSET is able to offer the first, second and third prize winners scholarships to committed Lamar University art majors. Requirements and materials required for entries can be found at www.amset.org.

If you know a budding young artist, encourage him or her to prepare to enter this school year's annual *Protégé Competition and Exhibition*. Entries will be accepted from January 4 - 13, 2022 and students may enter any work created after August 2021. Students need not be part of an organized art class to enter.

Join us to see what great works of art this year's students have created at the 2022 Protégé Reception and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 from 6 - 7:30pm. The Protégé Exhibition will be on display in the Conn Take pArt Gallery until April 3, 2022.

2021 First Place Winner Bianca McManus



This exhibition is generously sponsored by:



2021 Third Place Winner Taylor Balsano



2021 Second Place Winner Madelyn Kirksey

Art Museum of Southeast Texas (AMSET)

2020 - 2021 Contributors of \$250+

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(In-Kind)
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(In-Kind)
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Mrs. Naomi Maureen Winchell

UPCOMING EVENTS

Café Arts Series for Local Artists –

Melody Montero-Ortiz: All Things Bright and Beautiful
Café Opening Reception

On view November 18 - February 13, 2022
Sunday, January 9, 2022 from 2-4 p.m.

Camera Club Best of Show Winner: *Lyne Raff*

On view February 17, 2022 – May 15, 2022

Winter Exhibitions-

Collecting a Master/ Coleccionando
la obra de un maestro: Carlomagno Pedro Martínez
from the John Gaston Fairey Collection of Mexican Folk Art

On view October 9, 2021 - March 12, 2023

Francesca Fuchs: Serious and Slightly Funny Things
Winter Exhibition Opening Reception

On view December 18, 2021 - March 13, 2022
Friday, December 17, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

Education/ Around the Museum-

First Thursday
Book Club | *The Lost Notebook of Edouard Manet*
Winter Family Arts Day
Mardi Pardi
Protégé Opening Reception
Go For the Gold

Thursday, January 6, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, January 13, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 12, 2022 @ 10 a.m.
Thursday, February 24, 2022
Tuesday, March 8, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 10, 2022



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 Noon-5



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