

Checklist

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of the galleries



MAIN GALLERIES CHECKLIST

Contemporary Texas Women Artists: Abstraction Here and Now **October 8 – December 23, 2022**

The Art Museum of Southeast Texas is proud to present, *Contemporary Texas Women Artists: Abstraction Here and Now*, as its fall 2022 exhibition. This group exhibition showcases 11 women artists working in abstraction and living within a 200-mile radius of Beaumont. The exhibition aims to demonstrate that abstraction is still a creative form of art-making and that it is actively being used by Texas artists living not far from Southeast Texas.

Artists in this exhibition include:

Erika Alonso
Adela Andea
Claire Ankenman
Emma Balder
Pat Colville
Orna Feinstein
Liz Gates
Abhidnya Ghuge
Bethany Johnson
Melinda Laszczynski
Leila McConnell

These 11 artists work in a wide range of mediums to create abstracted art that speaks about nature, light, motherhood and the human condition. Many of these artists work in 2-D and 3-D, and this exhibition includes multiple works by each artist. Two site-specific installations were created specifically for AMSET by artists Adela Andea and Abhidnya Ghuge.

Object List Main Gallery
Counter-clockwise from Title Wall Entrance



Liz Gates
Co-emergence
2020
Diapers and felt
Loan courtesy of the artist

TOP OF STACK



Emma Balder
Wind Drawing 2
2022
Fibers, acrylic, graphite on paper
Loan courtesy of the artist

BOTTOM OF STACK



Emma Balder

Wind Drawing 3

2022

Fibers, acrylic, graphite on paper

Loan courtesy of the artist



Melinda Laszczynski

Slip Speed

2021

acrylic, spray paint, vinyl and panel on panel

Loan courtesy of the artist



Melinda Laszczynski

Big Paper #2

n.d.

spray paint, holographic images, vinyl and acrylic paint on paper

Loan courtesy of the artist



Leila McConnell

Sun in a Pale Sky

2015

oil on canvas

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Leila McConnell

Delicate Day

c. 1980

oil on canvas

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Bethany Johnson

We Live on a Planet: 15 20 00

2019

collage on paper

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



Liz Gates

If it wasn't this it would be something else

2021

Yarn and ephemera on blinds

Loan courtesy of the artist



Bethany Johnson

Untitled (Safe Keeping)

2020

paper, cardboard, fabric, Styrofoam, sandpaper

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



Bethany Johnson

Untitled (Safe Keeping)

2020

paper, cardboard, wood, plywood, particleboard, fabric

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



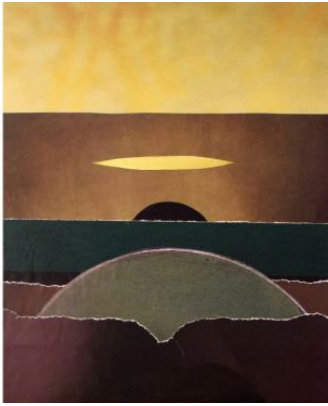
Bethany Johnson

Untitled (Safe Keeping)

2020

paper, plastic, cardboard, wood, plywood, particleboard, aluminum, foil wrappers

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



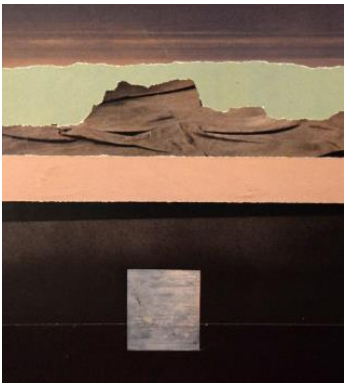
Leila McConnell

Untitled

2017

Collage

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Leila McConnell

Untitled

2017

Collage

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Leila McConnell

Untitled

2016

Collage

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



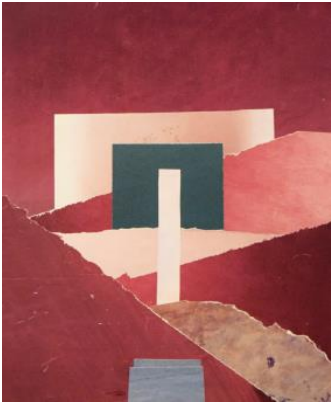
Leila McConnell

Untitled

2018

collage

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Leila McConnell

Untitled

2019

collage

Loan Courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Adela Andea

Rapsallious Organoid System

2022

mixed media, site specific installation

Loan courtesy of the artist, Anya Tish Gallery (Houston) and Cris Worley Fine Arts (Dallas)



Erika Alonso

Colorful Fields

2021

Acrylic and charcoal on canvas

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Erika Alonso

Its an Adventure

2021

acrylic and charcoal on canvas

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Melinda Laszczynski

Psychedelic Trifle #4

n.d.

24" diameter

ceramic

Loan courtesy of the artist



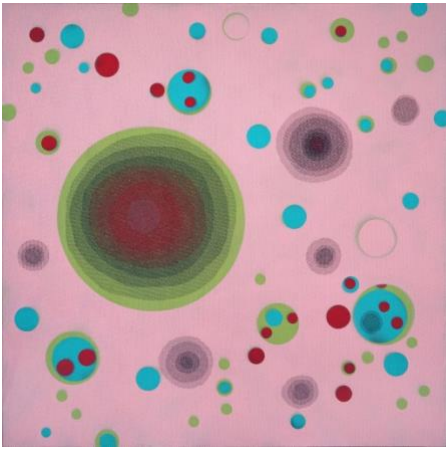
Emma Balder

Interference with Fate

2022

Recycled fabric, rope, thread, graphite, ink, acrylic on canvas, fishing line, recycled foam filling

Loan courtesy of the artist



Orna Feinstein
Tree Spirit #87
2022
acrylic paint and collaged nets on canvas
Loan courtesy of the artist

TOP OF STACK



Liz Gates
Practical Magic
2022
Blind embossing on Arches 88
Loan courtesy of the artist

BOTTOM OF STACK



Liz Gates

Toe to Toe, Back to Back, Let's Go
2022

Blind embossing on Arches 88
Loan courtesy of the artist



Liz Gates

Stepping Stones
2022

Blind embossing on Arches 88
Loan courtesy of the artist



TOP ROW



Pat Colville

Hardscape – Pool

2016

acrylic and paper

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



Orna Feinstein
Dendro Beton #30
2019
Concrete, paper, acrylic and thread
Loan courtesy of the artist

BOTTOM ROW



Orna Feinstein
Dendro Beton #6
2018
Concrete, paper and thread
Loan courtesy of the artist



Pat Colville

Hardscape – Ghost

2016

acrylic on paper

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



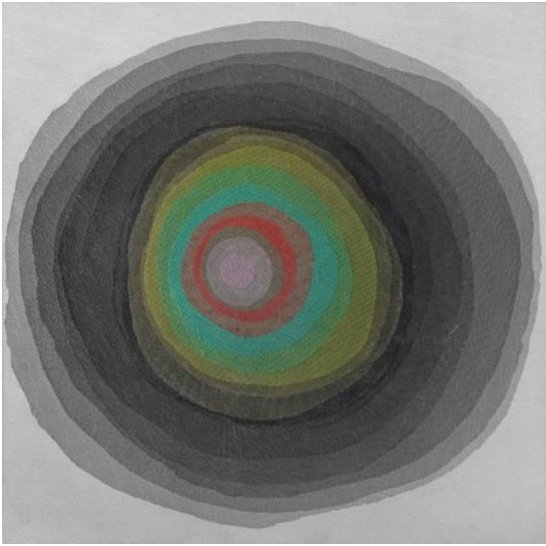
Pat Colville

Hardscape - Gold Bar

2016

acrylic on paper

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



Orna Feinstein

Tree Spirit #71

2022

Acrylic and nets collaged on canvas

Loan courtesy of the artist



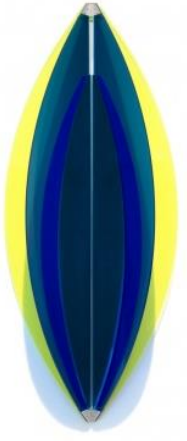
Melinda Laszczynski

Sleep Witch

2022

acrylic, mediums, spray paint, holographic pigments, glitters, and vinyl transfer on panel

Loan courtesy of the artist



Claire Ankenman

Striped Flare #3

2020

stainless steel and Plexiglas

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



Pat Colville

Hardscape – Concretion

2016

ceramic and granite

Loan courtesy of the artist and Moody Gallery, Houston, TX



Erika Alonso

Mermaid

2021

Acrylic and charcoal on wood panel

Loan courtesy of the artist and Foltz Fine Art, Houston, TX



Artist Profiles

Erika Alonso (b. 1987)

Erika Alonso is a Cuban-American painter, working and living in Houston, Texas. Her childhood was spent in Southern California, a place she often “escapes” to while painting. Alonso is a self-taught artist and an unabashedly painterly painter. Her current makings involve experimenting in abstract expressionism through a series of whimsical, abstract-figurative-landscape paintings that are meant to capture a moment in all its fleetingness—the movement and rush and whirl of it.

The artist describes her work as an escape from reality: “My paintings are just places I’d like to be, places where I’d like to spend my time. Places that are stimulating, enchanting, complex, and consistently inconsistent.”

Alonso received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Marketing from the University of Houston in 2010. She received a Support for Artists and Creative Individuals grant from the City of Houston in 2022. Her work has been shown in group and solo exhibitions throughout Texas and is represented in private collections in the United States, United Kingdom, and Germany.

Adela Andea (b. 1976)

Romanian-born artist Adela Andea works and lives in Conroe, Texas. She is known for her innovative light installations that create an all-encompassing visual and temporal experience. Andea constructs futuristic forms and environments with her medium, combining technical materials, such as magnifying lenses, LED lights, flex neon, and power sources, with organic motifs. Her purpose is to manifest, with the use of non-traditional materials, the uncanny relationship man has with technology, a relationship that involves knowledge of the familiar and swift adaptation to ever-changing systems. Her inspirations are almost always derived from science – from the bioluminescence of underwater sea life, to the melting icebergs that plague the planet, to cosmological and interstellar events—Andea connects nature and science in a technological vernacular.

Adela Andea received her Master of Fine Arts in New Media and a minor in Sculpture, from the University of North Texas in 2012. Andea was included in the 2013 Texas Biennale. She exhibits

frequently throughout the country and has been featured in many art fairs. In 2015, Andea participated in an artist-in-residence program with Zébra3 in Bordeaux, France where she created a public installation at 7 Vitrine Place du Parlement. Andea has been invited to create many public site-specific installations in Texas to be found in the College of Human Sciences at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX; Women and their Work, Austin, TX; Galveston Art Center, Galveston, TX; Gensler in Houston; the Fashion Industry Gallery in Dallas; and The Grace Museum in Abilene, Texas, among others. The artist was invited by designer Steve Madden to design an installation for a pop-up exhibition, The Factory, in the fall of 2018 in New York City.

Claire Ankenman (b. 1947)

Claire Ankenman was born in Victoria, Texas and currently lives and works in Houston, Texas. She studied at The Glassell School of Art, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston from 1985 to 1991. Her work has been included in a solo exhibition at the Galveston Arts Center as well as group exhibitions at Lawndale Art Center, the Blaffer Art Museum, DiverseWorks, Art League Houston, Williams Tower Gallery, and Women and Their Work, as well as other venues. Her work is included in the collections of The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, AT&T Stadium: Dallas Cowboys Art Collection, Arlington, U.S. Trust, Dallas, and many private collections.

Emma Balder (b. 1990)

Emma Balder currently lives and works in Houston, Texas. Her work softens the boundaries between painting and textiles. In her 3-D works, Balder makes paint behave like fabric, painting abstractly on canvas and then tearing the canvas apart before sewing the pieces back together to create her dynamic sculptures. She refers to these sculptural paintings as “Pinglets”, created from a mother painting, they become individual beings comprised of connected parts.

Balder also incorporates textile waste into her pieces, using castoff materials to stuff her sculptures or applying thread in a paint-like manner, adding individual pieces to her paper drawings to create drawings resembling creatures or blasts of living energy. Through her work, Balder is interested in revealing beauty in refuse and mutual understanding between mediums. Intrigued by correlations between the natural world and humanity, Balder uses her dual processes to express the value of nature’s teachings: change, interconnection, and regeneration.

Emma Balder holds a BFA in Painting from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She has exhibited in venues such as Torpedo Factory Art Center (Alexandria), Lawndale Art Center (Houston), Trestle Gallery (New York), Foltz Fine Art (Houston), The Lincoln Center (Fort Collins), Gutstein Gallery (Savannah) among others. In 2015, she was awarded a one-year Staff Artist residency fellowship at the Vermont Studio Center and was named a finalist of the Peripheral Vision Foundation Prize in 2016. Balder is a 2022 recipient of the Houston Arts

Alliance Support for Artists and Creative Individuals grant, funded by the City of Houston. She has collaborated with companies such as Meow Wolf, Sweetgreen and PepsiCo's LIFEWTR.

Pat Colville (b. 1931)

Pat Colville was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and currently lives and works in Houston, Texas, having previously lived in New York City for thirty-five years. She received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Houston and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Oklahoma. She was awarded a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant in 2010, a Benjamin Altman Award in Painting in 2008, two National Endowment for the Arts Grants in Drawing, and a Creative Arts Public Service Program Fellowship in Painting at New York State. Her work is part of the collections of The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, the Dallas Museum of Art, and the Art Museum of Southeast Texas, Beaumont.

She has been included in solo exhibitions at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston and the New Orleans Museum of Art, Louisiana. Group exhibitions include at the National Academy Museum, New York, DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, Massachusetts, El Paso Museum, Texas, and the Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi. Colville taught at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York for twenty years and has also taught at the Glassell School of Art, the University of Houston, St. Thomas University, Bennington College, and the Sarah Lawrence College. Colville's work holds a commitment to abstraction and is influenced by the history of Chinese and Japanese landscapes from the 13th and 14th century.

Orna Feinstein (b. 1954)

Israeli-born artist Orna Feinstein is based in Houston, Texas, and specializes in 3-D monoprints and other mixed media. Feinstein's art begins with an observation of nature, and ends up in an abstract creation. The beauty of nature, its color, texture, and energy attract and inspire her work. In particular, Feinstein finds the tree trunk to be nature's most intriguing object. When the trunk is sliced horizontally it reveals a repetitive and meditative pattern of rings. When sliced vertically, it reveals more complex and puzzling linear and circular patterns. Such duality is a great metaphor for Feinstein's creative process. Monoprint, her favorite media, is a unique process in which one can use a combination of painting and printmaking techniques. It results in a one of a kind image and some effects that cannot be achieved in any other form of art.

Abhidnya Ghuge

Abhidnya Ghuge is a multidisciplinary installation artist living and working in Tyler, Texas. Ghuge uses printmaking techniques on paper plates to create site-responsive installations. Beginning with a birch wood panel that she carves to create the woodblock, Ghuge prints thousands of paper plates with it and then uses them to transform the space allowing the viewer to walk through and into the installation.

Originally from India, a dermatologist by previous profession, Abhidnya draws inspiration from Indian henna designs, the microscopic and macroscopic world (referencing her previous medical profession) and current cultural landscape of America. Her work celebrates patterns, organic forms and allows for a rich sensory and spatial experience. Her work has been exhibited in solo and group shows in New Orleans, Dallas, Houston, New York, Tennessee and Wisconsin. She is represented in public and private collections in the UK, USA and India.

Liz Gates (b. 1969)

Liz Gates is a Houston-based painter, sculptor, and mixed-media artist whose works are concerned with questions of gendered labor, self-manifestation, and feminist mother identity. Gates' works are in dialogue with art historical representations of mother and child and are inspired by the many manifestations and dualities of motherhood. With her practice, Gates deconstructs and reimagines traditional objects and symbols associated with motherhood, such as diapers and baby shoes, in order to establish new narratives and associations for mother identity, the need for responsibility, and the desire for rebellion. Gates' works serve as tangible and external representations of the internal processes that are integral in generating new representational space and modes of understanding.

Liz Gates received her MFA from the University of Houston in 2022. Gates' work has previously been shown at The Blaffer Art Museum, Lawndale Center for the Arts, Hardy and Nance Studios, Spendora Gardens, Elgin Street Studios, and Third Space Gallery. Her work was featured in *Go Forth From Houston: Women in the Arts Take Action*, an exhibition held by the University of Houston that commemorated the 1977 National Women's Conference.

Bethany Johnson (b. 1985)

Bethany Johnson currently lives and works in Austin, TX. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Studio Art from Kalamazoo College, MI (2007) and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Painting from The University of Texas at Austin (2011). Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States, Berlin, and in Texas at Texas State Galleries, San Marcos; The McKinney Avenue Contemporary, Dallas; Austin Museum of Art - Laguna Gloria, Austin; The Wright Gallery at Texas A&M University, College Station; UTSA Art Gallery at the University of Texas at San Antonio; Galveston Arts Center, Galveston; the Courtyard Gallery, Austin; and the Creative Research Laboratory, Austin, among other venues. Johnson has held residencies at Joshua Tree Highlands, Joshua Tree, CA (2020); Institut für Alles Mögliche; Berlin, Germany (2019); Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT (2019 and 2010); Wild Basin Creative Research Center, Austin, TX (2019); Soaring Gardens Artist Retreat, Laceyville, PA (2013); and Denkmalschmiede Höfgen, Grimma, Germany (2011). Since 2017 Johnson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art and Art History at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX.

Melinda Laszczynski

Melinda Laszczynski is a Houston-based artist who is concerned with the materiality and physical characteristics of found and repurposed objects. Laszczynski's concern with the experience of looking is reflected in the ways she treats objects, such as found lenticular prints, by adding paint to the prints reflective and multifocal surface. Like the lenticular print, much of Laszczynski's work becomes figurative by referencing the body or reflection of the viewer. Laszczynski's studio is filled with materials she considers "magical" and her studio practice is self-described as "playful, peaceful, and unapologetically girly." Nevertheless, Laszczynski remains a formalist at heart and demonstrates a commitment to artistic elements such as line, shape, color, and form throughout her body of work.

Leila McConnell (b. 1927)

Leila McConnell was born in Los Angeles, California. Her family moved to Houston when she was six and, after graduating from high school, she enrolled at Rice Institute (now Rice University). At the time, Rice had no department of architecture but McConnell sought inspiration from iconic professor, James Chillman. According to McConnell, Chillman had the greatest influence on her sense of design, proportion, and the ability to actually see her art. Studying freehand drawing, design, watercolor, art, and architectural history under Chillman, McConnell excelled. After earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from Rice, she continued her art studies at the Museum School (now Glassell School) at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

McConnell had impeccable academic training and her early paintings, both oil and pastel, were very realistic. The majority of her subject matter was either still life, figure studies, or portraits. In the summer of 1949, she attended the San Francisco School of Fine Arts and was fortunate to study under Mark Rothko. His vision and innovative instruction marked McConnell's shift away from the realism that had previously dominated her works. After her classes with Rothko, she began to paint more abstract pieces, creating an imaginary girl in watercolor.

Realizing that she had a vivid imagination, McConnell embarked on a trip to Europe in 1960. The stucco buildings of Italy greatly impacted her vision and caused a change in her paintings. Her colors became soft and blended, often misty and portraying a sun or moon, causing the artist to deem many of her works "sky paintings."

In 1976, McConnell began creating paper collages, a diversion from her painted works. Though small, her collages impacted the way McConnell created her paintings — her edges became harder, mixed with the mistiness of her skies and her compositions became more symmetrical. McConnell continues to paint in her unique style and develop her oeuvre of "sky" pieces.