

# News Release

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## Two unique, vibrant new exhibits to open at AMSET in spring

(Beaumont, TX; February 27, 2020) The Art Museum of Southeast Texas (AMSET) will exhibit *PATRICK TURK: Higher Planes* from March 14 – June 7, 2020 and *KANA HARADA: Celestial Garden* from March 21 – June 7, 2020 in the main galleries.

On Friday, March 27, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., AMSET will host a free and open to the public opening reception, featuring a peace ceremony led by artist Kana Harada at 5:45 p.m., inviting visitors to take part in a spiritual gathering, aiming to spread peace to all the earth. Light appetizers and beverages will be provided complimentary of AMSET.

Patrick Turk's exhibition will feature an immersive site-specific installation as well as hand-cut paper assemblages which are frequently materially sourced from science-fiction novels, encyclopedias, history, and scientific diagrams. By combining these images with concepts from science fiction such as time travel, sentient planets, and hypothetical biology, he creates kaleidoscopic depictions of religious, mythological, and mystical allegories. Born in Galveston, Texas, Turk lives and works in Houston, Texas. His assemblages have been exhibited at Art Storm, Cris Worley Fine Arts, Lawndale Art Center and Rudolph/Projects/Art Scan as well as galleries in Galveston, Texas and Los Angeles, California. In 2013, he was an Artist in Residence at the Lawndale Art Center.

Dallas-based artist Kana Harada's exhibition will feature two and three dimensional paintings and sculptures. Harada works with hand-cut foam sheets, along with watercolor, paper, and natural materials to create pieces that embody a wish for peace, a love for humanity, mother earth, and the universe. *Celestial Garden* will include a site-specific installation, suspended sculptures, and cut paper and watercolor paintings. Harada studied graphic design, Japanese fine art, and drawing at Ochanomizu School of Fine Arts in Tokyo, Japan. Harada is the recipient of the Beth Lea and John L. Clardy Memorial Award at 23rd Annual Exhibition, Art in The Metroplex at Texas Christian University. She has had both national and international solo and group exhibitions and her work is featured in several print and online publications and reviews, including *Vitamin D Magazine*, *Glasstire*, *Star Telegram*, and *Houston Press*, among others. Her work is included in the collections of the Crow Museum of Asian Art, Dallas, Texas, and the Old Jail Art Center, Albany, Texas.

For more information, visit [www.amset.org](http://www.amset.org) or call (409) 832-3432.

Both exhibitions are generously funded, in part, by 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. Funding for *PATRICK TURK: Higher Planes* provided by, in part, Rob Clark & Jerry Thacker, Architectural Alliance, and Daniels Construction. Funding for *KANA HARADA: Celestial Garden* provided by, in part, the Edaren Foundation and the Garth Family Partnership in memory of Mary Jane Garth and Harriet Garth. In addition this exhibition was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America grant.

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