

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMSET Opens Two New Exhibitions for Spring 2025

(Beaumont, TX; March 14, 2025) The Art Museum of Southeast Texas (AMSET) is proud to present *Tom Jean Webb: A True Fairytale* and *José Villalobos: An In Between (Un Intermedio)* on view March 29 – June 15, 2025, as its two spring 2025 exhibitions.

Tom Jean Webb presents a new body of mixed media paintings for his exhibition *A True Fairytale*. Originally from the UK, Tom was based in Austin until recently returning home to pursue his graduate studies. Webb's poetic, and sometimes playful, imagery of gardens, flowers, and forests simultaneously grounds the viewer and reminds them that the mysterious, arbitrary, and sometimes absurd is part of life. In the spirit of playfulness, Webb has commissioned an interactive seesaw sculpture as a part of the show. The Conn Take pART Education Gallery will include more interactive components for the exhibition, such as a rock decorating station and custom coloring pages designed by Webb.

San Antonio-based artist José Villalobos uses performance and mixed media art to object to and disrupt the culturally accepted stereotypes of toxic masculinity. Villalobos grew up on the US/Mexico border in El Paso, TX, and was raised in a traditional and religiously conservative family. His work reconciles the identity challenges in his life, caught in between traditional Mexican customs and American mores, as well as growing up with religious ideals that conflict and condemn being gay. *An In Between (Un Intermedio)* will display works from Villalobos' oeuvre that focus on the themes of living in-between cultures and identities, including photographs, mirrored 2-D works, free standing sculptures, and a video room to view past performances.

Join us for the opening reception of *Tom Jean Webb: A True Fairytale* and *José Villalobos: An In Between (Un Intermedio)* on Friday, April 4, 2025, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Drinks and light refreshments will be served, with both artists giving gallery talks beginning at 7:15 pm. A performance by Villalobos, titled *Deeply Rooted, Cultured and Silenced*, will take place during the opening reception.

AMSET's spring Family Arts Day will take place in conjunction with these exhibitions on Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The event will include free art activities and a ball-park style concession stand at minimal cost. The event is free and open to the public. For more info on these exhibitions and upcoming programs, please visit amset.org or call (409) 832-3432.

These exhibitions are generously funded, in part, by 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, Jefferson County and the members of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas.

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

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AMSET is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.
Hours: M-F: 9am-5pm Sat.: 10am-5pm Sun: Noon-5pm Closed Major Holidays
Admission: Free Suggested Donation: \$5.00
Wheelchair and stroller accessible

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