

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street

Houston, TX 77002

713 528-5858

Fax 713 528-4140

askus@lawndaleartcenter.org

www.lawndaleartcenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Dennis Nance

713-528-5858

dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org

Lawndale Art Center

Presents

In the space of absence – Kathy Kelley

found sound (Public Music Reconnaissance) – Patrick Renner

Highway 71 Revisited – Barry Stone

Battle Play Set – Aram Nagle

Houston, Texas – Lawndale Art Center presents four exhibitions **opening**

January 23, 2009, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, with artist talks beginning at **6 pm**. In the

John M. O'Quinn Gallery **Kathy Kelley** presents a sculpture installation made from consumer refuse titled ***In the space of absence***. **Patrick Renner** utilizes

sound harvesting devices attached to telephone poles in ***found sound (Public Music Reconnaissance)*** in the Mezzanine Gallery. In the Grace R. Cavnar

Gallery **Barry Stone's** photographs are presented in the exhibition ***Highway 71***

Revisited. In the 3rd floor Project Space **Aram Nagle** creates a jungle-gym-battle-ground-parody of the Iraq War in his installation ***Battle Play Set***. The

exhibitions continue **through February 28, 2009**.

Opening Reception January 23, 2009, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Artist talks at 6 pm

On view through February 28, 2009

Programs at Lawndale are supported in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, The Houston Arts Alliance through the Houston Museum District Association and City Initiatives Program, The Texas Commission on the Arts, Houston Endowment, The Brown Foundation, Inc., Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Cavnar Foundation, The Cullen Foundation, The Wortham Foundation, Inc., The Susan Vaughan Foundation, John M. O'Quinn, Cecily Horton, Ann W. Harithas, Jonathan and Barbara Day, Diana Hudson and Lee Kaplan, Andrew and Gretchen McFarland, Anita and David Garten, MetroNational, H-E-B, Continental Airlines, Target, Art Colony Association, other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.

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John M. O'Quinn Gallery

Kathy Kelley

In the space of absence

"This project is composed of a series of visual explorations toying with the ideas of continuous consumption, the stunting of growth via unending wanting, the never ending suckling of consumer goods without fulfillment, in conjunction with some of Melanie Klein's object relations theory on personality development, envy and gratitude or lack thereof, her referencing of the experience of breast feeding as being determinant in much about who a person becomes (old theory coming on the heels of Freud but interesting). The work is a visceral response to this dissection of the incessant wanting of consumer culture on the self with each element becoming referential of the shadow self." – Kathy Kelley

Kathy Kelley graduated with her MFA from the University of Houston in 2006. Since then, Kelley has been expanding her body of work that reanimates, repurposes objects of urban refuse while initiating and presiding over a new experimental art space in Houston, BOX 13 ArtSpace. Kelley was selected to participate in the 2009 Texas Biennial, was awarded a solo exhibition at Women and Their Work for 2010, is the recipient of an Emerging Artist Fellowship from the Houston Arts Alliance, recently unveiled her first public installation, *Suckling is continuous*, in conjunction with BBAP, was featured in the May 2008 edition of ArtsHouston magazine and was awarded Best of Show in the Seven-State Biennial Exhibition at the University of Science and Art of OK Art Gallery in 2007.



Kathy Kelley

Clawing for eden, 2008
Remnant tire tubes, clothes pins,
cinder blocks and baling wire
9 x 6 x 5 feet

Mezzanine Gallery

Patrick Renner

found sound (Public Music Reconnaissance)

Patrick Renner will present an installation consisting of found telephone poles with attached sound-harvesting devices. These mechanisms, based on the function of the standard music box, will be activated by all the leftover nails, staples, and hardware used to hang public notices of garage sales, lost pets, property listings, et al. The random melody the devices produce is the reinterpretation of imbedded information that we see all the time as we pass through the urban landscape.

Patrick Renner is a fourth-generation Houstonian. He left for a few years to get his BFA at the Kansas City Art Institute and then his MFA at the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. Afterward he came back to the warm, humid embrace of Houston to make art. Patrick teaches sculpture at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (where he was once also a fresh-faced student) and is a mentor for Blaffer Gallery's Young Artists Apprenticeship Program. He has recently completed residencies at Sculpture Space in Utica, New York, and AS220 in Providence, RI. Additionally, he has a number of collaborative projects in the works with other artists in various states. He is looking forward to the renovation and move to a new live/work space north of the Heights.



Patrick Renner

Found sound, 2008

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Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

Barry Stone

Highway 71 Revisited

Highway 71 Revisited is ongoing and multifaceted project. The series includes photographs of Stone's family, strangers under highways, fake flowers, abstracted galaxies made from flour, field recordings and collage. Through the juxtaposition of many different kinds of imagery and methodologies, Stone creates a malleable language depicting a sense of place, and the artist's place within it. Stone's goal is not to coolly document the margins of highway culture, but rather to bring a personal and poetic point of view. In this way his picture-making builds a symbolic system, a framework for the perception of the world or a meditation on a set of ideas.

Barry Stone was born in Lubbock, Texas. After earning an MFA in Studio Art with a concentration in photography from the University of Texas at Austin. His work has been widely exhibited and he has received numerous grants, including The Arch and Anne Giles Kimbrough Fund grant from the Dallas Museum of Art. In 2004, he was selected to participate in the inaugural Art + Commerce Festival of Emerging Photographers. Barry Stone is represented by Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery in Brooklyn, New York and teaches photography at Texas State University in San Marcos. He lives and works in Austin, Texas.



Barry Stone

Targets, Texas Parks and Wildlife Expo, Austin, TX, 10.7.2007

inkjet print

17x 22 inches

Project Space

Aram Nagle

Battle Play Set

Aram Nagle transforms the Project Space into a jungle-gym-battle-ground-parody of the Iraq War. Creating child size toy army men and Iraqi insurgent weeble wobble soldiers, Nagle constructs an interactive diorama depicting a slice of life for the men and women of all nationalities in Iraq. The subject matter's seriousness is accentuated by portraying it in innocent, child-like and pop imagery.

Aram Nagle was born in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. After earning his MFA in 2006 in sculpture he traveled the Western Hemisphere and eventually settled back in Texas. He now teaches art and art history at Houston Community College. In the last few years he has shown his work throughout Texas and the southwest with shows in San Antonio, Houston and Los Angeles. He continues to make art from his personal history and experiences. He proudly resides and works in Houston, TX.



Aram Nagle

Battle Play Set

About Lawndale:

Lawndale Art Center is a nonprofit alternative exhibition space dedicated to the presentation of contemporary art in all media, with an emphasis on the work of Houston area artists.

For More Info:

www.lawndaleartcenter.org or askus@lawndaleartcenter.org

Gallery Hours:

Monday-Friday, 10-5; Saturday, 12-5; Closed Sunday

Admission:

Free

Viewing Dates:

This exhibition will open on Friday, January 23, 2009 and will remain on view through Saturday, February 28, 2009.

Press Contact:

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