

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

Exhibitions on view

May 11 – June 16, 2012

Opening Reception May 11, 2012, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Artist talks at 6 PM

Prospectors – Seth Mittag, David Politzer & Anne J. Regan

Lawndale Artist Studio Program Exhibition

John M. O'Quinn Gallery

Isometric Solutions to Contemporary Economic Dilemmas – Jack Ericksson

Cecily E. Horton Gallery

#everyoneisanartist – Travis McCarra & Michael Gonzales

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

TrendFACTORY – Leslie Mutchler

Project Space

On view through June 2012

Famous Monsters – Daniel Anguilu

North exterior wall

Houston, Texas – Lawndale Art Center presents four exhibitions **opening May 11, 2012, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**, with artist talks beginning at **6 PM**. In the John M. O'Quinn Gallery, 2011-2012 Lawndale Artist Studio Program artists **Seth Mittag, David Politzer** and **Anne J. Regan** present work produced during their residency at Lawndale in the exhibition **Prospectors**. In the Mezzanine Gallery, **Jack Ericksson's** installation, **Isometric Solutions to Contemporary Economic Dilemmas**, identifies problems and proposes solutions by blending the emotional understanding of the public market with the reality of economic depression. In the Grace R. Cavnar Gallery, **Travis McCarra & Michael Gonzales** use Twitter hastags allowing artists to populate the exhibition space with work for the exhibition **#everyoneisanartist**. In the Project Space, **TrendFACTORY** by **Leslie Mutchler** explores issues related to hand(craft), the physicality of labor and the repetition of memes in the virtual world through hand-manufactured objects and focusing on ways in which a controlled community, limited to specific materials, can participate in the creation of objects. These exhibitions continue through **June 16, 2012**.

Through June 2012, **Daniel Anguilu's** mural **Famous Monsters** is also on view on Lawndale's north exterior wall.

-MORE-

CHAIR
VICE CHAIR - MARKETING
VICE CHAIR – FUNDRAISING/DEVELOPMENT
VICE CHAIR – BOARD DEVELOPMENT
SECRETARY
TREASURER
PAST CHAIR
PROGRAMMING CHAIR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JENNY JOHNSON
PAULA MURPHY
ELEANOR L. WILLIAMS
KATE McCONNICO
NICOLE C. LAURENT
DAVID R. GRAHAM
DIANA HUDSON
ADRIENNE JOHNSON YOST

JAMES ANDERSON, JR.

AMY BLUMROSEN
ELAINE BRADFORD
LISA BROOKS
JILLIAN CONRAD
ARTURO CHAVEZ, AIA
SASHA DELA
TOM DOWNING
SEBASTIAN FORRAY
ADAM GIBSON
RACHEL HEWLETT
RACHEL HOOPER
BRIAN JAMES
JULIA ABBOTT KOIVUMAA
TIM KOLLATSCHNY
DOUG LAWING
MICHELLE LEWIS-BLOSSMAN
VICTORIA LUDWIN
LESTER MARKS
JERYN WOODARD MAYER
BARBARA FRIEDEL McKNIGHT
ANDREW SCHIRRMESTER III
CHRISTOPHER SPERANDIO
MIRI WILKINS

EMERITUS

GRACIE CAVNAR
TIM CROWLEY
JONATHAN DAY
ANITA GARTEN
ANN HARTHAS
CECILY E. HORTON
KAROL KREYMER
MARSHAL LIGHTMAN
BROOKE STROUD
JAMES SURLS

STAFF
CHRISTINE JELSON WEST
Executive Director

DENNIS NANCE
Exhibitions and Programming
Director

EMILY LINK
Community Relations Coordinator

REGINA VIGIL
Office Manager

DUSTIN TONG
Graphic Design Intern

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street

Houston, TX 77002

713 528-5858

Fax 713 528-4140

askus@lawndaleartcenter.org

www.lawndaleartcenter.org

John M. O'Quinn Gallery

Seth Mittag, David Politzer & Anne J. Regan

Prospectors

The Lawndale Artist Studio Program is part of Lawndale's ongoing commitment to support the creation of contemporary art by Gulf Coast area artists. With an emphasis on emerging practices, the program provides three artists with studio space on the third floor of Lawndale Art Center at 4912 Main Street in the heart of Houston's Museum District. This exhibition features residents for the sixth year of the Lawndale Artist Studio Program, Seth Mittag, David Politzer and Anne J. Regan.

Making use of his experience in New York as a puppet and set builder in the animation industry, **Seth Mittag** will be telling a story using set pieces, photographs and a short animation. Based on events and characters from his own life, he spins a tale of a family's adventure of buying a home. This journey includes blackmailing a banker, battling el chupacabra and surviving a hurricane.

David Politzer will exhibit video works and photographs from his series, *When You're Out There*. For this evolving collection, Politzer uses the tropes of landscape and nature art as points of critical departure. *My Beach* is a single-channel video piece that confronts our tendency to choose to look at mediated landscapes even when the real thing is as just as accessible. Another video project (currently untitled) addresses the proliferation of landscape photography on the Internet and questions how these images relate to traditional notions of the picturesque.

Anne J. Regan will exhibit a new body of work made while at Lawndale. Her works coalesce the experience of music and the folklore of our national sonic history. Using materials she gleans from specific sites in the American landscape, she seeks to resurrect musical histories, bringing an intimacy to seemingly lost experiences and emotions.

Seth Mittag was born in 1974 in Newport News, VA and studied at both Southwestern University and the University of Houston, where he earned his MFA in sculpture. Since 2001, his work has been exhibited throughout Texas and was included in the 2005 Texas Biennial. Shortly after, he move to New York and continued to show there along participating in a group show in Berlin. While living in New York he became involved in the film industry working as both a sculptor and art director for several stop animation projects. His film work includes clients such as Michael Eisner, Progresso Soup, The Harlem Globetrotters, Howard Johnson Hotels, Moveon.org, Firstavenuemachine and Adcouncil. His current body of work incorporates the influence of working as a professional puppet maker and his love for storytelling. Seth Mittag lives and works in Houston, TX.

sethmittag.com



Seth Mittag

We're still here, 2011

Metal, wood, plastic

12'x8'x12'



David Politzer

American Bald Eagle, 2011

30 x 30 inches

C-Print



Anne J. Regan

Johnny & June Carter Cash,

2012

11"x14"

Beeswax, grass, rocks and earth from the grave site of Johnny & June Carter Cash in Hendersonville, Tennessee.

-MORE-

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street

Houston, TX 77002

713 528-5858

Fax 713 528-4140

askus@lawndaleartcenter.org

www.lawndaleartcenter.org

David Politzer was born in Washington DC and holds an MFA from Syracuse University. David is the recipient of the 2011 HCP Carol Crow Fellowship Award. His work was shown recently at Vox Populi (Philadelphia), video_dumbo (Brooklyn), the Syracuse International Film Festival and in a solo exhibition at the Museum of Northern Arizona. He was an artist in residence at Yaddo, the Skowhegan School, Roswell Artist in Residence, and the Kala Art Institute. He lives and works in Houston, TX where he teaches in the Photography and Digital Media Department at the University of Houston. www.davideology.com

Anne J. Regan was born along the blues trail, howling on the banks of the Illinois river. After living on both coasts and earning a BFA from the California College of the Arts in San Francisco, she consulted the stars, carefully packed her records and moved to the South. She went on to earn her MFA from the University of Houston in 2010, has been a resident at The Cooper Union School of Art and is currently amidst a nine month residency at The Lawndale Art Center through May 2012. She has shown both nationally and internationally. Beginning in fall 2012, she will be teaching a course she built in Folk Traditions & Art from the American Blues at The Glassell School of Art in Houston, TX. www.annejregan.com

Cecily E. Horton Gallery

Jack Eriksson

Isometric Solutions to Contemporary Economic Dilemmas

Isometric Solutions to Contemporary Economic Dilemmas will be a full scale installation populated with 2D and 3D representations of economic data. It will show how vulnerable graphics are to unwelcome interpretation based on misguided geometry, Masonic lore and common sense. The work will identify problems and propose solutions by blending the emotional understanding of the public market with the reality of economic depression. The work will be composed primarily of found objects, office furniture, domestic items and a subscription to the Financial Times.

Jack Eriksson is an artist living and working in Houston Texas. Born in Laguna Beach, California and raised in Houston Texas, Jack graduated cum laude from the University of Houston with a BFA in sculpture. In 2011 he was awarded a fellowship at The Edward F. Albee Foundation. He has exhibited in Houston, San Antonio, New York, London, Hyderabad and New Orleans. He lives alone with a small army of cats—they are his only real friends.



Jack Eriksson
Supply/Demand, 2012
Mixed media
Installation detail

-MORE-

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street

Houston, TX 77002

713 528-5858

Fax 713 528-4140

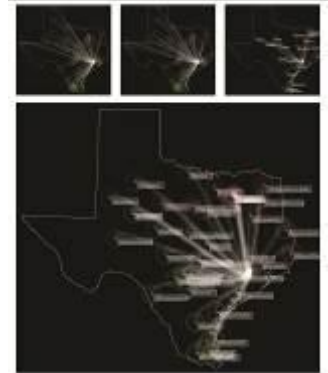
askus@lawndaleartcenter.org

www.lawndaleartcenter.org

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery
Travis McCarra & Michael Go
#everyoneisanartist

#everyoneisanartist uses Twitter to create an installation allowing the audience to simultaneously act as generator and spectator to this constantly changing piece. Online and physical visitors will be encouraged to “tweet” works in various media formats via hyperlink containing the Twitter hash-tag *#everyoneisanartist* within Twitter’s 140 character limit. The received message will be processed, stored, and linked via a custom coded application. The output will then be projected to one of five frames within the gallery.

The installation is dependent on the spontaneous participation of online and physical visitors to the gallery. Given the inherent structure of the project and web-based communication, a website will also be created to act as a digital extension to the Cavnar Gallery and exhibition. The site allows online users to access real-time video, temporal history and geographical distribution map of the accumulated entries. This also allows the gallery to be viewed and interacted with continuously at all hours of the day, and provides a living memory and continuation of the exhibition after de-installation.



Travis McCarra & Michael Gonzales
#everyoneisanartist, 2012
(Interactive)
C++, OpenGL, PHP,
projected art, zoomable
screen
42"x40"

Travis McCarra and Michael Gonzales are a Houston-based design duo. Between the two, they have worked, lived, and exhibited in Houston, New York City and Barcelona. Formally trained as architects, their work spans a variety of scales including graphic and visual arts, app development, interactive installations, civic art, and product design. With the integration of computer science, new media, and digital fabrication, they strive to develop a body of work that blurs the boundaries between digital sophistication with visceral, real-world, and collective experiences.

Most recent works include 'drawSpace', an interactive body-to-screen drawing environment that debuted at Spring Street Studios in July 2011, 'brainHacking', an installation using brain sensing technology allowing users to control a game with their brain waves exhibited at Columbia University, and 'cloudCode', a permanent civic art installation at the Houston Permitting Center that reads and visualizes real-time environmental data from multiple locations in the building.

www.travismccarra.com

www.gonzalesstudio.com

Project Space
Leslie Mutchler
TrendFACTORY

TrendFACTORY is a community-driven, multi-participatory installation. Artist, Leslie Mutchler, will be exploring issues related to hand(craft), the physicality of labor, and the repetition of memes in the virtual world through hand-manufactured objects. As the “factory” is a quickly disappearing hub for work within the country, Mutchler is interested in bringing a focus back to labor and our need for



Leslie Mutchler
TrendFACTORY, 2012
Birch plywood furniture, relief prints on
chipboard, video, mixed media

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street

Houston, TX 77002

713 528-5858

Fax 713 528-4140

askus@lawndaleartcenter.org

www.lawndaleartcenter.org

-MORE-

commonality through shared physical experiences. The artist will focus on the ways in which a controlled community, limited to specific materials, could participate in the construction and thus curation of objects, perhaps influencing and driving the installation (both real and virtual) and thus exposing the repetitive and tedious nature of trend.

Leslie Mutchler's multi-disciplinary installations are experiments in faux-functionality and imperfect design. Utilizing the material language of our everyday, Mutchler engages with issues of hand(craft), labor, sustainability, and commodity. Mutchler earned an MFA from Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA. Recent solo shows include ASTRAL pop-up, VA That Gallery, University of Wyoming, WY (2012), Geometry of Labor, Poliglota Gallery, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2011), and (F)utility Kitchen, Snowflake, St. Louis, MO (2011). For more information please visit www.LeslieMutchler.com

For more information on upcoming exhibitions and programs, please visit

<http://www.lawndaleartcenter.org>.

About Lawndale:	Lawndale Art Center develops local contemporary artists and the audience for their art. Lawndale is dedicated to the presentation of contemporary art with an emphasis on work by Houston artists. Lawndale presents exhibitions, lectures and events, and offers an annual residency program to further the creative exchange of ideas among Houston's diverse artistic, cultural and student communities.
Address:	4912 Main St., Houston, TX 77002
For More Info:	www.lawndaleartcenter.org or askus@lawndalwartcenter.org
Gallery Hours:	Monday-Friday, 10-5; Saturday, 12-5; Closed Sunday
Admission:	Free
Viewing Dates:	These exhibitions will open on Friday, May 11, 2012 and will remain on view through Saturday, June 16, 2012. Daniel Anguilu's mural will be on view through June 2012.
Press Contact:	Dennis Nance, 713-528-5858, dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org

Programs at Lawndale are supported in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, The City of Houston through the Houston Museum District Association, 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., John M. O'Quinn, Cecily E. Horton, Ann W. Harithas, Jonathan and Barbara Day, Diana M. Hudson and Lee Kaplan, Anita and David Garten, Mary and Roy Cullen, Bruce Eames, Felvis Foundation/David R. Graham, Jenny and Mark Johnson, Andrew C. Schirrmeister III, Scott Sparvero, Continental Airlines, Art Colony Association, Party With Cris, other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.

- END -