#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### LAWNDALE ART CENTER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JAMES ANDERSON, JR.

#### **Lawndale Art Center**

**Presents** 

Exhibitions on view November 22, 2013 – January 11, 2014

Opening Reception November 22, 2013, 6:30 - 8:30 PM Artist talks at 6 PM

**Superficial Outgrowths •** Sang-Mi Yoo John M. O'Quinn Gallery

Nerve Endings • Regina Agu

Cecily E. Horton Gallery

**This End Up •** Melinda Laszczynski & Jessica Ninci Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

**The Significance of "Material" • Beth Secor**Project Space

Also on view...

Skywriting • Daniel Anguilu & Aaron Parazette
North Exterior Wall

Houston, Texas - Lawndale Art Center presents four exhibitions opening November 22, 2013, 6:30 - 8:30 PM, with artist talks beginning at 6 PM. In the John M. O'Quinn Gallery, Sang-Mi Yoo focuses on the ideal home through prints, laser cut wool felt and their three-dimensional conversions for the exhibition Superficial Outgrowths. In the Cecily E. Horton Gallery, Regina Agu looks to forms of self-representation (portraiture, adornment and personal objects) and the layered, residual traces left by these bodies in the built environment for inspiration for the exhibition Nerve Endings. In the Grace R. Cavnar Gallery, Melinda Laszczynski and Jessica Ninci focus on the orientation and arrangement of non-representational works within a specific space and the nuances of installation for the exhibition This End Up. In the Project Space, Beth Secor's installation, The Significance of "Material", uses her mother's sewing patterns, sewing machines, thread and fabric designs as an inspiration, combining these materials, as well as painted elements and text. The exhibitions will be on view through January 11, 2014.

Through January 2014, **Daniel Anguilu and Aaron Parazette**'s mural **Skywriting** is also on view on Lawndale's north exterior wall.

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John M. O'Quinn Gallery Sang-Mi Yoo Superficial Outgrowths 4912 Main Street
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Superficial Outgrowths by Sang-Mi Yoo focuses on the ideal home through prints, laser cut wool felt and their threedimensional conversions. The reality of finding ideal home and ideal body residing within such environments is explored through American norms. Her work is based on her childhood memories from Korea and everyday encounters of standardized residential buildings, including her West Texas living experience. Like an animal's camouflage, this homogeneity provided her with a means to blend into her neighborhood. Her installations of large-format prints and laser cuts are based upon patterns created from cookie-cutter homes found in Lubbock, Houston and other global locations. She also adds wearable forms created from these prints by collaborating with an apparel designer, Su-Jeong Shin, The rows of houses and floorplans become abstract constructs that are subject to gravity and shadow play surrounding the materials, questioning whether the ideal home is a tangible subject or an illusion.



Sang-Mi Yoo

Mimicry. 2012

Pigment inkjet print, laser cut wool felt, latex paint

Dimensions variable

Korean-born artist, **Sang-Mi Yoo** is an Associate Professor of Art at Texas Tech University, and received an MFA in printmaking from The Ohio State University and a BFA in painting from Seoul National University. Her creative activity features the 2012 Seacourt Print Workshop Artist-in-Residence in Northern Ireland, a 2010 Puffin Foundation Artist Grant, the 2009 Springfield Art Museum Purchase Award, exhibitions at the Museum of Printing History in Houston, the Moonshin Museum in Korea, the "Gyeongnam International Art Festival" in Korea and the "2008 Pacific Rim International Print Exhibition" in New Zealand, and museum collections at the Art Bank at the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Korea, the Springfield Art Museum and The Museum of Texas Tech University, among others. As an active organizer of panels and events, she has also curated/co-curated exhibitions including "Convergence: Korean Prints Now" at Williams Tower Gallery in Houston and "Makers in Print: International Exhibit" at INOVA in Milwaukee.

www.sangmiyoo.com

Cecily E. Horton Gallery **Regina Agu** 

#### Nerve Endings

Regina Agu's recent work focuses on intersections of collective and personal history and the role they dictate for the physical body. She seeks out and explores hidden and forgotten histories through works on paper, installation and performance. For her exhibition at Lawndale Art Center, Agu looks to forms of self-representation (portraiture, adornment and personal objects) and the layered, residual traces left by these bodies in the built environment for inspiration. Site specific installations immerse the viewer in a topology drawn equally from organic patterns found in the natural world and those created specifically with a design aesthetic in mind.

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Regina Agu is an interdisciplinary artist based in Houston, TX. Agu was born in Houston and was raised traveling overseas throughout Africa and Europe. She is a graduate of Cornell University. Her practice is an investigation of intersections of collective and personal history, memory, and the physical body. Agu's work has been included in exhibitions and public readings at New Museum (NY), Textile Arts Center (NY), Fresh Arts (TX), University Museum at Texas Southern University (TX), labotanica (TX), and Project Row Houses (TX), among other venues. In 2011 she was an Associate Artist in Residence at Atlantic Center for the Arts, and was selected for the DW(2) Development Workshops at DiverseWorks. She is a 2012 Houston Arts Alliance Individual Artist Grant recipient.

www.reginaagu.com

# Grace R. Cavnar Gallery Melinda Laszczynski & Jessica Ninci This End Up

Featuring Melinda Laszczynski and Jessica Ninci, *This End Up* focuses on the orientation and arrangement of non-representational works within a specific space and the nuances of installation. Both artists possess a strong interest in materiality, the object-like qualities in painting and the seemingly banal. Laszczynski collects various discarded materials such as wood and glass that are manipulated through both negative and additive processes. The results are fragile or precarious assemblages that reference painting. Ninci's work explores abstraction in painting and situates itself between formalism and a kind of casualness – in that the marks appear facile yet specific. In the display and installation of the works, thoughtfully mundane associations are made with the architectural space and between the works themselves.

Melinda Laszczynski is a 2015 MFA Candidate at the University of Houston. She graduated from The Cleveland Institute of Art in 2010 with a BFA in Painting. She has been in numerous exhibitions in the Houston and Cleveland areas, including "The Big Show" at Lawndale Art Center, "Disturbance of Distance" at Box13 ArtSpace, "In-Turn" at Zygote Press and "Made For Cutting" at Forum Gallery. Her work can be found in private and corporate collections, including University Hospitals in Cleveland, OH and Avery Denison in Mentor, OH.

www.melindalaszczynski.com



**Regina Agu** *Celebration Mix*, 2013
Performance/Installation

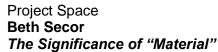


Melinda Laszczynski Sugar Coat, 2013 Wax, beads and spray paint on wooden stretcher bar 36" x 2" x 1"

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Jessica Ninci was born in Houston and received her MFA in painting from the University of Houston in May of 2013. She has been in numerous local exhibitions, including "HowBoutNow: University of Houston Graduate Painting" in 2012, and more recently The Brandon's "Group Show". Jessica is currently teaching painting and drawing at Alvin Community College as well as drawing at the University of Houston.

www.jessicaninci.com



The first word Beth Secor remembers her mother teaching her is "material". Secor explains, "I was probably around two and a half; my older sisters were in school, and the two of us were spending the morning as we usually did, in her room as she sewed. My mother is now 84 years old, has Alzheimer's, and doesn't remember what the word material means." Secor's installation in the Project Space is in honor of her mother, using her mother's sewing patterns, sewing machines, thread and fabric designs as an inspiration for the installation. The installation itself combines these materials, as well as painted elements and text.

**Beth Secor** is a Houston-based artist and writer. She received an MFA in Painting and BFA in Printmaking from the University of Houston. She is an adjunct professor in art at the University of Houston Downtown (UHD) and Houston Community College Central, and writes grants for the Art League Houston. Secor recently developed a "Writing for the Arts" course for UHD, which is the first such course offered at the school, and is geared toward arts and arts administration majors. Secor is represented by Inman Gallery, Houston, TX.



Jessica Ninci Little Lies, 2013 Oil on canvas 8" x 6"



Beth Secor Sudden Appearance in Places Unknown, 2013 Found embroidered linens with drawing and embroidery 30" x 30"

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Also on view... through January 2014

North Exterior Wall - 2013 Lawndale Mural Project **Skywriting** • Daniel Anguilu & Aaron Parazette

Skywriting is a collaboration between artists **Daniel Anguilu** and **Aaron Parazette**. This project is the third phase of the rotating mural at Lawndale Art Center. Both painters employ forms of abstract patterns in their work, though their individual approach differs greatly. Anguilu's intuitive approach to painting outdoor spaces results in gestural forms that take shape on the wall, while the clean lines and mathematical forms of Parazette's work result from a more calculated approach to painting.



This project is generously sponsored by <u>Kinzelman Art Consulting</u>, Judy & Scott Nyquist, Deborah Perl, <u>Mellow Mushroom</u> and Power Electrical.

Daniel Anguilu started painting graffiti at an early age. Mostly using freight trains and walls as his canvases, his art is increasingly visible around his hometown of Houston. Texas. Anguilu has been invited and traveled to many cities in the US, Mexico, Peru, Spain, and Italy to paint graffiti and to participate in graffiti art exhibits. He has also visited Asia, Africa, and Central America to enrich his knowledge of pre-colonial art and the cultures in those regions. Anguilu's style is deeply inspired by his Mexican heritage, and mostly manifests itself as large scale, aerosol murals. Anguilu strongly believes in freedom of expression and the need to use this expression to decorate public spaces. Anguilu's recent projects include Famous Monsters at Lawndale Art Center. Houston TX (2012), and has participated in group exhibitions at Art League Houston (2012), The Station Museum, Houston TX (2012), Cardoza Fine Art, Houston TX (2012); the Orange Show, Houston TX (2011); Mexican Consulate of Houston, Houston TX (2007); Aerosol Warfare Gallery, Houston TX (2005), and the Poissant Gallery, Houston TX (2001). Currently, Anguilu is focusing on painting public spaces in the Houston area and working in collaboration with local business and homeowners. Through his many conversations with Houstonians over the years, Anguilu has noticed that many people, whether involved in art or not, support his efforts to bring his art to our public spaces.

Aaron Parazette was born in Ventura, CA and spent his youth on the beach and in the waters of the Pacific. He did his undergraduate work at the University of South Florida in Tampa, and his graduate work at the Claremont Graduate University in California. After receiving his MFA in 1990 he moved to Houston to be a part of the Core Residency Program at the Glassell School of Art. Over the past 20 years Aaron has had an active career, regularly showing his work locally, nationally, and internationally. In 1997 he joined the faculty of the School of Art at the University of Houston where he continues to mentor the next generation of Houston artists. Aaron lives and works in Houston with his partner Sharon Engelstein, and their daughter Joy.

www.parazette.com

**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: <a href="www.lawndaleartcenter.org">www.lawndaleartcenter.org</a> or <a href="maskus@lawndalwartcenter.org">askus@lawndalwartcenter.org</a>

**Gallery Hours:** Monday-Friday, 10-5; Saturday, 12-5; Closed Sunday

Admission: Free

**Exhibition Dates:** These exhibitions will open on Friday, November 22, 2013

and will remain on view through Saturday, January 11, 2014.

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Programs at Lawndale are supported in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The City of Houston through the Houston Museum District Association, The Texas Commission on the Arts, Houston Endowment, The Brown Foundation, Inc., The John R. Eckel, Jr. Foundation, The John P. McGovern Foundation, The Joan Hohlt and Roger Wich Foundation, Art Colony Association, John M. O'Quinn, Cecily E. Horton, Ann W. Harithas, Diana M. Hudson and Lee Kaplan, Chinhui Juhn and Edward R Allen III, Bevin and Dan Dubrowksi, Bruce Eames, Anita and David Garten, Felvis Foundation/David R. Graham, Jenny and Mark Johnson, Jeryn and Walter Mayer, Paula Murphy, Andrew C. Schirrmeister III, Scott Sparvero, TeleFlex, United Airlines, Kinzelman Art Consulting, Page Southerland Page, Poggenpohl Design Studio, Saint Cloud and other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.