

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lawndale Art Center

Presents

Exhibitions on view

November 21, 2014 – January 10, 2013

Opening Reception Friday, November 21, 2014, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Artist talks at 6 PM

Drive • Curated by Joshua Fischer & Katia Zavistovski

Work by The Art Guys, Anthony Álvares, Jesse Morgan Barnett, Claudia Casbarian, Bryan Gardner, Heather Johnson, Cody Ledvina, Lars Lerup, Mike Osborne, Flash Gordon Parks, Susie Rosmarin, Thumb(Luke Bulman and Jessica Young) and Charisse Weston
John M. O'Quinn Gallery

After Landscapes • Regan Golden-McNerney

Cecily E. Horton Gallery

Pulse • Margaret Smithers-Crump

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

at dawn and dusk • Mari Omori

Project Space

Houston, Texas - Lawndale Art Center presents four exhibitions **opening November 21, 2014, 6:30 - 8:30 PM**, with **artist talks beginning at 6 PM**. In the group exhibition, **Drive**, in the John M. O'Quinn Gallery, **Joshua Fischer and Katia Zavistovski** explore the various roles that freeways and driving culture have played in our human experience and perceptions of the city. In the Cecily E. Horton Gallery, **After Landscapes** is a collection of altered photographs about the ragged prairies that border the highways and railroad tracks in **Regan Golden-McNerney's** hometown of St. Paul, Minnesota. In the Grace R. Cavnar Gallery, Margaet Smithers-Crump's installations explore the three dimensional use of Plexiglas and transforming the gallery into a glass-like world composed of translucent forms and light. In the Project Space, Mari Omori's two room installation explores notions of the artist's memory and identity as a Japanese-American artist. These exhibitions will be **on view through January 10, 2014**.

Through January 2015, **Otabenga Jones & Associates'** mural **The People's Plate** is also on view on Lawndale's north exterior wall.

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John M. O'Quinn Gallery

Drive

Curated by Joshua Fischer & Katia Zavistovski

Work by The Art Guys, Anthony Álvarez, Jesse Morgan Barnett, Claudia Casbarian, Bryan Gardner, Heather Johnson, Cody Ledvina, Lars Lerup, Mike Osborne, Flash Gordon Parks, Susie Rosmarin, Thumb(Luke Bulman and Jessica Young) and Charisse Weston

Freeways are a ubiquitous presence in Houston, circumscribing its inner and outer loops, bisecting downtown, and stretching over its neighborhoods and bayous. Snaking through and around the city, I-10, 59, 45, and the 610 and Beltway 8 loops have physically and psychologically shaped the everyday lives of Houston residents in profound ways. In this group exhibition *Drive*, Joshua Fischer and Katia Zavistovski explore the various roles that freeways and driving culture have played in our human experience and perceptions of the city. Questioning how freeways have impacted art making – whether as inspiration, antagonist, or more neutrally as platform or stage – the exhibition will feature a broad range of work by artists and architects who engage with the topic from multiple perspectives and in diverse media. These range from works that address the subject directly – for example, Bryan Gardner's recreation of the 610 loop that draws from his experiences commuting – to the more indirect and open-ended, such as Susie Rosmarin's abstract paintings that explore visual repetition and seriality. The exhibition will also feature work by The Art Guys, Jesse Morgan Barnett, Claudia Casbarian, Cody Ledvina, Lars Lerup, and Mike Osborne, among others; as well as visual ephemera that provide a brief history of the freeway as it has shifted from an optimistic symbol of growth and freedom to what is now commonly seen as a problematic piece of infrastructure associated with traffic jams and long commutes.



Mike Osborne
Flooded Corolla, San Antonio,
2013
Archival inkjet print
48" x 38 ½"

Joshua Fischer works as the assistant curator at Rice University Art Gallery, where he's curated installations by Andrea Dezsö, Ana Serrano, and Yasuaki Onishi. He graduated from Trinity University where he double majored in Studio Art and Sociology. He then received an M.A. in American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin.

Katia Zavistovski was born in New York, and lives and works in Houston, TX. She is an independent curator and art critic, and is a PhD candidate in art history at Rice University. Katia worked as the William A. Camfield Curatorial Fellow at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston from 2012-2013, and as the Rice Curatorial Fellow at the Menil Collection from 2011-2012. In 2012, she curated the exhibition "Staring at the Wall: The Art of Boredom" for the Lawndale Art Center, and she co-curated "Raid the Archive: The de Menil Years at Rice", which was on view at the Rice Media Center. Prior to moving to more tropical climates, she attended the Williams College graduate program in art history, where she received her MA with a focus on modern and contemporary art. During her time at Williams, Katia was the Clark Curatorial Fellow at MASS MoCA, where she organized the exhibition "InVisible: Art at the Edge of Perception (2010)".

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Cecily E. Horton Gallery

After Landscapes

Regan Golden-McNerney

After Landscapes is a collection of altered photographs about the ragged prairies that border the highways and railroad tracks in Regan Golden's hometown of St. Paul, Minnesota. Each scrap of prairie is within walking distance of her home, a proximity that enables her to document the location over time. Golden then combines drawn, painted and photographic imagery through cut paper collage and digital imaging. She splices and reorders the traditional horizontal landscape format to convey the natural cycle of growth and decay in these marginal, unkempt spaces. Golden's work examines how our sense of images as physical objects is diminishing with the influx of digital media and how this parallels our detachment from natural spaces. Using both digital tools and traditional collage techniques, *After Landscapes* invites viewers to examine their relationship to the often overlooked natural spaces that are part of everyday life.



Regan Golden-McNerney
Far Afield, 2013
Digital C-print
60" x 40"

Regan Golden-McNerney is an artist, writer and co-founder of the collaborative, Drawn Lots. Recent exhibitions include *Groundswell* at Illinois State University and *Clear Cut* at Gallery 44: Centre for Contemporary Photography in Toronto. Golden's work has been exhibited at Harvard University's Fisher Museum in Petersham, Massachusetts; Gallery 400 in Chicago, Illinois; The Walker Art Center Sculpture Garden in Minneapolis, Minnesota; The Rochester Art Center in Rochester, Minnesota; and The Cue Foundation in New York, New York. In 2015, Golden's altered photographs will be included in the Midwest Photographers Project at the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago. She has received fellowships from The Core Program at The Museum of Fine Arts Houston and The Stone Summer Theory Institute at The Art Institute of Chicago. Golden is also currently an art critic for *Modern Painters* and *ARTPulse*.

regangolden.com

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

Margaret Smithers-Crump

Pulse

Margaret Smithers-Crump's work focuses on vulnerability, growth, powerlessness, and transformation within natural cycles of life. It examines the consequences of choices and investigates notions of probability. Working primarily with Plexiglas, Smithers-Crump's current series of work utilizes water—with its inherent associations to life, death, and renewal—as both metaphor and substance to further investigate ideas regarding existence. For this exhibition, the artist created three new installations that explore the three dimensional use of Plexiglas: cutting it into shapes, bending or melting it by heat, chemically bonding disparate pieces, or sanding it down to receive diverse art media. Using both floor and ceiling, Smithers-Crump transforms the gallery into a glass-like world composed of translucent forms and light.



Margaret Smithers-Crump
Full Circle, 2014
Acrylic on translucent Plexiglas and sand
8" x 96" x 96"

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Margaret Smithers-Crump is a Canadian artist based in Houston, Texas. For the last seventeen years, Smithers-Crump has been exploring the creative potential of Plexiglas, in both painting and installations. She received her BFA in Painting from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio in 1973. Smithers-Crump has had a series of solo exhibitions throughout Texas, including Galveston Arts Center, the Martin Museum of Art at Baylor University, and University of Houston at Clear Lake. Her work has been featured in group exhibitions, most recently at Devin Borden Gallery (Houston, TX) where she presented *Poised*, a gallery installation composed of fifty-one translucent Plexiglas dodecahedrons.

www.margaretsmithers-crump.com

Project Space

Mari Omori

at dawn and dusk

at dawn and dusk is a two room installation with videos, still photographs, objects and sounds exploring the notions of the artist's memory and identity as a Japanese-American artist, and the reconstruction of her past. The installation weaves pieces of post-war Japanese history and my vivid childhood memories of that particular time period. The installation serves as an apparatus, a laboratory, to test ideas for self-discovery and self-realization. For the viewer, the work is a window into an unfamiliar world which prompts questioning and contemplation.



Mari Omori
eyes, 2014
Digital photograph
Dimensions variable

Born and raised in Chiba Prefecture, Japan, **Mari Omori** is a multimedia artist, art educator, and curator who received her MFA from UCLA and BA from California State University Northridge. She is currently a Professor of Art at Lone Star College-Kingwood, TX, a position she has held since 2002. Her awards include the 2008 Mino Culture Art Project Artist-in-Residency, Japan in conjunction with her Sabbatical Research Grant and the 2007 Palm Beach County Cultural Grant culminating a solo exhibition at the Morikami Museum, Palm Beach, Florida. Her recent AIR experiences are Oaxaca, Mexico in 2013, Hilmsen, Germany in 2012, and COLLAGE: Art for Cancer Network with MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, on-going since 2007. Her works have been exhibited internationally in Japan, Germany, Mexico, Taiwan, and Thailand, as well as in solo and group shows in the US, California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Oregon, and Texas. Her work is in the collection of Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX.

www.mari-omori.com

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Also on view...

Through January 2016

North Exterior Wall - 2014 Lawndale Mural Project
The People's Plate • Otabenga Jones & Associates

Through a collaborative art project/public health program, Otabenga Jones & Associates will attempt to mitigate the ongoing health crisis of obesity and its related risks. The Collective will create a public mural at the Lawndale Art Center along with a series of adjacent programs, kicking off a year-long commitment to health education. Programs will include cooking classes, a foraging workshop, an urban gardening workshop, an instructional cooking video and a line of mass produced lunchboxes that will be made available to the public. Inspired by the Black Panther Free Breakfast for School Children Program, which saw the Panthers cooking and serving breakfast to poor inner city children, the Collective aims to provide at-risk community members with a set of tools that will encourage self-sufficiency and empowerment in terms of maintaining their own health through food choices, while building community.



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.

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For More Info: www.lawndaleartcenter.org or askus@lawndaleartcenter.org

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

Admission: Free

Exhibition Dates: These exhibitions will open on Friday, November 21, 2014 and will remain on view through Saturday, January 10, 2015.

Press Contact: Dennis Nance, 713-528-5858, dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org

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, Felvis Foundation/David R. Graham, Mid-America Arts Alliance, John M. O'Quinn, Gracie and Bob Cavnar, Cecily E. Horton, Ann W. Harithas, Diana M. Hudson and Lee Kaplan, Julia and Luke Burke, Monica Rios and Colin Fulton, Bruce Eames, Samantha Schnee and Michael Hafner, Henke Law Firm LLP, Jenny and Mark Johnson, Gretchen and Andrew McFarland, Paula Murphy, Lia and David Rodi, Nicole and Joey Romano, Scott R. Sparvero, Mary Martha and Joel Staff, TeleFlex, United Airlines, Kinzelman Art Consulting, Number 4 High Performance Hair Care, Page, Poggenpohl Design Studio, and other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.

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