

# LAWNDALE ART CENTER

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Lawndale Art Center

Presents

### Exhibitions on view

**May 8 – June 13, 2015**

**Opening Reception Friday, May 8, 2015, 6:30 - 8:30 PM**

**Artist talks at 6 PM**

**A B C D** • Josh Bernstein, JooYoung Choi & Lina Dib

Lawndale Artist Studio Program Exhibition

John M. O'Quinn Gallery

**Found Unfound** • Keliy Anderson-Staley

Cecily E. Horton Gallery

**Satis House** • Isabel Cuenca

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

**Total Body** • Liz Rodda

Project Space

Also on view...

**Ghost Grid** • Jonathan Leach

2015 Mural – North Exterior Wall

*Houston, Texas* - Lawndale Art Center presents four exhibitions **opening May 8, 2015, 6:30 - 8:30 PM**, with **artist talks beginning at 6 PM**. In the John M. O'Quinn Gallery residents from the ninth round of the Lawndale Artist Studio Program, **JooYoung Choi, Lina Dib** and **Josh Bernstein**, present work made during their time at Lawndale for the exhibition **A B C D**. In the Cecily E. Horton Gallery, **Keliy Anderson-Staley's** autobiographical installation, **Found Unfound**, is about the efforts we make to construct our histories through photographs. In the Grace R. Cavnar Gallery, **Isabel Cuenca** combines cyanotype print illustrations and photographic sources to create collages, paper constructs and painting assemblages for the exhibition **Satis House**. In the Project Space, Liz Rodda's exhibition Total Body uses collections of found video of unidentifiable individuals and audio questioning the evaluation of meaning, human impulses and philosophical assumptions. The exhibitions will be **on view through June 13, 2015**.

**Jonathan Leach's** mural, **Ghost Grid**, is also on view on Lawndale's north exterior wall through January 2016.

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John M. O'Quinn Gallery

**Josh Bernstein, JooYoung Choi & Lina Dib**

**A B C D**

**Lawndale Artist Studio Program Exhibition**

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 ninth round of the Lawndale Artist Studio Program, Josh Bernstein, JooYoung Choi and Lina Dib.

**Josh Bernstein** is currently trying to rise above his head with kites, a spaceship made out of mirrors, and prints of new constellations. The body of work attempts a connection between the universe and personal experience that emulates older, more idiosyncratic conceptions of outer space.

**JooYoung Choi** invites you to explore her fun and colorful imaginary world called The Cosmic Womb. Through a variety of new paintings and drawings she presents to you the story of C.S. Watson a young adoptee from Earth. Using playful puppets, animation, and video art, Cosmic Womb ambassador JooYoung Choi introduces you to the flora and fauna of this fantastic planet.

**Lina Dib** presents new works on paper, wood and air. Still preoccupied by the archive and an ecology of sound, Dib's works point to the fact that history (occasionally read as motion) has a medium. Her printed soundscapes remind viewers that sound has a shape, a topography, and her interactive pool of sound allows viewers to navigate an invisible watery landscape. Finally, a kinetic, slow spinning sculpture pushes the sound of the sea around the gallery. Reminiscent of a lighthouse, this sound-structure or beacon delineates a sea rather than land.

[www.bumpyjaspers.com](http://www.bumpyjaspers.com)

[www.jooyoungchoi.com](http://www.jooyoungchoi.com)

[www.linadib.com](http://www.linadib.com)

[Click here for artist bios.](#)



**Josh Bernstein**

*16 Cell Bell Kite*, 2015

36 x 36 x 36 inches

Wood, copper, cotton  
and silk



**JooYoung Choi**

*HAVE FAITH FOR  
YOU HAVE ALWAYS  
BEEN LOVED*, 2014

Paper collage, acetate,  
acrylic, plastic letters  
and clay  
48" X 36"



**Lina Dib**

*Sonogram #4* (dogs  
barking), 2015

Single-leaf woodcut  
22" x 30"

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Cecily E. Horton Gallery

**Keliy Anderson-Staley**

## ***Found Unfound***

This autobiographical installation is about the efforts we make to construct our histories through photographs—the images that come down to us and the images we leave behind. The works in the exhibition reflect photography's powerful narrative potential as well as its limitations and the fundamental paradox of any photograph—that it can tell us so much and nothing at the same time. The installation addresses the themes of inheritance, lineage and family lore by re-staging the artist's search for and discovery of a biological father she only knew through a single faded photograph she lost as a teenager. This lost photograph is represented in the installation in many forms. Coincidentally, the artist met her biological father in the same year she became a parent, and the works in this exhibition reflect her anxiety about photography's inability to really convey for her children who they are or where they come from.



**Keliy Anderson-Staley**

*My biological father stares across the room at the father who raised me: a diptych, detail, 2015*

Two 72" x 60" inkjet prints made from 8x10" wet-plate collodion tintypes

*Keliy Anderson-Staley's work has been shown at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, Morris Museum of Art, California Museum of Photography and Southeast Museum of Photography. Her work is held by a number of collections, including the Library of Congress, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Portland Museum of Art and Museum of Fine Arts-Houston. She recently received the Carol Crow Memorial Fellowship from the Houston Center for Photography and the Clarence John Laughlin Award from the New Orleans Photo Alliance. Raised in Maine, she has a BA from Hampshire College and an MFA from Hunter College in New York, and she is an assistant professor at the University of Houston. A book of her tintype portraits was recently published under the title, *On a Wet Bough*, by Waltz Books. She is represented by Catherine Edelman Gallery.*

[www.andersonstaley.com](http://www.andersonstaley.com)

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

**Isabel Cuenca**

## ***Satis House***

"When the house and clocks stopped all together." *Satis House* is a paradigm of stagnation. It is architecture that suffers and decrepit as time migrates forward. It becomes the artifact of loss – of structures weathered down to its bare bones. *Satis House* explores decay as an aftermath of loss. Cuenca alters and combines cyanotype print illustrations and photographic sources to create formal collages, paper constructs and painting assemblages in the lens of a geometric abstract painter. The manipulation process of collaging and folding allows shapes and symbols to lose their real-world connotations and opens the possibility of existing in the realm of fiction. The use of paper is both weighted and light. It can hold its shape, at the same time bend to the force of the creator. It complicates the ideas of the identity the forms take on and their existence in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional space.



**Isabel Cuenca**

*Untitled, 2014*

24x28x24in

Cyanotype on matte inkjet paper

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*Born in 1985, **Isabel Cuenca** grew up in the Philippines and now she calls Houston her home. After obtaining her Bachelors of Fine Arts at the University of Houston, she left for North Carolina where she received her Masters of Fine Arts from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. She acquired an interdisciplinary practice that involves painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture and installation. Since her return, she has been an intern at the Art League of Houston, taught elementary students and participated in the Philippine biennale – VIVA ExCon. Her work has been shown in Texas, North Carolina – at the Allcott Gallery, and at the Ackland Art Museum and the Philippines: Gallery Orange.*

[www.isabelcuencastudio.com](http://www.isabelcuencastudio.com)

Project Space

**Liz Rodda**

***Total Body***

*Total Body* is the result of collecting and sorting through found video and audio clips over a period of several years. The footage, culled from a sea of TV clips, music videos and vlogs, takes on new significance in an isolated viewing space in which there is a psychological relationship between recordings of several unidentifiable individuals. The audio, a spoken version of a text by the Roman philosopher and poet Lucretius, serves as a lens through which to view the videos. Questions arise regarding the evaluation of meaning, human impulses and philosophical assumptions.



Liz Rodda  
*Total Body*, 2015  
Video still

***Liz Rodda** is an artist and Assistant Professor at Texas State University. Her work has been screened and exhibited nationally and internationally at spaces including the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami; the Anthology Film Archives in NYC; Vox Populi Gallery, Philadelphia and Schwartz Gallery in London. Recent and upcoming residencies include Fountainhead, Miami, FL; Wassaic Artist Residency, Wassaic, NY; and Takt Kunstprojektraum in Berlin, Germany.*

[www.lizrod.com](http://www.lizrod.com)

**Also on view...**

Through January 2016

North Exterior Wall

**Jonathan Leach**

***Ghost Grid***

Jonathan Leach's work focuses on the visual language of commercial architecture, city traffic and safety/cautionary imagery. Leach's mural activates the surrounding architecture and visually impacts the space. *Ghost Grid* features a hardline geometric style with an emphasis on bright color and spatial illusion, using the three windows as a base grid structure that warps and changes, highlighted by reflective paint accents that activate the mural at night.

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**Jonathan Leach** is a painter/sculptor currently living and working in Houston, Texas. After receiving a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2001, Jonathan has exhibited his work nationally, exploring the language of architecture, advertising and traffic in his abstract works. Leach has had solo shows at Gallery Sonja Roesch, the Galveston Arts Center and galleryHOMELAND and created public sculpture in the form of a putt putt challenge incorporated in Discovery Green's "Insperity Golf Experience". Leach's work was featured in the 2013 Texas Biennial. His work is also in the collections of NRG Texas, Hess Co., the Bank of Montreal, Hobby Airport of Houston and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Jonathan is represented by Gallery Sonja Roesch in Houston, Texas, Cambia Art in Austin, Mirus Gallery in San Francisco, California and Piero Atchugarry Gallery in Tierra Garzon, Uruguay.

**plasticagenda.info**

Jonathan Leach is a recipient of an Individual Artist Grant Award. This grant is funded by the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance.



This project is generously sponsored by David Graham/Felvis Foundation and Kinzelman Art Consulting.

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**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](http://www.lawndaleartcenter.org) or [askus@lawndaleartcenter.org](mailto:askus@lawndaleartcenter.org)

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

**Admission:** Free

**Exhibition Dates:** These exhibitions will open on Friday, May 8, 2015 and will remain on view through Saturday, April 18, 2015.

**Press Contact:** Dennis Nance, 713-528-5858, [dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org](mailto: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, Jenny and Mark Johnson, Paula Murphy, Nicole and Joey Romano, Scott R. Sparvero, Mary Martha and Joel Staff, Nancy and Sidney Williams, Nina and Michael Zilkha, Sterling McCall Lexus, TeleFlex, United Airlines, Kinzelman Art Consulting, and other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.

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