

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact Dennis Nance
713-528-5858
dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002
713 528.5858
Fax 713 528.4140
askus@lawndaleartcenter.org
www.lawndaleartcenter.org

Lawndale Art Center

Presents

Exhibitions on view

March 11 – April 16, 2016

In conjunction with the FotoFest 2016 Biennial

Opening Reception Friday, March 11, 2016, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Artist talks at 6 PM

Standpoints – Curated by Britt Thomas

Work by Jeremiah Ariaz, Sandy Carson & David Poltizer

John M. O'Quinn Gallery

All things are reflections of other things – Caroline Roberts

Cecily E. Horton Gallery

Gift Shop – Hillerbrand+Magsamen

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

Vanishing Discotecas – Jeanette Joy Harris

Project Space

Houston, Texas – Lawndale Art Center presents four exhibitions in conjunction with the FotoFest 2016 Biennial **opening March 11, 2016, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**, with artist talks beginning at **6 PM**. In the John M. O'Quinn Gallery, the exhibition **Standpoints**, curated by Britt Thomas, brings together the work of three lens-based artists who explore specific sub-cultures and events. In the Cecily E. Horton Gallery, **Caroline Roberts** disrupts and manipulates the cyanotype process to create a range of layered marks to create painterly surfaces for the exhibition **All things are reflections of other things**. In the Grace R. Cavnar Gallery, **Hillerbrand+Magsamen's Gift Shop** exhibition features consumer items and memorabilia from their *Higher Ground* project, which plays with a contemporary fairy tale of a suburban family flying off into space with a rocket ship built in their back yard from items scavenged from their home. In the Project Space, **Vanishing Discotecas** (*Vanishing Nightclubs*) is a photography and video installation by **Jeanette Joy Harris** that responds to ongoing economic development in East Downtown Houston. These exhibitions continue through **April 16, 2016**.

In addition to these exhibitions a new mural by **Russell Etchen**, titled **About ____ Rocks**, will debut on Lawndale's north exterior wall. **The Expanded Environment's** installation **BioCity**, a cross-disciplinary, performance-art-sculpture designed to attract, interface or illustrate indigenous and migratory life, will be on view in the Mary E. Bawden Sculpture Garden.

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John M. O'Quinn Gallery

Curated by Britt Thomas

Work by Jeremiah Ariaz, Sandy Carson & David Politzer

Standpoints

Standpoints brings together the work of three lens-based artists who explore specific sub-cultures and events. Taken together, their work alludes to the diverse perspectives that exist in relation to a shared cultural experience. Jeremiah Ariaz's photo series is set in Germany where "Indianer(s)" reenact Native American dress and customs to perform theatrical stage productions of American Western stories from German popular fiction writer Karl May. Sandy Carson explores the symbiotic relationship between rock concert fans, the bands, and the photographer at music festivals. David Politzer utilizes vacationers' videos from the Grand Canyon to create a loose assemblage narrative video of various peoples' initial reactions to seeing the Grand Canyon, a natural wonder in the United States.

Jeremiah Ariaz received his BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute and his MFA from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Ariaz is an Associate Professor of Art at Louisiana State University.
www.jeremiahariaz.com

Sandy Carson is a Scottish photographer who emigrated to the United States in 1993 to pursue cycling, and enjoyed a 15 year career traveling the world as a professional cyclist, where he honed his skills as a photographer.
www.sandycarson.com

David Politzer received his MFA in Photography from Syracuse University and a BS in Art from Skidmore College. Politzer also studied at the Glasgow School of Art and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. Politzer teaches in the Photography and Digital Media Program at the University of Houston.
davidology.com



Sandy Carson
Anthrax (from the series *We Were There*), 2011
Archival inkjet print
24" x 36"



Jeremiah Ariaz
Indian on Horse, (Dasing, Germany),
2013
Pigment print mounted on Dibond
38" x 47.5"



David Politzer
From the Rim, 2014
Single channel color video with sound
TRT: 14 min.

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Cecily E. Horton Gallery

Caroline Roberts

All things are reflections of other things

Caroline Roberts examines the ways in which the surface of the artwork can become a site, through scratches and other marks that are invisible until revealed by light. In *All things are reflections of other things* painting meets camera-less photography. Engaging with the history of the photogram, Roberts disrupts and manipulates the cyanotype process to create a range of layered marks to create painterly surfaces. The exhibition features works on paper and fabric that extend through the gallery to represent an immensity in a film-like narrative.



Caroline Roberts

Unbraiding Grasses, 2015
Cyanotype on Moulin du Roy
51" x 17"; 51" x 9"; 51" x 17"

Caroline Roberts disrupts the cyanotype process and makes use of layers of marks to reconstruct memories of landscape in photographic monotypes. These are not sweeping vistas, but hints of human-scale meadows and forest glades. Often found hiking in state and national parks, Roberts' interest in landscape and the natural world is heightened by managing 15 acres of forest in rural Texas. Born in the UK, Roberts lives and works in Houston, TX. In the last 3 years she has shown at the Blaffer Gallery, Lawndale Art Center, and Art.Science Gallery, and has curated a show at 4411 Montrose.

www.carolinesroberts.com

Grace R. Cavnar Gallery

Hillerbrand+Magsamen

Gift Shop

As artist, consumer and art historian, the collaborative team of Hillerbrand+Magsamen investigates photography as the defining medium of modernism through our consumer culture. Hillerbrand+Magsamen's *Gift Shop* exhibition features consumer items and memorabilia from their *Higher Ground* project, which plays with a contemporary fairy tale of a suburban family flying off into space with a rocket ship built in their back yard from items scavenged from their home. Their imagery connects within larger systems including architecture, exhibition design, books, film and merchandising that examine consumer culture, material prosperity and family identity.



Hillerbrand+Magsamen

Higher Ground, 2015
HD video
Commissioned by the Houston
Airport System and the City of
Houston

Hillerbrand+Magsamen are a collaborative husband and wife visual artist team of Stephan Hillerbrand and Mary Magsamen. Their interdisciplinary projects explore family identity, communication and consumer culture. Hillerbrand+Magsamen have presented their videos in international film and media festivals and their photographs and installations have been exhibited internationally in galleries and museums. They have been awarded grants from the Sustainable Arts Foundation, Austin Film Society, Houston Arts Alliance, Houston Center for Photography and others. Hillerbrand+Magsamen received a Houston Airport Systems video commission for the *Higher Ground* project. They live in Houston, Texas with their two children, Madeleine and Emmett.

www.hillerbrandmagsamen.com

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Project Space

Jeanette Joy Harris

Vanishing Discotecas

Vanishing Discotecas (Vanishing Nightclubs) is a photography and video installation that responds to ongoing economic development in East Downtown Houston. Harrisburg Avenue, where the photos were taken, has seen significant changes since the planning and construction of the light rail. The cultural clash between long-time residents and new commercial and residential owners can be seen as the architecture of the community changes. The work portrays two distinct perspectives of the discotecas. Daytime photos illustrate the seemingly “seedy” character of the buildings as perceived by real estate developers while nighttime photos and videos show illuminated buildings inviting patrons from the surrounding neighborhood.



Jeanette Joy Harris

Cerrito's Night Club, 2015

Digital color photograph

22' x 16'

Jeanette Joy Harris is an artist and writer from Houston, Texas. She has had solo and collaborative photography, installation, and video works shown in Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Portland, and San Francisco. She has published art criticism for *TribTalk*, *Glasstire*, and *Illusion*. Joy has also presented academic work on public space, photography, and the work of Hannah Arendt. Joy is currently pursuing an MScR from the University of Edinburgh where her studies focus on performance art and political theory. jeanettejoyharriscv.wordpress.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.
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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
Viewing Dates:	These exhibitions open on Friday, March 11, 2016 and will remain on view through Saturday, April 16, 2016. The Expanded Environment's installation in the Mary E. Bawden Sculpture Garden will remain on view through June 11, 2016.
Press Contact:	Dennis Nance - 713-528-5858, dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org

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