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IN RESIDENCE CELEBRATES WORK BY RECENT RESIDENT ARTISTS

On view at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft October 13 – November 29, 2020

In Residence: 13th Edition

October 13 – November 29, 2020

Asher Gallery
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft
4848 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002

Hours & Admission

Beginning October 15th: Open Thursday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM. Closed on major holidays. Admission is free. Reservations are required. Visitors must wear masks and practice social distancing.

(HOUSTON, TX) October 13, 2020 – Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is pleased to present *In Residence: 13th Edition*, an exhibition celebrating the Artist Residency Program, which has supported artists working in the field of craft for almost two decades. The show features work in clay, metal, and fiber by 2019-2020 resident artists Lauren Eckert, Tim Gonchoroff, Nicolle LaMere, Audrey LeGalley, Maxwell Mustardo, Abi Ogle, Masako Onodera, and Brian Vu.

The Artist Residency Program at HCCC gives resident artists a space for creative exploration, exchange, and collaboration with other artists, arts professionals, and the public. HCCC Curatorial Fellow María-Elisa Heg notes, “This edition of *In Residence* finds HCCC’s resident-artist cohort adapting to unprecedented times. The works on view represent a determined continuation of craft practice, affirming its vital importance to the world at this time.”

Audrey LeGalley and Brian Vu use clay to explore the emotional and physical dimensions of domestic space. LeGalley builds furniture forms like chairs, frames, and storage shelving with delicate white porcelain, offering a meditation on the ways in which objects or places have an underlying fragility. Vu draws on color theory and the field of fine dining to create abstracted plates and utensils. He extends his experimentation to include furniture, creating place settings that are both familiar and fresh.

Nicolle LaMere and Abi Ogle engage with nature, exploring the properties of natural materials like dirt, grapefruit membranes, and human hair. LaMere experiments with natural processes, such as fermentation, to capture ephemeral forms that simultaneously distill and reflect on the vast scope of time. Ogle’s fascination with materiality leads her to methodically consume and stitch together fruit skins, sew with human hair, and enshrine years of thoughts and emotions into free-hand embroidery.

Lauren Eckert and Tim Gonchoroff incorporate the motifs and materials of consumer culture in their work in metalsmithing and fiber, respectively. Eckert draws on the visuals of early digital culture, incorporating image-making software into her metalsmithing process to fashion objects of an alternate reality. Gonchoroff recycles discarded commercial vinyl, weaving and collaging it into compositions that harness the random patterns and colors of the found material.

Masako Onodera and Maxwell Mustardo use familiar forms as a jumping-off point for their explorations in metal and clay. Using found heirloom objects, Onodera crafts jewelry and objects that meditate on inherited histories and the ways in which objects like platters and furs visually denote the traditionally female domestic space. Mustardo's work in clay is inspired by the mathematical exploration of surfaces, distorting objects like mugs and pitchers beyond their functional role and emphasizing their forms with experimental glazes and surface finishes.

In Residence: 13th Edition was curated by HCCC Curatorial Fellow, María-Elisa Heg. More information about the Artist Residency Program can be found at: <https://www.crafthouston.org/artists/residents/>.

About Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is a nonprofit visual arts center dedicated to advancing education about the process, product, and history of craft. HCCC provides exhibition, studio, and garden spaces to support the work of local and national artists and serves as a resource for artists, educators and the community at large.

Beginning October 15th, HCCC is open limited hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM. Timed reservations are required. Before visiting, the public should visit the website at www.crafthouston.org to make a reservation and view the complete list of visitor guidelines, including the requirement to wear face masks and practice social distancing throughout the building.

HCCC is located in the Museum District at 4848 Main Street. Admission is free. Free parking is available directly behind the facility, off Rosedale and Travis Street. HCCC is three blocks south of Wheeler Ave. MetroRail station on Main Street. Closed the following holidays: Easter, July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

HCCC is supported by individual donors and members and funded in part by The Brown Foundation; Houston Endowment, Inc.; the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance; Texas Commission on the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts, the Kinder Foundation; the Morgan Foundation; Windgate Charitable Foundation; and the Wortham Foundation. HCCC is a member of the Houston Museum District and the Midtown Arts District.

For more information, call 713-529-4848 or visit www.crafthouston.org. Find HCCC on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram @CraftHouston.

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