

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Mary Headrick (mheadrick@crafthouston.org)
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft
713.529.4848 x.107

HOUSTON METAL ARTS GUILD EXHIBITION CELEBRATES CONTEMPORARY JEWELRY & METALWORK

At Houston Center for Contemporary Craft March 19 – May 7, 2022

Sawed, Soldered, Constructed: The Work of the Houston Metal Arts Guild

March 19 – May 7, 2022

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

Hours & Admission

Current hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM. Admission is free. Visitors must wear masks and practice social distancing. Visit www.crafthouston.org for the latest information.

(HOUSTON, TX) March 1, 2022 – This spring, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is pleased to present *Sawed, Soldered, Constructed: The Work of the Houston Metal Arts Guild*, a juried member exhibition of the Houston-based guild comprised of jewelry and metal artists. Featuring works by 36 artists, the exhibition was juried by Cindi Strauss, Sara and Bill Morgan Curator of Decorative Arts, Craft, and Design and Assistant Director, Programming, at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

The exhibition celebrates the wide range of design, processes, and techniques used in contemporary jewelry and metalwork. The sleek sophistication of Nash Quinn's *Elytra Vessel* (2022) presents a strikingly different interpretation of contemporary metalsmithing when compared to the patinated copper frame in *Beginnings and Endings* (2022), crafted by Tarina Frank. While some of these works are purely sculptural, several functional and wearable pieces, such as Mary Davenport's *Chinese Turquoise Necklace* (2016), contribute to the diverse and impressive selection of the works on view.

About HMAG

The Houston Metal Arts Guild (HMAG) is a non-profit organization made up of people with varying interests and involvement in traditional and contemporary jewelry and metal arts. HMAG was founded to provide opportunities to exchange ideas and information, as well as offer affordable educational opportunities to its members and the public. The skills, energy, and enthusiasm of the HMAG members promote and sustain its successful programs. Learn more about HMAG at <https://www.hmag.org>.

About the Juror

Cindi Strauss is the Sara and Bill Morgan Curator of Decorative Arts, Craft, and Design and Assistant Director, Programming at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH). She received her B.A. with honors in art history from Hamilton College and her M.A. in the history of decorative arts from the Cooper-Hewitt/Parsons School of Design. At the MFAH, Cindi is responsible for the acquisition, research, publication, and exhibition of post-1900 decorative arts, design, and craft with a specialty in contemporary jewelry. She has authored or contributed to catalogs and journals on decorative arts and design topics and has been a frequent lecturer at museums nationwide. Her most recent publication is the book, *In Flux; American Jewelry and the Counterculture*, co-authored with Susan Cummins and Damian Skinner.

About Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, 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 continues to serve as a treasured resource in the Houston arts community and the region by showcasing emerging and acclaimed artists in exhibitions, introducing visitors of all ages to contemporary craft through hands-on and virtual programming, and supporting the development of working artists through its artist residency program.

HCCC is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM. Admission is free. Before visiting, the public should visit www.crafthouston.org to view 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, three blocks south of the Wheeler Ave. MetroRail station. Free parking is available directly behind the facility, off Rosedale and Travis Street.

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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