

second street gallery
SEASON 50



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2023 - 2024



TEENY TINY TRIFECTA 6

SEPTEMBER 1 - 29, 2023 (MAIN GALLERY)

Season 50 at Second Street Gallery kicks off with the annual fundraiser and group exhibition, *Teeny Tiny Trifecta 6*. The exhibition will feature over 150 artists, primarily from Virginia, representing diverse styles, techniques, and mediums. Each included artist will have three artworks on display, each measuring 9 x 9 inches or smaller. All works of art in the exhibition will be available for \$100 each, with all proceeds split between the gallery and artist. Along with Executive Director & Chief Curator Kristen Chiacchia, this year's submissions were selected by a panel of 5 guest jurors from the Charlottesville community: Benita Mayo, Adrienne Oliver, Jay Simple, Darryl Smith, and Hagan Tampellini.



CURATOR'S CHOICE: LEV KEATTS

SEPTEMBER 1 - 29, 2023 (DOVÉ GALLERY)

Lev Keatts (they/them) will present a solo exhibition of new paintings that blurs the line between psychological states and the physical world. This new body of work is inspired by the artist's interest in gothic fiction, a genre which is characterized by dramatic emotions and the setting serving as a character. Keatts is drawn to the idea of a location being personified or taking on the characteristics of the people interacting within it, and imbues this inspiration into their paintings through a combination of self-portraiture and non-representational abstract elements.

Keatts was selected as *Teeny Tiny Trifecta 5's* Curator's Choice Exhibition Pick. A recent graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, the artist currently lives and works in Richmond, VA.



MIKE EGAN

OCTOBER 6 - NOVEMBER 17, 2023 (MAIN GALLERY)

Mike Egan (he/him) masterfully paints the intersection of life and death. Drawing from a distinctive background as an embalmer, Egan imbues his work with an intimate understanding of mortality. Further influences include *The Day of the Dead*, Halloween, horror films, Folk Art, religion, and German Expressionism -- all combining to inspire his ethos. Ironically, the somber themes in his artwork stand in stark contrast with the lively, bright colors and stimulating narratives. This unexpected juxtaposition serves as a beacon of hope amidst the darkness.



TANIA YAGER: Tales of Min'Umbra

OCTOBER 6 - NOVEMBER 17, 2023 (DOVÉ GALLERY)

Tales of Min'Umbra is a solo shadow art exhibition for all age audiences created by artist and puppeteer Tania L. Yager (she/her) of Twisted Heart Puppetworks in Vista, California. This work was created when Yager was awarded a Fellowship Residency at The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts in Amherst, Virginia in February 2022.

Opening weekend festivities will include a live performance of *The Changeling*, a macabre, Celtic inspired piece of live shadow theater written, constructed, and performed by the artist and an all-ages Shadow Puppetry Workshop led by Yager.



CLAY WITT*

DECEMBER 1, 2023 - JANUARY 29, 2024 (MAIN GALLERY)

Immersed in the rich symbology of early American mourning art, Clay Witt's work reiterates the simple but enduring lessons of memento mori — reminders of the inescapable nature of death. His process is meticulous: his work consists of many-layered constructions of mineral-pigmented glazes that have been heavily abraded and destroyed, contrasted with the graphic edges of painstakingly cut Japanese washi paper. This deliberate, practiced decay grants his work a naturalistic feel, emulating the cycles of deterioration and regeneration in nature itself. This technique demonstrates both strong contrast and harmony within his work, juxtaposing the frailty and resilience of life.



AKEMI OHIRA*

DECEMBER 1, 2023 - JANUARY 19, 2024 (DOVÉ GALLERY)

Akemi Ohira (she/her) is an artist and Associate Professor of Art at the University of Virginia. Ohira will present a new series of small paintings in a solo exhibition in Second Street Gallery's Dové Gallery space. Challenging the standardized perception of art, Ohira's portraiture illuminates and teases stereotypes, first impressions, preconceived notions, and the daily anomalies that momentarily make us pause. Ohira draws the viewer's direct engagement through the shattering and reassembly of forms in her portraiture, encouraging potential to alter the viewer's perspective of their world. Through her work, she invites the viewer to dive beyond the obvious and immerse themselves attentively in their visual and emotional experiences.



FIRST NATION AUSTRALIA

FEBRUARY 2 - MARCH 22, 2024 (MAIN GALLERY)

Second Street Gallery will present an exhibition of contemporary Aboriginal bark paintings in the Main Gallery space. The exhibition at Second Street Gallery will coincide with the major touring exhibition organized by Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection that will take place concurrently at the Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia.. Conversations between Australian, SSG, and UVA representatives are already under way to create partnerships between the two exhibitions to further strengthen the link between the UVA and the downtown Charlottesville community..



LAURA JOSEPHINE SNYDER*

FEBRUARY 2 - MARCH 22, 2024 (DOVÉ GALLERY)

Laura Josephine Snyder (she/her) explores perception, cognition and relationship through visual abstraction. Deriving inspiration from cartography and counter cartography, Snyder will present an exhibition of personal drawings in conjunction with a series of documentary photography and videography created in collaboration with photographer Kristen Finn. The abstract drawings allude to representations of folded maps, asking how moving through spaces or knowing places changes the traveler. They extend elements of humor, disruption, and play, not only in their final form, but also through the visual repetition of line, shape, pattern, and symmetry or lack thereof.



JAC LAHAV

APRIL 5 - MAY 24, 2024 (MAIN GALLERY)

Jac Lahav (he/they) is a multi-disciplinary artist, curator, parent, children's book author, and community organizer. Born in Jerusalem, Israel with Iranian and Polish roots, Lahav was raised in the United States and graduated with an MFA from Brooklyn College where they studied with Vito Acconci. Lahav's work investigates narratives about community, belonging, and cultural history.

Lahav's solo exhibition will feature a selection of work including their series of "foster paintings." Each work references a phone call Lahav's family received for a foster placement, whether they could help or not. The paintings represent points of contact and beautiful moments in time during periods of trauma.



LOU HANEY*

APRIL 5 - MAY 24, 2024 (DOVÉ GALLERY)

Lou Haney (she/her) creates paintings of domestic spaces that employ nostalgia as a means of temporary escape from the corrupt and chaotic realities of present day life. Using oil, acrylic, fiber art, and mixed media, she explores themes of memory, yearning, and femininity to evoke tension between fantasy and reality. Inspired by the Pattern & Decoration Movement of the mid-1970s to early 1980s, Haney's work incorporates floral imagery, pattern, and decoration, dismantling the hierarchy of fine art over craft and blurring the line between art and design.



THE ART OF COLLAGE

JUNE 7 - JULY 19, 2024 (MAIN GALLERY)

The Art of Collage will feature a selection of contemporary artists who are exploring the rich breadth and history of collage through their own art. This group exhibition will include a diverse selection of artworks that explore the creative potential of collage and demonstrate innovative approaches to the medium. The gallery aims to include a selection of both formally trained artists and self-taught artists who have reinvented their chosen mediums. Both 2D and 3D works of art that demonstrate each artist's unique vision and creative talent will be included in the installation.



PAPER ROOM: Stephen Haske, Sarah Lawson, and Jess Walters

JUNE 7 - JULY 19, 2024 (DOVÉ GALLERY)

Paper Room is a mixed-media exhibition transforming the Dové Gallery into an interactive space enveloped in paper and filled with paper-covered and paper-sculpted objects. Charlottesville-based artists Stephen Haske (he/him), Sarah Lawson (they/them), and Jess Walters (they/she) have teamed up to collaboratively curate an immersive experience exploring the ways we cultivate “house and home” from sociocultural influences in the media, consumer market, and medical industrial system.

*** Season 50 Call for Submissions Pick**

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Interested in sponsoring an exhibition this season?
Please contact our Executive Director & Chief Curator, Kristen Chiacchia.**

KRISTEN CHIACCHIA

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Or visit: secondstreetgallery.org/ssg-sponsorships

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