

VIDEO

UT

DIGITAL

UTAH ARTS & MUSEUMS STATEWIDE ANNUAL EXHIBITION

20
15

PHOTO

CRAFT

UT

VISUALARTS.UTAH.GOV

NOVEMBER 20TH 2015 – JANUARY 8TH 2016

**20
15**

RIO GALLERY

300 South Rio Grande, Salt Lake City, UT

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Utah Arts & Museums is housed within
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Sabrina Sanders *Visual Arts Assistant*

CATALOG PRODUCTION

Carol Sogard *Catalog Design*

Stephen Keen *Photography*

Please be advised that color
may not be true to original artwork.
Not all artworks are pictured
in catalog.



FELICIA BACA – VISUAL ARTS MANAGER

Utah Division of Arts & Museums

As we open Statewide Annual '15, we also celebrate 116 years of juried exhibition opportunities from Utah Arts & Museums. As the first state-funded arts council in the nation, whose core is founded on exhibition making, collections, and education, our history is one that Utah has much to be proud of. Works acquired from the Statewide Annual exhibition into the State of Utah Fine Art Collection become part of our investment in arts infrastructure, while supporting Utah artists and preservation of their work.

In 2015, we also celebrate over a decade of exhibitions in the historic Rio Grande Depot in the Rio Gallery, a space that is unprecedented in its architectural grandeur and provides opportunities just as unique to Utah artists, as well as the larger public. It is a space to curate, think, gather, and build community in a neighborhood that is recognized for fostering the arts.

In recent years we have seen a record number of entries for the Statewide Annual, as well as increased diversity in the media submitted. This is an exciting signifier about the community of artists living and working across the state. This year we were pleased to

see entries from 48 cities across Utah, from Logan to Kabab, with over 400 works of art submitted from 212 artists. It's always a huge pleasure meeting the artists, and we feel immensely fortunate to serve the arts community and public on behalf of the State of Utah.

We wish to thank our guest jurors, Kate Bonansinga of Cincinnati, Ohio and Joshua Chuang of Tucson, Arizona. Watching the two collaborate and discuss the works was a delight, and their thoughtful consideration was much appreciated.

Special thanks go to the Visual Arts team, Jim Glenn, Emily Johnson, Fletcher Booth, and Sabrina Sanders for their efforts in facilitating this exhibition from start to finish. It's truly a team effort that couldn't happen without their support and dedication.



KATE BONANSINGA – JUROR

Director, School of Art, College of Design, Architecture, Art & Planning *University of Cincinnati*

In the video *Far From the Tree* artist Amy Jorgensen situates us so that we look up at about a dozen red apples floating on water; we are lying on our backs, submerged beneath them. Unexpectedly a young woman's face plunges towards us, she opens her mouth and repeatedly attempts to bite one of the apples, then disappears to a place somewhere above the water's surface. She does this again and again and with increasing desperation, remaining under water a bit longer each time. Her blond hair comes with her and becomes more prominent the longer she is submerged. She struggles to grab hold but never succeeds. We are helpless voyeurs who feel her frustration, endure it with her. In the end, all of the apples are left floating, passive but victorious, like goals we never reach, desires left unfulfilled.

Apples are symbolic. Though the forbidden fruit in the Book of Genesis is unidentified, popular Christian tradition holds that Adam and Eve ate an apple that led to the fall of man, thus establishing it as a symbol of temptation and sin. Conversely, in nondenominational vernacular culture, apples remind us of perseverance and good health. A one to six acre apple orchard was a common feature in the British American colonies: two famous growers were Thomas Jefferson and George Washington. The first pioneers entering the Salt Lake valley also carried apple trees, transported over the Rockies in handcarts and wagons. Eventually they helped early settlers of Utah survive the harsh winters. *Far From the Tree* capitalizes on all of these as well as other references. Because of this, and because of its formal beauty and its unresolved and unforgettable tension, *Far From the Tree* earned Best in Show.

This was not an easy decision, nor one that my fellow juror Joshua Chuang and I took lightly. Many of the artworks that we chose for the exhibition are remarkable. For example, Heidi Moller Somsen's *Papoose*, a basket made of tree branches and bicycle tire tubes, is an awkward backpack that threatens the well-being of the child that it is meant to transport. Susan Harris's *Three Sided Jar* is an elegant clay pagoda that speaks to historic Asian architecture and decorative arts. *In the Company of Men #3*, by Mark Hedengren, is a photographic portrait of a young woman who stares at the camera with a male companion at each side, a tiny dog in the background. It brings into question her relationship to them. All of them are exhibited here in the Utah Arts & Museums State-wide Annual Exhibition.

The variety of works is not to be underestimated. Some honor tradition. Others push tradition forward to a new place entirely. But all of them share an attention to craft and composition. We valued all of these traits as we decided which works to exhibit and which ones to confer with awards. The result is an exhibition of contemporary art that both the State of Utah and the participating artists can be proud of.

Photography, craft, video & digital works are media that have, at certain points in their history, been marginalized by the art world: it required the resistance tactics of practitioners such as Alfred Stieglitz, Nam Jun Paik and Peter Voulkos to change that. The works in this exhibition benefit both from the impact of those artists and from the acumen of Felicia Baca and her colleagues and the Utah Division of Arts & Museums to venture to gather artworks created from these media together into a single exhibition, bringing them from the edges to center stage.



JOSHUA CHUANG – JUROR

Chief Curator-Center for Creative Photography *University of Arizona*

Serving as a juror for this year's Statewide Annual Competition & Exhibition for photography, craft, video & digital works was an eye-opening pleasure. I was pleased to spend time with such a vibrant diversity of works, the best of which exhibit not only great technical ability but also a distinct and compelling sensibility.

There was no shortage of rigor and poetry to be discovered among the entries, including the newly added category of video & digital works. Although video has been for decades a feature of contemporary art practice, the simple fact that so many of us now carry with us devices capable of making, editing, distributing and viewing sophisticated moving images with ease has made video all the more accessible and ubiquitous as an expressive visual language. Notably, of the small handful of works that Kate Bonansinga and I acknowledged with special awards, two of them were videos, including Best in Show.

There were also exceptional entries in the area of craft that used an array of materials from the finest clay to flimsy scraps of wood. The most memorable works are distinguished by their humor, whimsy, and mastery over materials, even if that material is the common plastic bag.

Not surprisingly, there were more submissions in the area of photography than in any other medium. Included in the exhibition are representative examples of the wide range of works we considered, from straightforward portraits to abstract landscapes, from wet collodion to digital inkjet processes.

Since I am a relative newcomer to the Southwest, I was delighted to see such imaginative, accomplished, and urgent works of art being created in the state of Utah. My sincere gratitude goes to the entire Visual Arts team coordinated by Felicia Baca, my fellow juror Kate Bonansinga, and the artists who shared their hard-won work with us.

BEST IN SHOW



AMY JORGENSEN *Far From the Tree* HD video

MARK HEDENGREN *In the Company of Men #3* inkjet print/digital capture





BRIAN PATTERSON *The One* HD video

ANNA LAURIE MACKAY *Ohio Blue #1* photo letterpress, hand weaving on silk tissue paper



JURORS' AWARD



JORDAN LAYTON *Untitled No. 2* Polaroid emulsion lifts

NIKOS SAWYER *Crane Chair* walnut, maple, Danish oil



JURORS' AWARD



SUSAN HARRIS *Three Sided Jar* black stoneware, laterite wash, reduction cooled

LEVI JACKSON *Ms. September* inkjet print





MARTHA DIAZ ADAM *Omima Khalat* digital print

SUZANNE CONINE *Tableware Set* blended porcelain and stoneware



HONORABLE MENTION



HEIDI MOLLER SOMSEN *Papoose* willow branches, bicycle inner tubes

JANET HANCOCK *Invisible Scars #1* wet plate collodion



JURORS' AWARD



VENESSA GROMEK *Sublime Assembled in Fuchsia* lace, tent poles, cam straps, eyebolts

DANIEL EVERETT *Throughout the Universe in Perpetuity I* inkjet print





VAN CHU *Two Dragons* archival pigment photograph

BRIAN CHRISTENSEN *Breath of Life* blown glass, steel, breath condensation



JURORS' AWARD

JURORS' AWARD



VIRGINIA CATHERALL *Great Basin Cyanometer* textile

CARL OELERICH *San Ignacio. Havana, Cuba* photography





JUANITA MARSHALL *Morning Meditation (Everyday Altars)* ceramic

JUULE DE HAAN *Magellan's Cloud* glass beads on leather

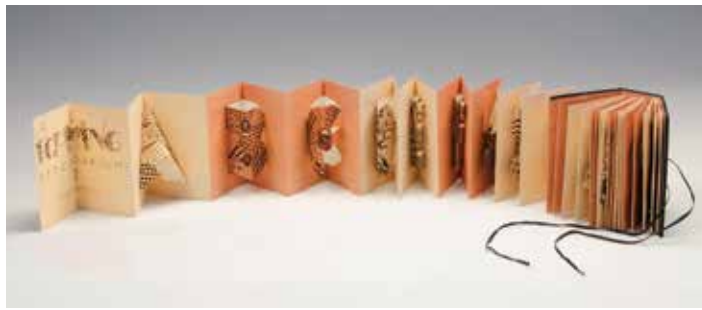




CHRISTINE FEDOR *Siletz River Road, Oregon 2015* silver gelatin print

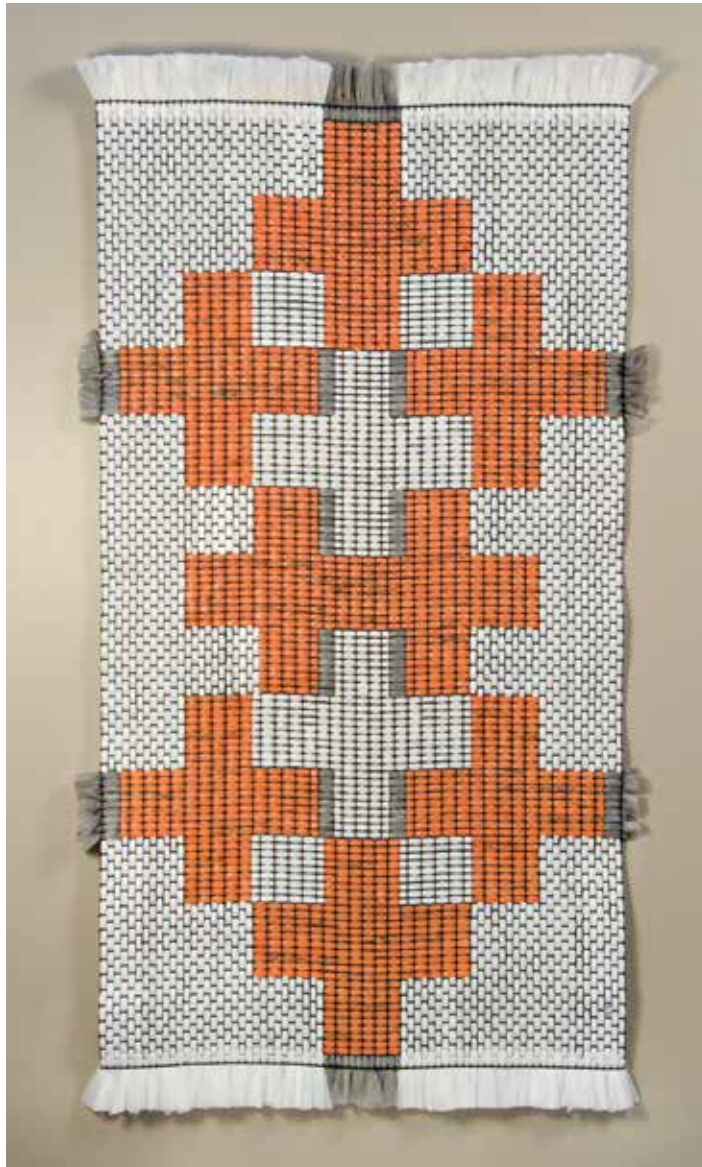
RIC BLACKERBY *Mithril Bracelet* individually forged and soldered sterling links





MARY WELLS *A Popping Abecedarium* paper, ink and white charcoal

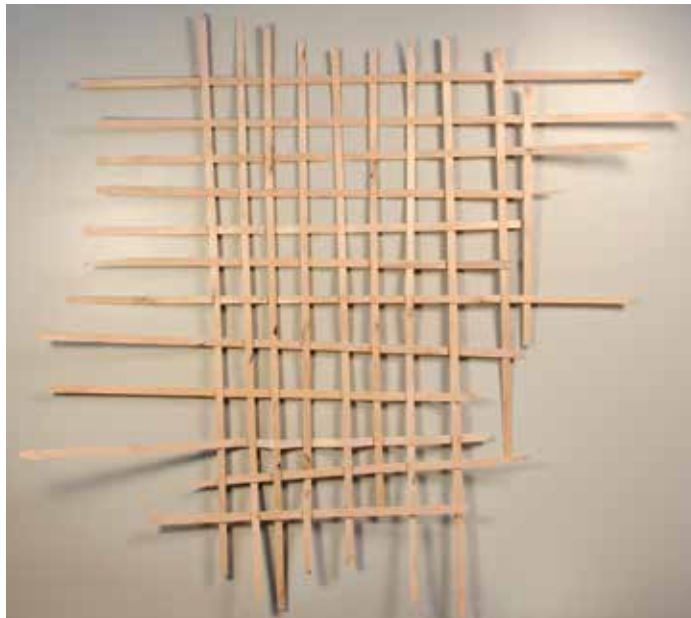
CAROL SOGARD *Our Cross* reclaimed plastic bags





JOHN TAVOIAN *Dissonant Introspection* wood, metal and glass

KEVIN ARTHOFER *Square Grid / Two People* wood





HEATHER CAMPBELL *Abacus* mixed media

VALOR MCNEELY *I Love Lamp - Brighton* photography





ANDREW PATTESON *Untitled/8630, from the 78th South series* inkjet print

TATIANA LARSEN *Rift* video/installation



JURORS' AWARD

HONORABLE MENTION



JOHN CHRISTOPHER WALLACE *Subway* mixed media, photography

ELIZABETH CROWE *Red Vine* porcelain and stoneware



STATEWIDE ANNUAL 2015 ARTISTS

ALINA ANDERSON

Provo

Self-Portrait

video

KEVIN ARTHOFER

Hideout

Square Grid / Two People

wood

RIC BLACKERBY

Salt Lake City

Mithril Bracelet

individually forged
and soldered sterling links

HEATHER CAMPBELL

Salt Lake City

Abacus

mixed media

NICK CARPENTER

Sandy

Landfill 01

photography

VIRGINIA CATHERALL

Salt Lake City

Lakeview Scarf (Chromometer)

textile

Great Basin Cyanometer

textile

BRIAN CHRISTENSEN

Orem

Breath of Life

blown glass, steel,
breath condensation

VAN CHU

Taylorsville

Two Dragons

archival pigment photograph

SUZANNE CONINE

Draper

Tableware Set

blended porcelain and stoneware

ELIZABETH CROWE

Provo

Red Vine

porcelain and stoneware

DANIEL EVERETT

Provo

*Throughout the Universe
in Perpetuity I*

inkjet print

JUULE DE HAAN

Salt Lake City

Magellan's Cloud

glass beads on leather

MARTHA DIAZ ADAM

Logan

Omima Khalat

digital print

CHRISTINE FEDOR

Salt Lake City

Siletz River Road, Oregon 2015

silver gelatin print

VENESSA GROMEK

Ogden

Sublime Assembled in Aqua

lace, tent poles,
cam straps, eyebolts

Sublime Assembled in Fuchsia

lace, tent poles,
cam straps, eyebolts

JANET HANCOCK

Wellsville

Invisible Scars #1

wet plate collodion

SUSAN HARRIS

Cedar City

Three Sided Jar

black stoneware, laterite
wash, reduction cooled

MARK HEDENGREN

Provo

In the Company of Men #3

inkjet print/digital capture

LEVI JACKSON

Salt Lake City

Ms. September

inkjet print

MARY ANN JACOBS

Ogden

Last Supper - Saiga Antelope Horn

ceramic

AMANDA JAMES

Alpine

Untitled

photography

AMY JORGENSEN

Ephraim

Far From the Tree

HD video

Body Archive 02.19.13

archival pigment print

JAMIE KYLE

South Jordan

Unexpected Encounters with

Curiously Arranged Things: Bulbs

inkjet print

TATIANA LARSEN

American Fork

Rift

video/Installation

STATEWIDE ANNUAL 2015 ARTISTS

JORDAN LAYTON
Provo
Untitled No. 2
Polaroid emulsion lifts

CHRISTIE LYONS
Provo
Untitled 1
photography

ANNA LAURIE MACKAY
Salt Lake City
Ohio Blue #1
photo letterpress, hand
weaving on silk tissue paper

Heirloom #1
photo letterpress, hand
weaving on silk tissue paper

JUANITA MARSHALL
Park City
Morning Meditation
(Everyday Altars)
ceramic

VALOR MCNEELY
Salt Lake City
I Love Lamp- Brighton
photography

CARSTEN MEIER
Logan
Habitat No.12, Hosmer Grove
Hawaii (Maui) 2013
photography

HEIDI MOLLER SOMSEN
Sandy
Papoose
willow branches,
bicycle inner tubes

Boat Headdress
willow branches,
bicycle inner tubes

CARL OELERICH
Salt Lake City
San Ignacio. Havana, Cuba
photography

JOSEPH OSTRAFF
Fairview
Waiting 1
photography

Waiting 2
photography

BRIAN PATTERSON
Salt Lake City
The One
HD video

ANDREW PATTESON
Midvale
Untitled / 8630 from
the 78th South Series
inkjet print

NANCY E. RIVERA
Salt Lake City
Untitled #1
archival pigment print

NIKOS SAWYER
Heber
Crane Chair
walnut, maple, Danish oil

CAROL SOGARD
Salt Lake City
Our Cross
reclaimed plastic bags

MARK TALBERT
Spanish Fork
Vase Form
ceramic

JOHN TAVOIAN
Murray
Dissonant Introspection
wood, metal and glass

TIA TAYLOR
Syracuse
Vines
4x5 film print

DANIELE VICKERS
Provo
All You Need, All At Once
inkjet print

BENNY VAN DER WAL
Salt Lake City
Red Rock Tree
chromogenic print

JOHN CHRISTOPHER WALLACE
Salt Lake City
Subway
mixed media/photography

MARY WELLS
Ogden
A Popping Abecedarium
paper, ink and white charcoal

ROBERT WILLIAMS
Provo
Untitled
ceramic

Untitled
ceramic

All works in this exhibition were
created within the last three years.