



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art

Annual Report

2021-22

Thank You Our Valued Supporters



Thank You Jim Cleveland

Second Tephra ICA Ambassador

Recognition as Tephra ICA Ambassador is awarded to those who have made exceptional and enduring contributions in support of the organization and its mission.

First Advisory Council Member

Advisory Council launched by the Tephra ICA Board of Directors in November 2022

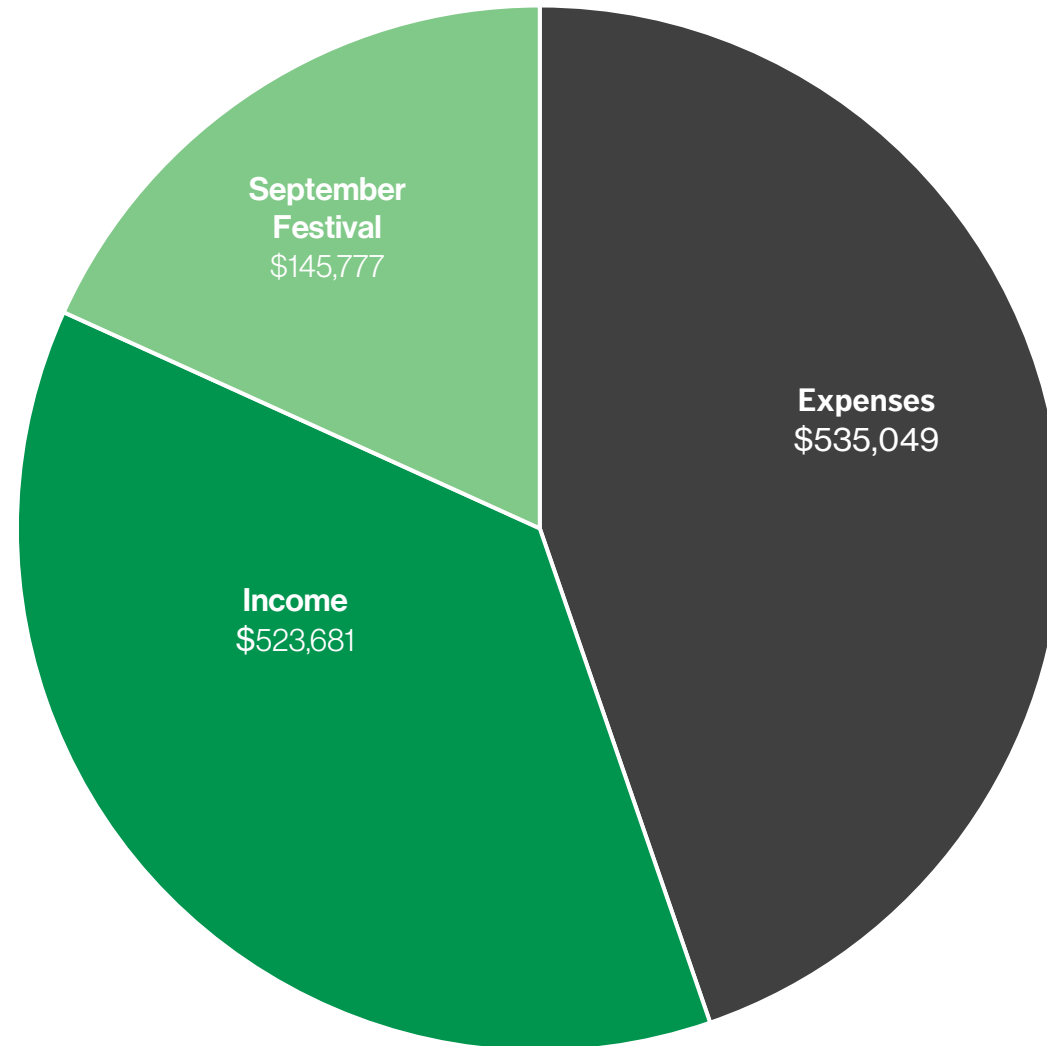


Our Year in Review

Financial Summary

Financial Overview

Summary		
Item	FY21	FY22
Income	\$ 282,612	\$ 523,681
Expenses	\$ 357,826	\$ 535,049
September 2021 Festival Income	n/a	\$ 145,777
Surplus / Deficit (sans Depreciation)	-\$ 93,864	\$ 134,294
Surplus / Deficit (with Depreciation)	-\$ 129,287	\$ 94,936



Adding September 2021 Festival to FY21



Cash position \$50k higher than 2019 (pre-COVID-19 pandemic)


Bonused staff from that two-year performance

Prorating bonuses over that two-year period, although prevented by GAAP, would have yielded pro forma surpluses for both years

The result: Generated pro forma surpluses/cash, and bonused staff, in eight of the last nine years

With the exception of FY20 – the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic

Financial Successes



Operating Cash Position \$50k higher than
2019 (pre-COVID-19 pandemic)

Grants Estimated \$105k
\$30k more than LY and \$90k more than budgeted

Corporate Sponsorships
Peraton's \$25k Festival Title Sponsorship and Reston
Community Center's \$10k Tephra ICA at Signature
Sponsorship, exceeding our budgeted goal

Festival Net Income +\$10k

Exceeded goal with Festival Title Sponsor, earned income,
and reduced expenses

Summer Art Camp +\$3k

Fully subscribed camps

Back on a Positive Net Income Path

Grants Awarded

Virginia Commission for the Arts GOS	\$11,068
ArtsFairfax GOS	\$9,199
Greater Washington Community Foundation	\$22,000
Virginia Fairfax PIVOT *New	\$10,000
Virginia Commission for the Arts Rescue Plan *New	\$3,500
Rebuild VA *New	\$50,000



Continued Impact of COVID-19 and Beyond



Individual giving down \$8k to goal

Memberships down for the last several years

Corporate giving still down to budget

Increase in capital costs
HVAC, Signage, and ADA improvements equivalent to \$75k +

Reduced number of annual exhibitions

Our Strategy



Preparing for Formal Strategic Planning

Ambitious FY23 Budget

Requiring \$100k in new income

Introduced New Fall Fundraiser Concept

The Alloy Project, Tephra ICA's Annual Benefit & Cocktail Event, raising \$30k in its first year

Rebrand/Regenerate Campaign Launch in 2023

50th Anniversary capital fundraising campaign

Staff Updates

Fully staffed for 6 months

Hired Advancement Officer to meet and advance development goals

Governance



Reconfigured Board

Established term limits, Reduced Size

Created Advisory Council

With Non-fiduciary responsibility

Formalizing Board Nominating & Hiring Committee

Meeting equity commitment goals

Adopted First Employee Manual

Three-year effort

Adds additional organizational structure and professionalism

Gold-standard leave policy; codified equity commitments

Remaining challenge: Providing and funding health benefits

Board Equity Committee Engaged

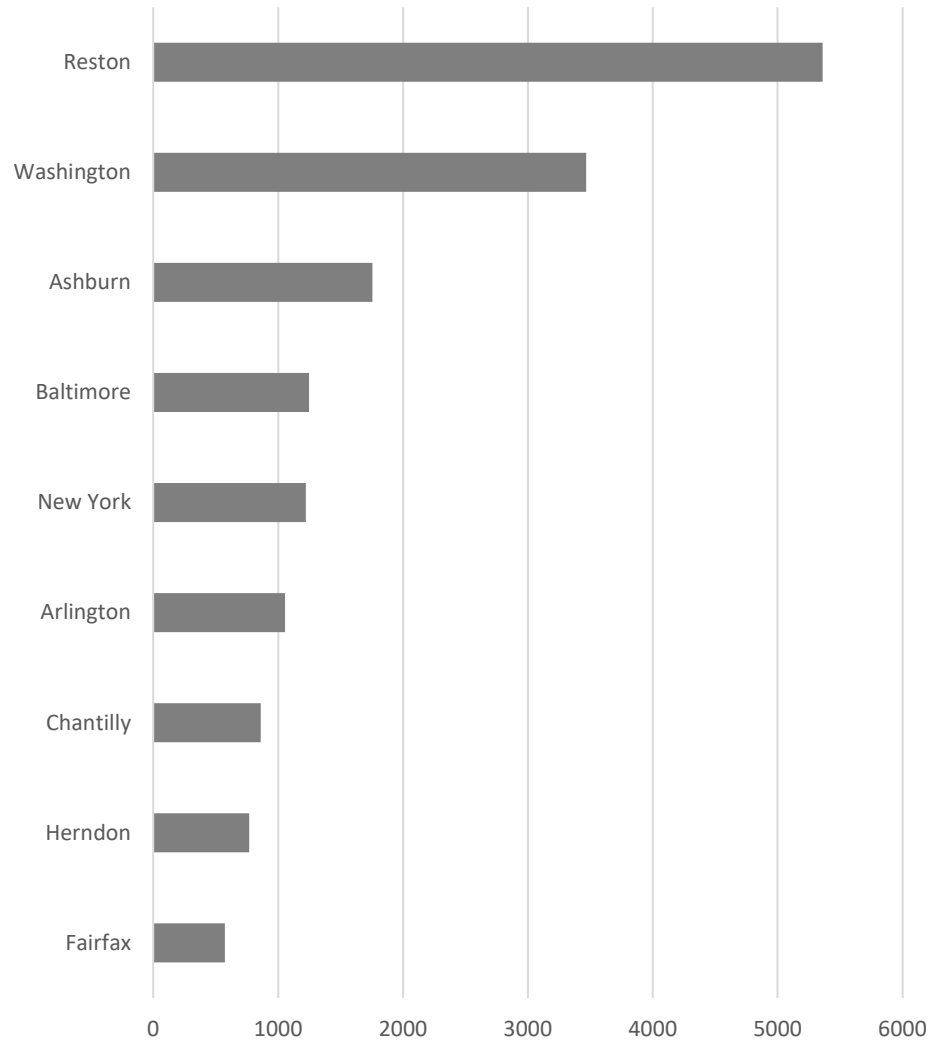
Holding institution accountable on meeting and strengthening Social and Cultural Equity Commitments

Progress in Equity Commitments

- ✓ Continued to expand audience by through our exhibitions and programs
- ✓ Over the past 8 years, three-fourths of artists the institution exhibited identified as historically underrepresented
- ✓ Invested in equipment to offer hybrid programming
- ✓ Confidential means for staff, board, and visitor feedback
- ✓ ADA site visits from The M Group Architects and Tony Brunswick of Art Enables
 - Expensive ADA updates; an item still in process
- ✓ Met all Hiring, Appointment, Training, and Retention equity commitments, including but not limited to
 - ✓ One year completed of Implicit Bias and Anti-Racism training for staff and board
- ✓ Continued to offer anonymous channels for community, staff, and board feedback

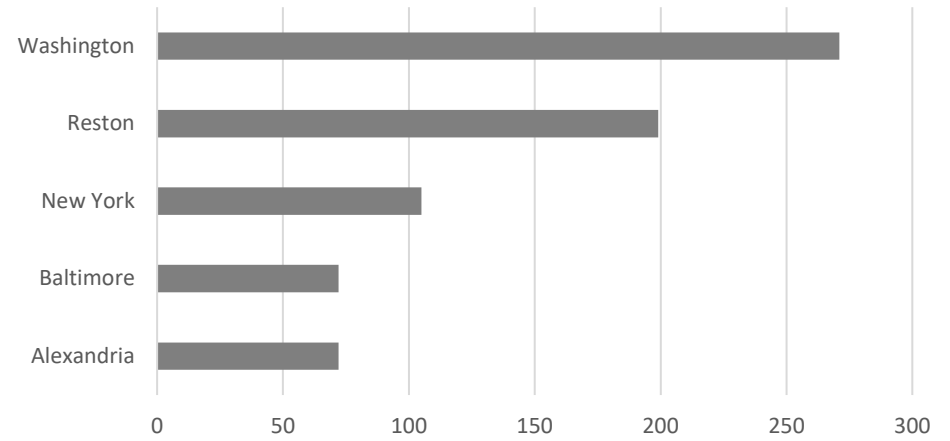
Website Visitors, Top Ten Cities

41,117 Users in 2022 to Date



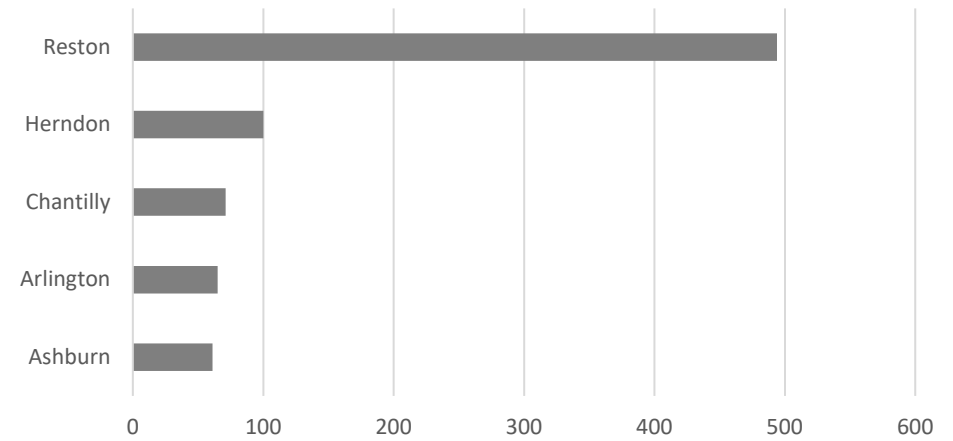
Instagram Followers, Top Five Cities

2684 Total Followers



Facebook Followers, Top Five Cities

3227 Total Followers



Testimonials

Laurel Nakadate: Mother Line

Laurel Nakadate (b. 1975, Austin, TX, lives and works in Boston) work that examines contemporary modes of self-representation. Exploring loneliness and relationships amongst strangers, her foreshadows the onslaught of social media platforms that include Instagram and Facebook, freelance marketplaces, and consumer genetic testing services such as 23andMe. This series, Relations and The Kingdom, which result directly from platforms.

After taking an at-home genetic test, Nakadate utilized social and social platforms to identify and connect with people who share DNA within eight or nine generations. She connected with people in the United States, and she asked to come and take their portraits in the manner they choose to present themselves. For each portrait she met the person near their home, at night, using only a flashlight. In doing the research for Relations, only three of approximately 100 people appeared from her father's side of the family. Nakadate's father and his family has only been in the United States for around 100 years, we see represented in this series of portraits is Nakadate's matriline or "mother line".

In the series, The Kingdom photographs depict Nakadate's family together. In 2016, the artist gave birth to her son and her mother before having the opportunity to hold her grandson. To achieve this series, Nakadate hired technicians over the internet to merge and child, the only discipline to put the baby in the grandmother is being shown together for the first time.

A concurrent exhibition, MOTHER, is on view at Mason Exhibitions Arlington beginning in March 2022. This is the third iteration of the group exhibition co-organized by Nakadate, which was first shown at Leslie Tonkonow Artworks+Projects in 2018. MOTHER explores the idea of motherhood from a diversity of perspectives.

Both exhibitions are presented in partnership with Mason Exhibitions University, and guest curated by Lily Siegel and Don Russell.

[We] talked at length on the drive home about how thoughtfully the program was designed, and how it was refreshing to participate in a fundraiser that generated more than just funds: collaboration, new connections with other artists, and even an artist print to keep for ourselves.

– Featured Artist from The Alloy Project

Tephra ICA has been extraordinary in all the years I've been involved. [...] Tephra is doing a really good job of cultivating a community of interesting artists doing challenging and engaging work, even for those of us who are a bit of a drive away, like I am. I feel like Tephra is also especially engaged in centering the work of really good artists who might otherwise be relegated to the margins. I'm really thrilled to be a part of Tephra's history; it has been transformative for my own career.

– Featured Artist in group exhibition at Tephra ICA

Our opening event, and the show in its totality, was by far one of the best if not the best organized and well supported opening and exhibitions I have had the opportunity to be part of. From the support I received through the installation to the quality of your write ups, from the professional photography to your media outreach, from the quality and quantity of food at the reception to the responsiveness of you and your team, I have nothing but high praises for you, your team and Tephra ICA ... I really wanted to share some well-deserved praises for you and your team and encourage you to keep doing what you are doing because it is several notches above the regional standard.

– Featured Artist who held a solo exhibition at Tephra ICA at Signature

My experience with Tephra was more than I ever expected. It was a fruitful exchange where not only I was able to present my work in a thoughtful exhibition, but also learned new ways of looking at the world through vibrant monthly programs. Jaynelle Hazard and staff took every care to respect and implement the artist's wishes on how to curate their work into the space for the utmost engagement with the public, both in real life and also virtual.

The professionals selected to respond to my work had significant knowledge, represented a diverse cross-section of culture, and were avant-guard in their thinking. In every case, I learned something new from them! I feel like I now have a friendly network in the DC area.

– Featured Artist who held a solo exhibition at and correlating installation in Washington, DC with Tephra ICA

Our Year in Review

Exhibitions & Programs

Parabolic Monolith Iridium

Gisela Colón

June 13, 2021 – February 13, 2022

Parabolic Monolith Iridium is a public sculpture by light and space artist Gisela Colón. The sculpture was located near the top of James Monroe Park in Washington, DC, steps away from the National Mall, the White House, and the Renwick Gallery. This was the first public sculpture by Gisela Colón in the Washington, DC metropolitan region and Tephra ICA's first installation in Washington, DC.

This project was generously sponsored by Leidos and CPJ Associates and is presented in partnership with the Golden Triangle BID.



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art



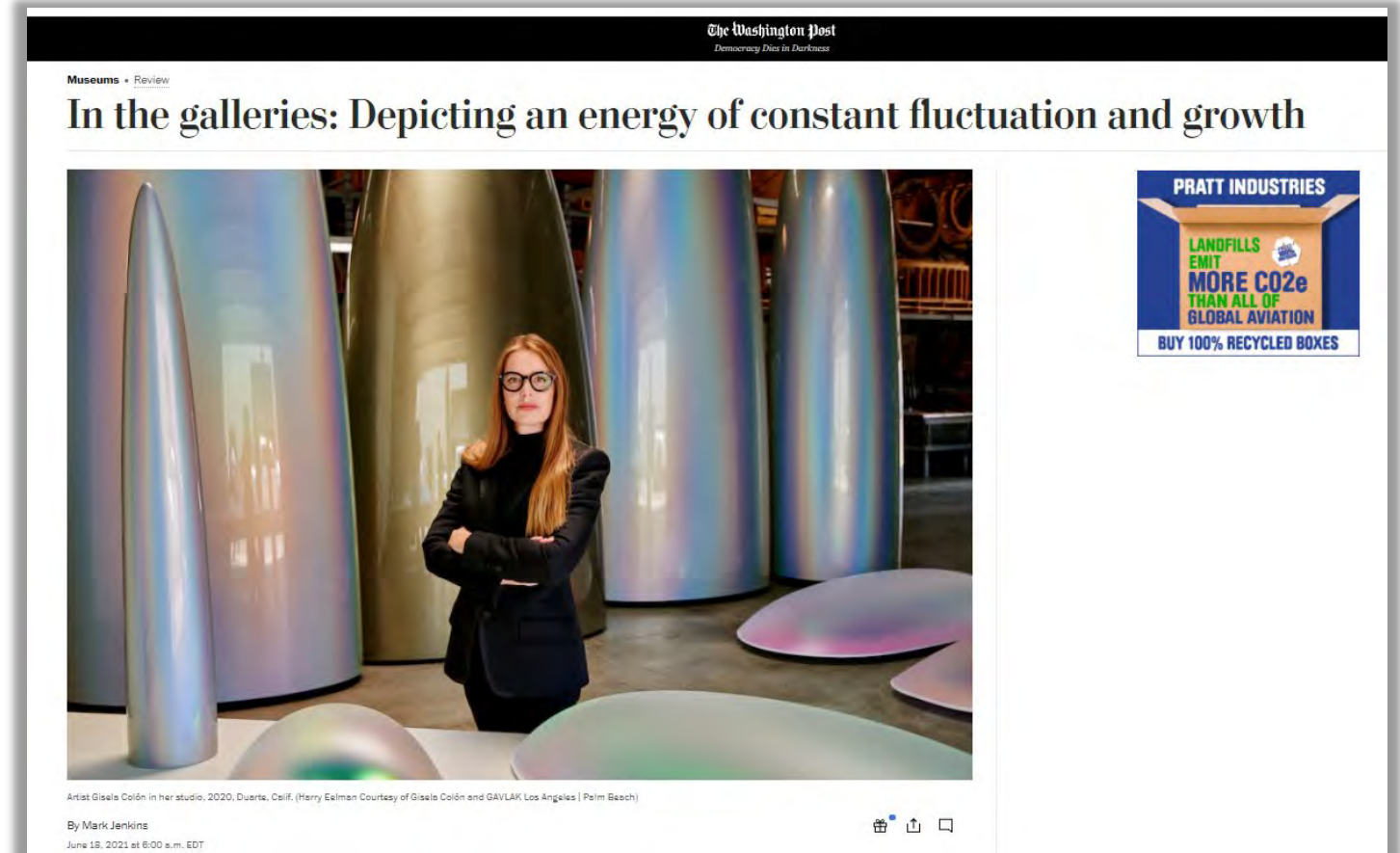
Photo credit: Sofia Blom

Media Coverage

Gisela Colón

Where 1960s minimalism defied interpretation, Colón is willing to offer multiple possible meanings. She says one of her subjects is nothing less than “the physical laws of the universe,” a remark underscored by her list of the ingredients of a green-gold-brown parabolic monolith: “Aurora particles, stardust, cosmic radiation, intergalactic matter, ionic waves, organic carbamate, gravity and time.” For anyone who peers into the nucleus of a Colón sculpture, wondering what else is in there that can’t quite be perceived, the sculptor has a bold answer: everything.

– Mark Jenkins



The screenshot shows a news article from The Washington Post. The masthead at the top right reads "The Washington Post" with the tagline "Democracy Dies in Darkness". Below the masthead, the category "Museums • Review" is visible. The main headline is "In the galleries: Depicting an energy of constant fluctuation and growth". The central image shows artist Gisela Colón standing in her studio, surrounded by large, iridescent, parabolic sculptures. To the right of the main image is a blue advertisement for Pratt Industries that reads: "PRATT INDUSTRIES LANDFILLS EMIT MORE CO2e THAN ALL OF GLOBAL AVIATION BUY 100% RECYCLED BOXES". Below the main image, there is a small caption: "Artist Gisela Colón in her studio, 2020, Duarte, Calif. (Harry Eelman Courtesy of Gisela Colón and GAVLAK Los Angeles | Palm Beach)". At the bottom left of the article, it says "By Mark Jenkins" and "June 18, 2021 at 6:00 a.m. EDT". At the bottom right, there are icons for gift, share, and comment.

3AM: Time Sensitive

Curated by Adriel Luis

August 28, 2021 – January 9, 2022

An exhibition of works by Myanmar artist collective, 3AM, curated by Adriel Luis. Los Angeles-based Adriel Luis is a community organizer, artist, and curator whose work is focused on bridging artistic integrity and social vigilance. Luis has been a speaker at the Tate Modern, Yale University, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the China Academy of Fine Arts.

Since 2016, 3AM members Ma Ei, Ko Latt, and Yadanar Win have collaborated on works that dissolve the lines between art and activism, performance, and media. 3AM's work responds to social conditions that are pressing in Myanmar, but that resonate throughout the world – the repression of social critique, the complexities of queer life, and the effects of globalization, to name a few.

Tephra ICA was pleased to show 3AM's works in the United States for the first time.





Mother Line

Laurel Nakadate

January 22 – May 29, 2022

An exhibition of works by photographer, filmmaker, video and performance artist Laurel Nakadate, presented in partnership with George Mason University and guest curated by Lily Siegel and Don Russell. In *Mother Line*, Nakadate's Kingdom series was shown together for the first time.

A concurrent exhibition, *MOTHER*, was on view at Mason Exhibitions Arlington. This was the third iteration of the group exhibition co-organized by Nakadate, which was first shown at Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects, New York, in 2018.

The Hirshhorn Museum held a program in conjunction with the joint exhibitions highlighting Nakadate's work in their collection, with a conversation by Marina Isgro, Hirshhorn Associate Curator, Lily Siegel, and Laurel Nakadate.

Presented in partnership with:



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art



Laurel Nakadate, *The Kingdom #10*, 2018



Installation view of *Mother Line*. Photo credit: Luke Walter

Media Coverage

Laurel Nakadate

"I realized at a certain point it wasn't just about the people, but it was about these landscapes," the artist notes in the gallery's statement. Nakadate found people with which she has something in common and gave them something entirely different to share: the experience of being memorialized in epic, and somewhat ominous, isolation.

– Mark Jenkins

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

ART

In the galleries: How DNA provided a platform for intriguing art

Artist's photos in two series show power in the concept of family

Review by Mark Jenkins
May 20, 2022 at 6:00 a.m. EDT



"Tyler, Texas #1" by Laurel Nakadate. (Mason Exhibitions)

What Makes the Earth Shake

Dominic Chambers

September 10 – November 20, 2022

What Makes the Earth Shake features work by figurative painter Dominic Chambers. Chambers (b. 1993 St. Louis, MO; lives and works in New Haven, CT) creates vibrant paintings that simultaneously engage art historical models, such as color field theory and gestural abstraction, along with contemporary concerns around race, identity, and the necessity for leisure. This was the first solo exhibition of the artist's work in the Washington, DC metropolitan region.

Chambers received his MFA from Yale University, and he is currently represented by Lehmann Maupin Gallery in New York and Luce Gallery in Italy. His work has been covered by *Artforum*, *Artnet*, and more; he was recently featured in the Forbes 30 Under 30 List, which identified him as one of the most exciting emerging artists of his generation.

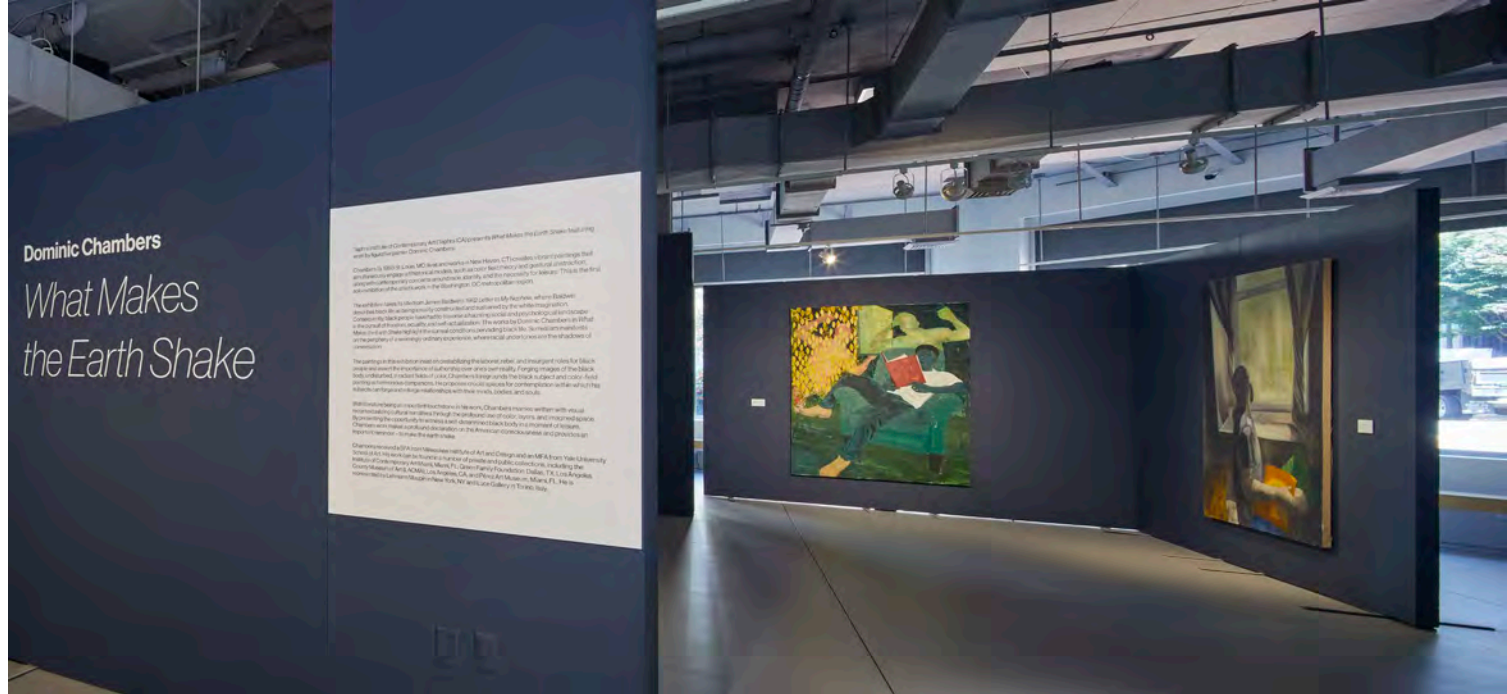
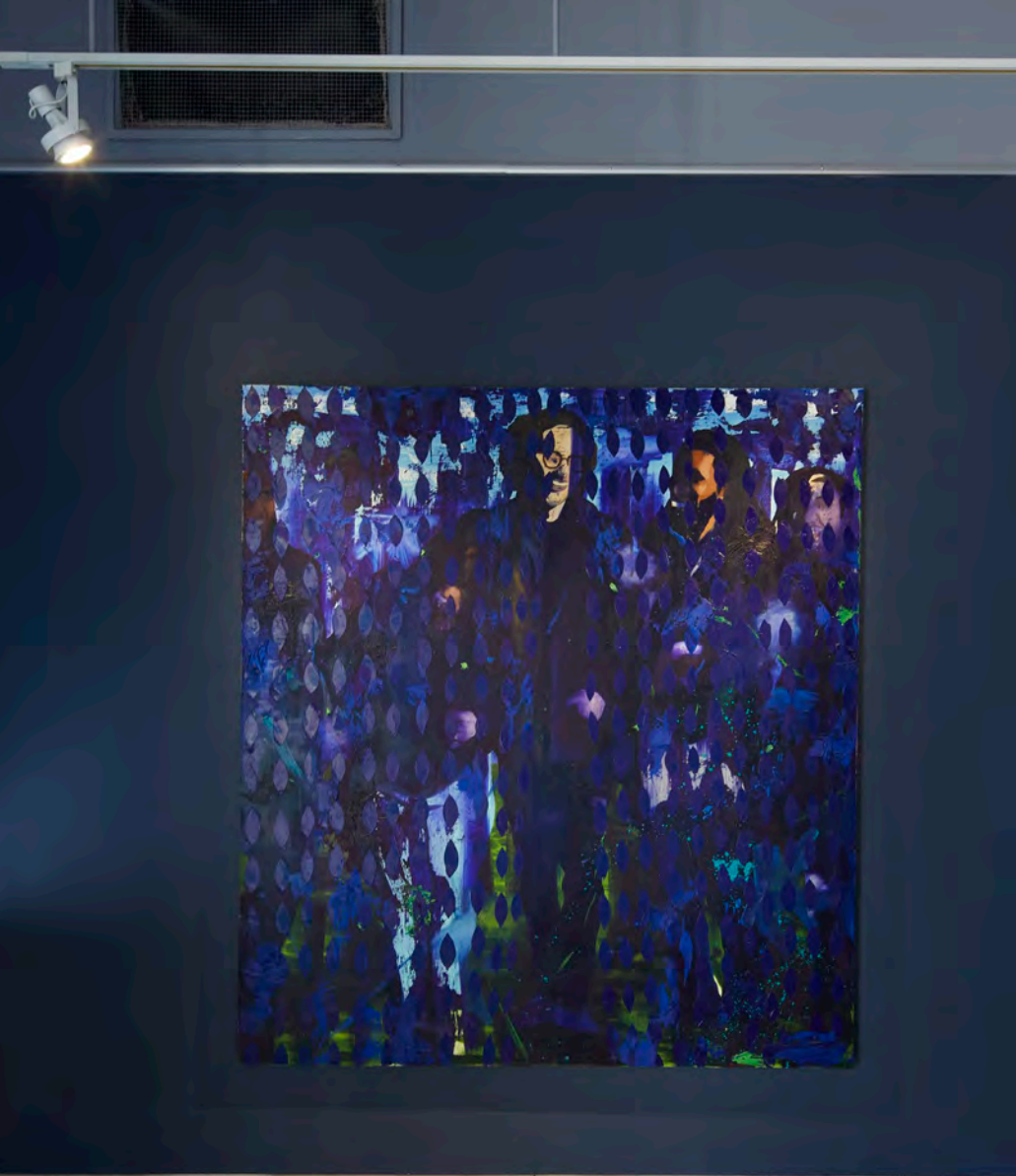
Special programming presented for *What Makes the Earth Shake* included artist talks and studio visits at Howard University and American University.



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art



Dominic Chambers, *Send it On (A Love Letter to Love)*, 2019



Installation view of *What Makes the Earth Shake*. Photo credit: Luke Walter

Media Coverage

What Makes the Earth Shake

“Another sign that Chambers isn’t simply painting the visible universe is his depiction of the ephemeral. Ghostly figures sometimes hover in the background, and in one of the most striking pictures, a man’s hand turns translucent as it rests on a windowsill. The view outside is simply of white light, suggesting that the hand is merging with the bright exterior. The person at the window is both secluded from the world and connected to all existence..”

-Mark Jenkins



“Step into the Shade” by Dominic Chambers, included in the exhibit “What Makes the Earth Shake.” (Dominic Chambers Private Collection/Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art)

Dominic Chambers

The drama is in the painting, not the subject matter, of Dominic Chambers’s pictures. The Connecticut-based artist, whose “What Makes the Earth Shake” is at Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art, often depicts people reading, pondering or gazing out a window. Yet there’s tension in his work, since he and the figures in his paintings are Black. In the hushed moments the artist depicts, “Black life finds reprieve from the brutal state of emergency that so often describes it,” as Zoe Hopkins writes in her catalogue essay.

Buoyant Force

Sue Wrabic

2020—2025

Buoyant Force is a 50-foot steel sculpture by Sue Wrabic inspired by the paintings of American Surrealist Kay Sage (b. 1898, Albany, New York; d. 1963, Woodbury, Connecticut). Sage is recognized for her paintings of scaffolded structures and furled fabric in desolate landscapes.

Tephra ICA organized the first comprehensive exhibition of Wrabic's work, entitled *Well Past the Echo*, in Fall 2017. The exhibition featured photography, maquettes of Sage-inspired structures, and a site-specific installation. It was featured in The Washington Post and East City Art. Based on the success of the exhibition, Tephra ICA commissioned Wrabic to realize one of her structures at full-size in Reston Town Square Park.

Buoyant Force is sponsored by



Tephra ICA at Signature

Sponsored by Reston Community Center
Provided in partnership with Boston Properties and Bozzuto

A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats

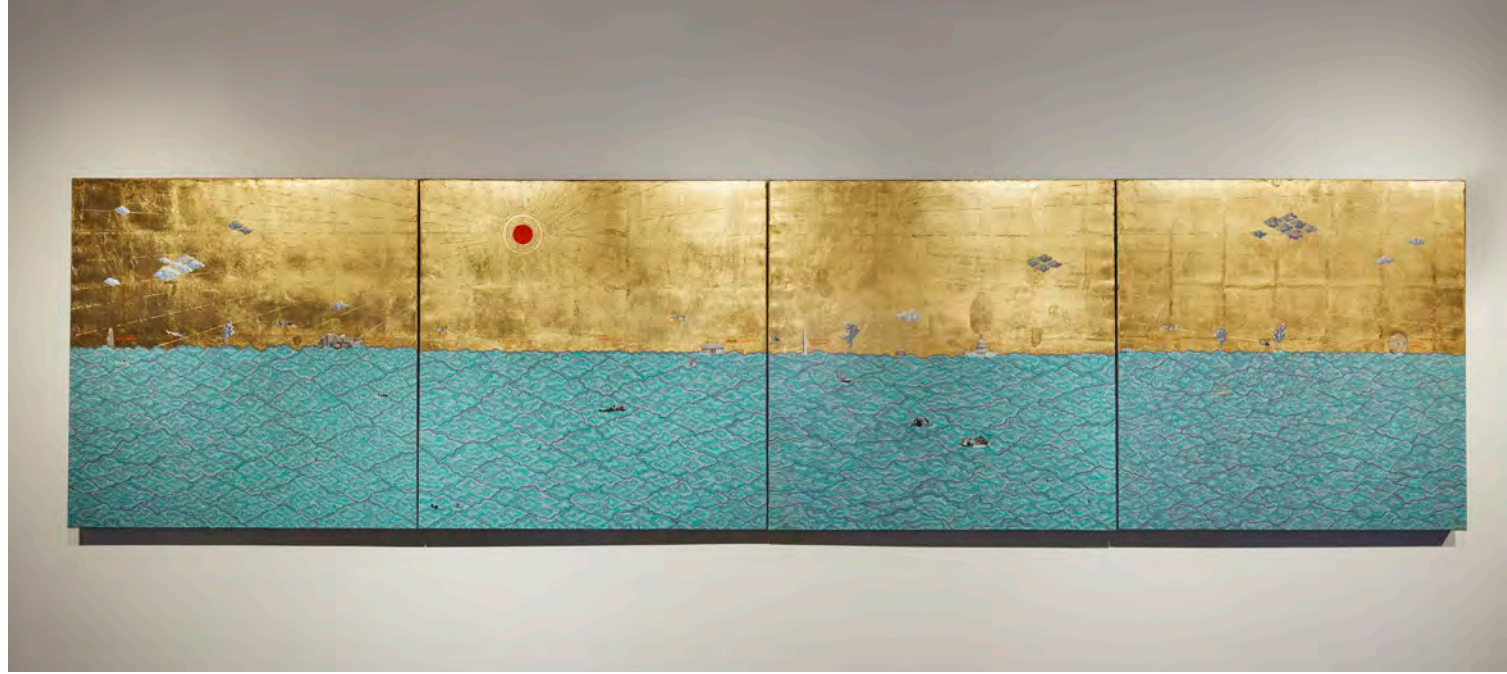
Andrea Limauro

October 7, 2021 – January 25, 2022

Andrea Limauro (b. 1976, Rome, Italy) is a visual artist and city planner whose work explores migration and migrant identity issues, nationalistic narratives, gun violence, climate change, and other social topics. Through his attentive and laborious process of screen printing and careful painting, Limauro's works bring into focus the looming nature of disasters due to the effects of climate change. Through the employment of striking color combinations, metal leaf, patterns, and minute details, the illusion to a dystopian future of the DC region entices the eye.



Andrea Limauro, *The Swamp Takes Over*, 2019



Installation view of *A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats*. Photo credit: Luke Walter

Tephra ICA at Signature

Sponsored by Reston Community Center
Provided in partnership with Boston Properties and Bozzuto

Borrowed and Not Returned

Travis Childers

February 10 – June 9, 2022

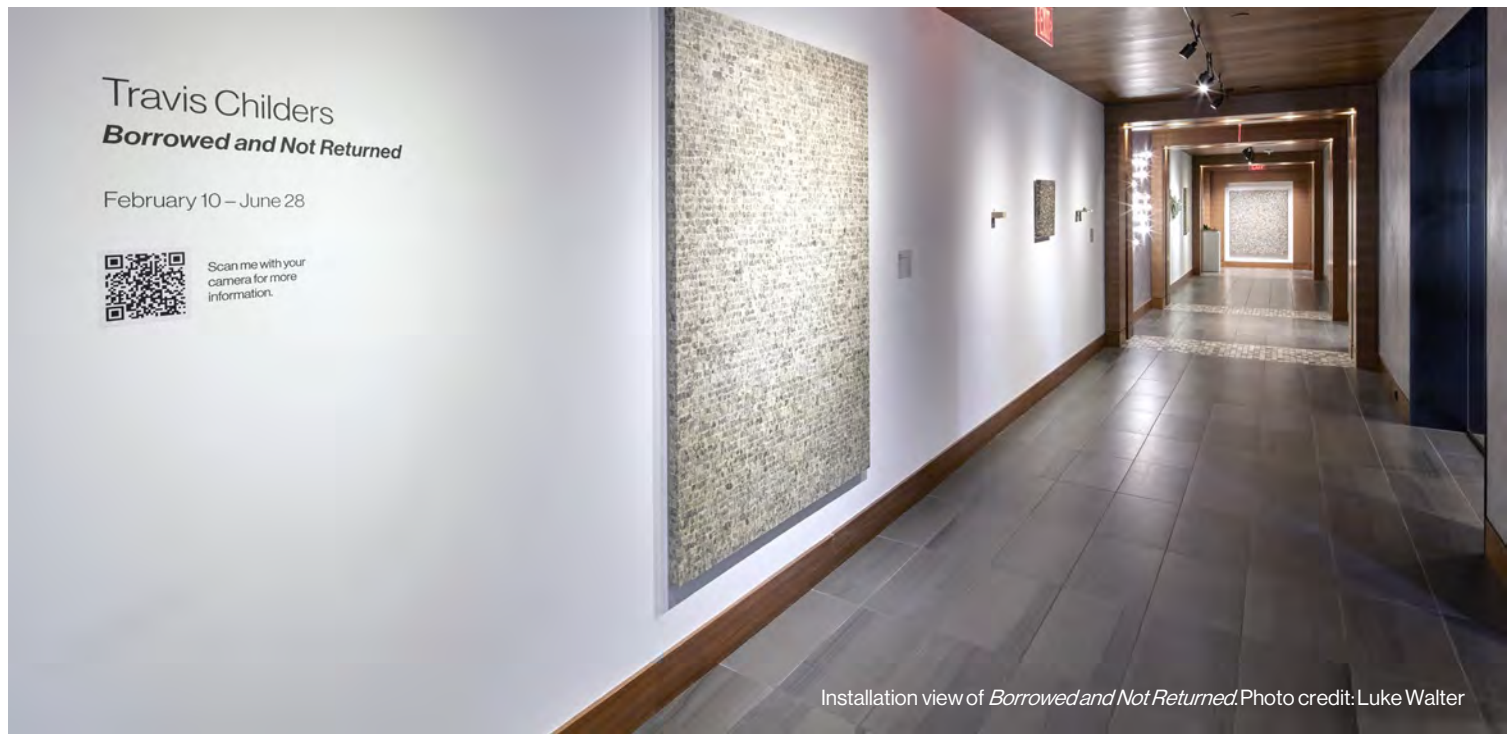
Borrowed and Not Returned featured three recent and ongoing series by Fairfax, Virginia-based artist Travis Childers. Travis Childers' work is concerned with society's extractive relationship to nature, though he often approaches the topic with humor and a healthy dose of culpability as he acknowledges his own participation.

"Altered and constructed landscapes serve as anchors across Childers' work, creating a common thread between a wide variety of human experiences. Underlying these different bodies of work, is the sensibility that in our human relationship to landscape, there is something borrowed and not returned."

-Hannah Barco, Tephra ICA Associate Curator



Travis Childers, *The Sink Hole*, 2021



Installation view of *Borrowed and Not Returned*. Photo credit: Luke Walter

Tephra ICA at Signature

Sponsored by Reston Community Center
Provided in partnership with Boston Properties and Bozzuto

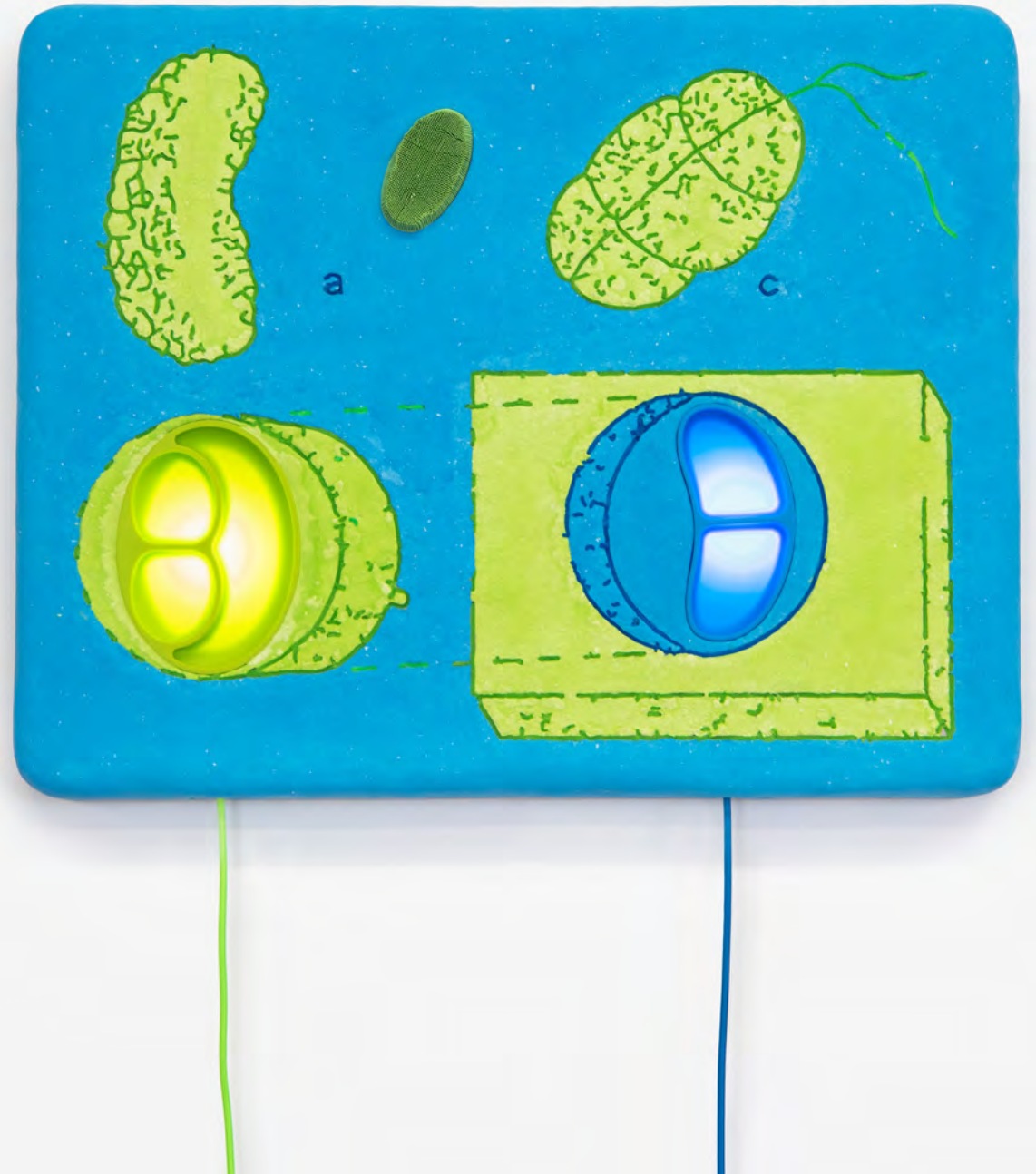
Cross Sections

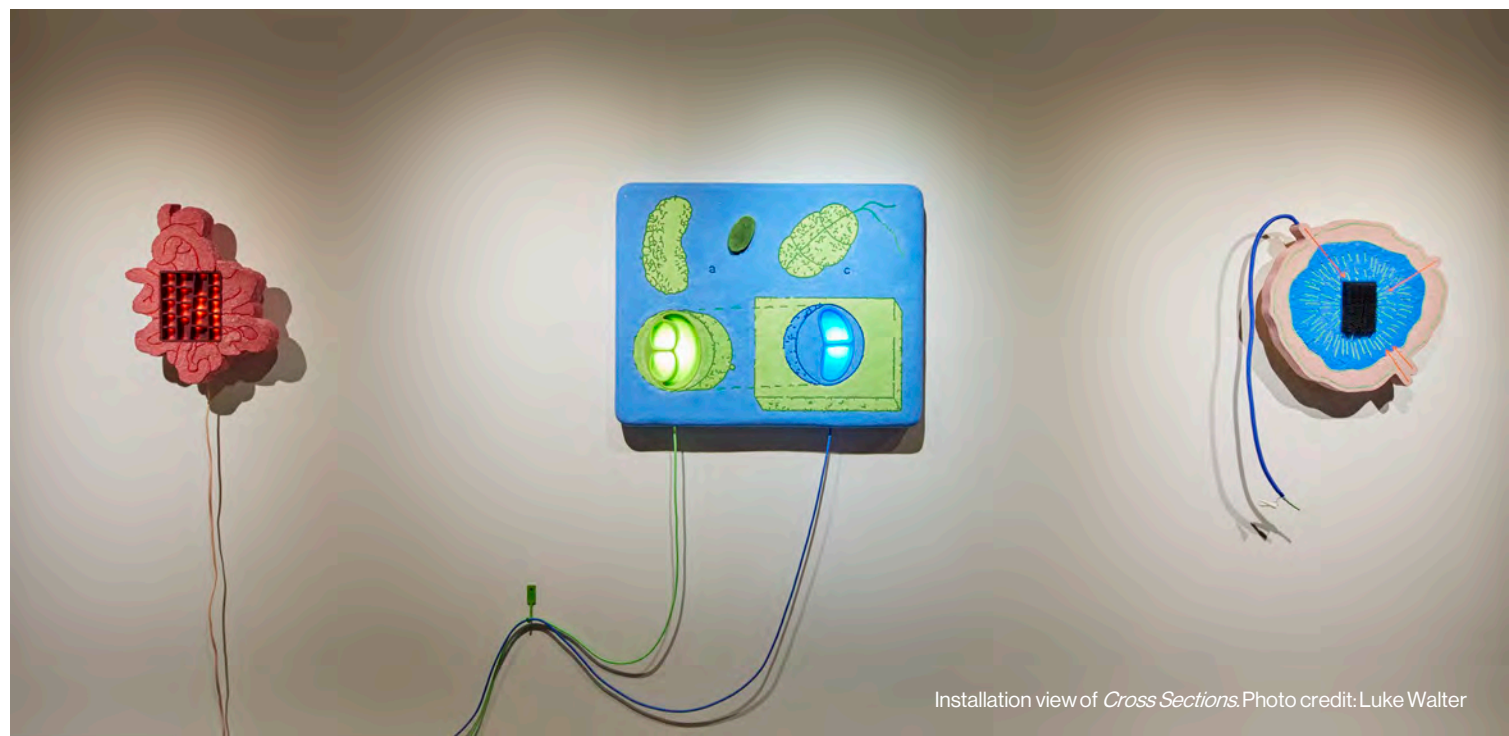
Danni O'Brien

August 4 – October 18, 2022

Cross Sections is an exhibition of new work by artist Danni O'Brien. As a Baltimore-based interdisciplinary artist, O'Brien built each artwork around a borrowed instructional diagram, carefully stripping away its original function and context.

O'Brien uses the act of decontextualization deliberately, creating wall-hung constructions that are rich with connotation. Within the visceral surfaces and quasi-bodily forms, the compositional logic of systems and mechanisms prevail.





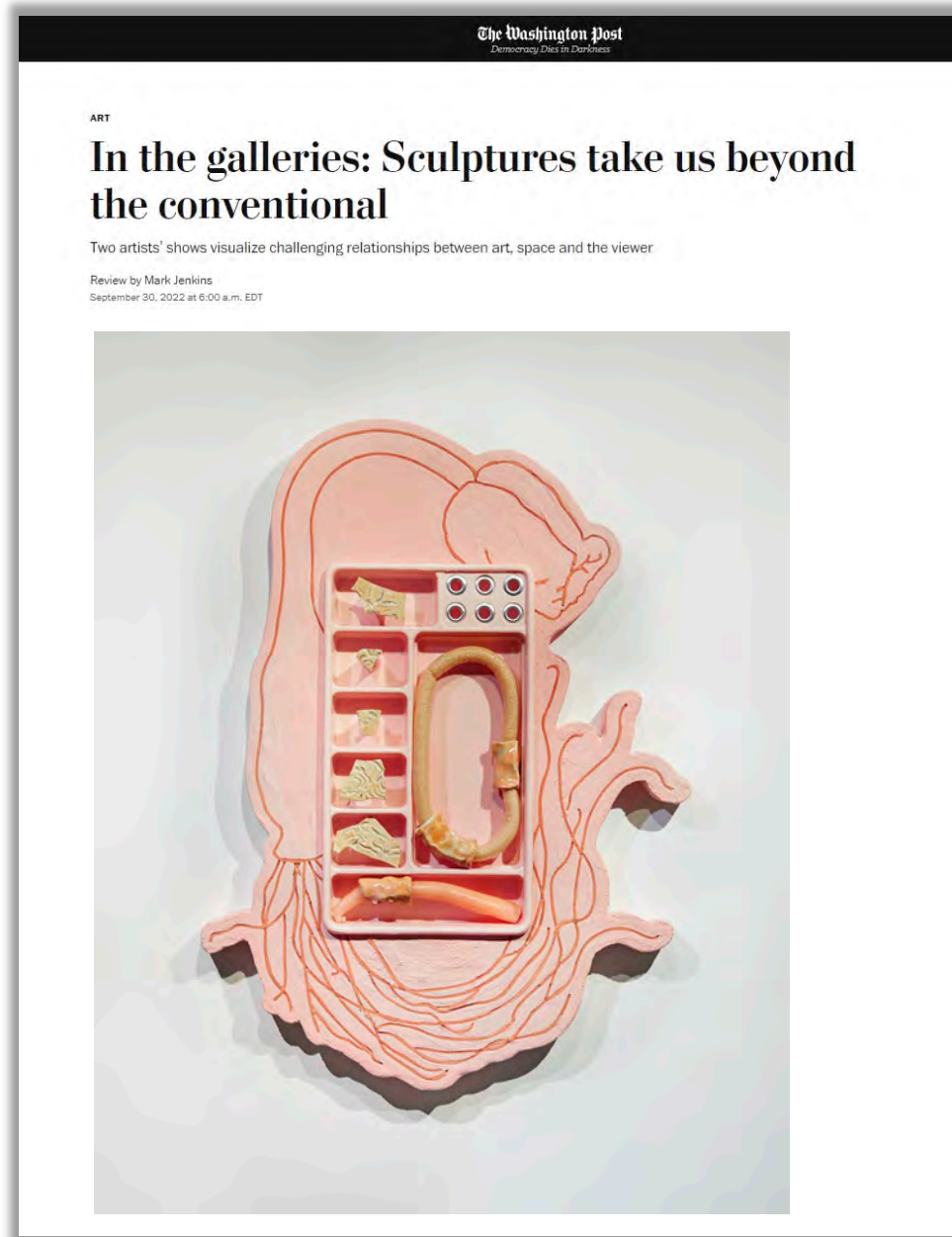
Installation view of *Cross Sections*. Photo credit: Luke Walter

Media Coverage

Danni O'Brien: Cross Sections

"O'Brien's wall sculptures are based on found diagrams from sources as diverse as a plumbing manual or the natural contraception guide that yielded "Homemade Barriers," an atypical piece with two embedded LEDs. That work is blue and green, but the Baltimore-based artist is more partial to pink or a pinkish tan that resembles rosy shades of marble. Pink is also common in plastic consumer products, which O'Brien incorporates into such assemblages as "Hot Dog Mitosis," derived from a biological illustration but centered on a dog food bowl. The bowl is one of several recessed forms that give the sculptures both literal and symbolic depth."

-Mark Jenkins



Tephra ICA at Signature

Sponsored by Reston Community Center
Provided in partnership with Boston Properties and Bozzuto

Forecast

November 3, 2022 – January 22, 2023

Forecast presents twenty-two image and text works that speak to our collective futures. The predictions, or “Buoyant Oracles” as they came to be known, were created by a cohort of female-identifying artists responding to Sue Wrbcian’s public sculpture *Buoyant Force*. Special funding for *Forecast* is provided by the GLB Memorial Fund for the Arts.

Forecast is an extension of Buoyant Oracle, a playful interactive feature activated by scanning a QR code that provides the opportunity to chat with Buoyant Force and receive a reading of paired poetry and images. Created by the Playful City Lab at American University in collaboration with Sue Wrbcian and Tephra ICA, the installation features an evolving cast of guest oracles and narratives.

A concurrent exhibition, *Cast/Recast*, is presented at Mason Exhibitions featuring photography, video, sculpture, painting, and site-specific installations from the Buoyant Oracles.

Presented in partnership with:



THE PLAYFUL CITY LAB



Be
hold
Be
love

- Nicole Salimbene



First time Festival under new name

Full footprint of 188 artists

With double booths and endcap rentals

30% of participating artists new to the Festival

Surveyed Festival attendees for first time

To better understand audience and will continue this effort



Cassie Taggart, *Fly Me the Moon*, 2021

FESTIVAL
tephra
institute of
contemporary art

SPONSORED BY **Peraton**

Peraton



Generous support also provided by Roz Rakoff and Larry Issa and Ruth Abrahams Design.

Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art





Trisha Brown Dance Company

Performance Sponsored by Reston Community Center



Media Coverage

From Bryan Rodrigues-Oliveira

“A volcanic eruption is set to hit the Greater Reston area. But instead of fire and lava creeping up on your front steps, it’s an amazing art festival and a new face for the world of Reston contemporary art.”

“From welcoming the presence of new voices in the Reston area to holding onto their legacy as a Reston community base, it’s clear that all possible effort has been expended in this rebranding and that the upcoming Tephra ICA Arts Festival is one for the Reston history books.”

DISTRICT FRAY MAGAZINE

PLAY LIFE EAT DRINK CULTURE MUSIC EVENTS

CULTURE



Tephra ICA. Photo courtesy of festival.

Rebranded as Tephra ICA, NOVA’s Favorite Art Festival Returns

Media Coverage

General - Tephra ICA

“A current exhibit of photography by Laurel Nakadate, which touches on the loss of her mother and familial relationships, exemplifies the kind of provocative work you can expect here.”

—Damare Baker, Washingtonian Magazine

HOME & STYLE WASHINGTONIAN

10 Cool Art Galleries Around the DC Area

Looking to brush up on the local art scene? Here are a few good places to start.

WRITTEN BY DAMARE BAKER   | PUBLISHED ON FEBRUARY 23, 2022

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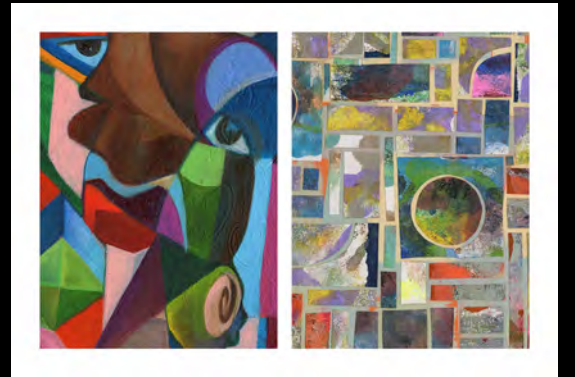


The Alloy Project

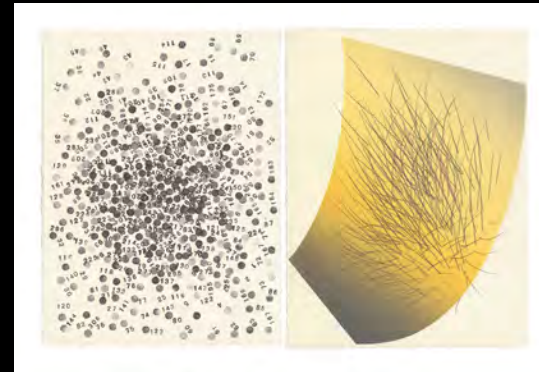
Tephra ICA Annual Benefit & Cocktail Event

The Alloy Project, Tephra ICA's Annual Benefit, is a new fundraising initiative offering new collaborative artworks for purchase and free arts experiences for audiences of all ages culminating in a ticketed evening Cocktail Event.

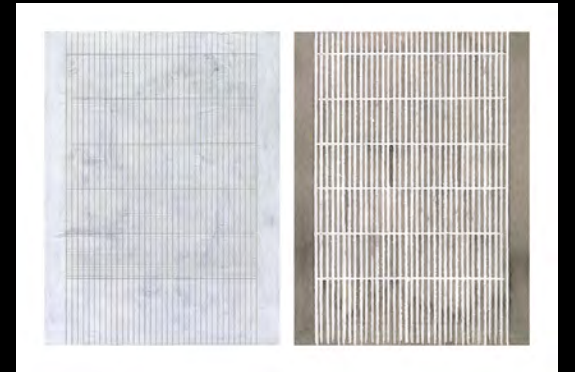
In 2022, The Alloy Project invited five pairings of contemporary artists to engage in a process of creative response, generating five original collaborative works of art and a series of limited-edition prints. Like an alloy, these art works were the result of bringing together two distinct elements, creating new synergies and possibilities.



Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre & Laurenee Gauvin



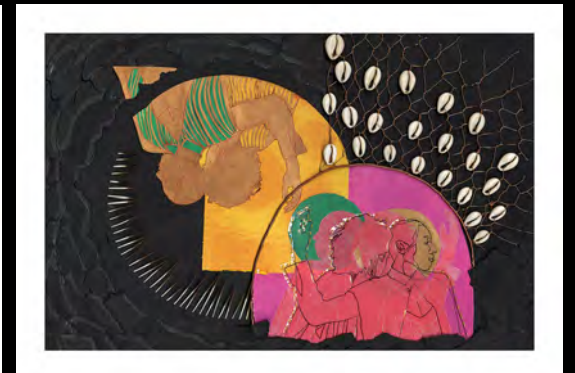
Anne C. Smith & Sarah Irvin



Joseph Shetler & Mary Early



Olivia Tripp Morrow & Emily Fussner



Omolará Williams McCallister & Jessica Valoris

The Alloy Project

Tephra ICA Annual Benefit & Cocktail Event

Throughout the day, visitors could view the *Dominic Chambers: What Makes the Earth Shake* exhibition at the Tephra ICA gallery, drop-in for a handmade papermaking workshop led by the Navigation Press from George Mason University, enjoy a public concert in the park hosted by Reston Town Center Association, and explore the VMFA Artmobile – the state-of-the-art traveling museum on wheels presented by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts – providing an opportunity to experience and explore authentic works of art directly from the VMFA collection.

The ticketed Cocktail Event brought together artists, collectors, arts enthusiasts, and professional leaders from the Washington, DC metropolitan community and beyond. Featuring works for purchase from The Alloy Project, honored guests, artist dialogues, live music, and a special collaborative performance by Boris Willis and Rex Delafkaran, this event promises to be our most vibrant night of the year. Cocktails and d’oeuvres by Balducci’s and live music by DJ Geena Marie.

Generous Support for The Alloy Project Provided By

Cochairs

Ricki Marion
Shane Ziegler

Host Committee

Ruth Abrahams
Joanne and David Bauer
Caitlin Berry
Leonor and Eduardo Brazão
Jim and Karen Cleveland
Scott and Maureen Cryer

Ila and Reggie Forster
Alissa Maru
Allison Nance
Sue and Terry Robinson
Renée Stout
Usha Subramanian

Sponsors

Signature Arts &
Community Sponsor

Arts & Making Sponsor



Additional Sponsors and Partners





Public Programs

Nathalie Johnston

Curator and Founder, Myanmar Art & Writer in Frieze Magazine

Marina Isgro

Associate Curator, Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden

Imogen Blue-Hinojosa

Contemporary performance artist

Pierre Edwards

Founder, Studio Sonic Sensory Practice

Zoma Wallace

Independent Curator and Founder, Black Artists DC

Lenore D. Miller

Associate Professorial Lecturer, George Washington University

Kelsey Garrett

Account Executive, Artsy

Ross Stanton Jordan

Interim Director, Jane Addams Hull-House Museum

Danielle O'Steen

Inaugural Curator, The Kreeger Museum

Robert DeCaroli

Professor of Art History, George Mason University

Elizabeth Denholm

Art Collection Manager, Montage Health

Harold Linton

Professor and former Director of the School of Art, George Mason University

Blair Clemo

Associate Professor of Craft and Material Studies and Ceramic Area Head, Virginia Commonwealth University

Corrine Diop

Graduate Director for Studio Art, and Associate Director of the School of Art and Design, James Madison University

Additionally presented: 2 Artist Talks and Studio Visits at Howard University and American University, 2 Family Workshops, and 4 Family Day Programs

Emerging Visions

Through the Emerging Visions program, Tephra ICA extends its mission beyond the gallery walls, creating opportunities for students to engage with contemporary art in the classroom.

Tephra ICA works directly with Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) Art Educators to develop classroom curriculum for K–12 students. Student artwork, as selected by Tephra ICA staff, is exhibited as part of the Emerging Visions exhibition at the Tephra ICA gallery each Spring.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect participation rates for the 2021-2022 program.

2021-22

Buoyant Force
by Sue Wrbican



Courtesy of Sue Wrbican

2022-23

*Dominic Chambers: What
Makes the Earth Shake*



Dominic Chambers, *Window Gaze (Ghost Hand)*, 2021

Explore More Home Edition

Introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Explore More Home is an edition of our in-gallery, self-guided program designed for kids and families to explore from the comfort of their home. Explore More Home Edition is a free program, open to the public.



Laurel Nakadate, *The Kingdom #20*, 2018
Image courtesy of the artist and Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects

About Laurel Nakadate: Mother Line

Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art (Tephra ICA), in partnership with Mason Exhibitions at George Mason University, presents an exhibition of the work of Laurel Nakadate, guest curated by Lily Siegel and Donald Russell.

Laurel Nakadate explores themes of identity, relationships with strangers, and loneliness. The exhibition on view highlights the artist's work exploring her family history, love, and loss, all through the lens of motherhood.

[Read More About *Mother Line* for Inspiration](#)

Activity 1:

The artwork featured in The Kingdom series by Laurel Nakadate was created after the loss of her mother and the birth of her son. These two important people in her life never had a chance to meet, but through the merging of photographs, Nakadate was able to see her mother holding her son in her arms. Nakadate even hired technicians over the internet to photo edit some of the images.

Would you like to merge photos and assemble an image of your own creation? Great! Follow the instructions below to combine your own pictures to create a brand new artwork collage.

Summer Art Camp

Presented in partnership with Reston Association

Summer Art Camp explores the visual arts in tandem with science, engineering, and art history in a fun, safe, and exciting setting. Camp themes encourage the development of critical thinking and creative expression.

After limiting the number of campers per session last year due to COVID-19, Summer Art Camp returned to full enrollment. All camp sessions were at max capacity with waitlists.



Upcoming Exhibitions & Programs

Biennial Mary B. Howard Invitational

being between a rock and a soft place

Fall / Winter 2022

Every two years, Tephra ICA presents the Mary B. Howard Invitational, a group exhibition featuring the work of regional contemporary artists. For each iteration of the show, Tephra ICA works with a guest curator to produce the exhibition through an open call for artists.

This year, Guest Curator Deirdre Darden will work with selected artists to develop a group exhibition, for which each artist creates and presents new work. In acknowledgment of the many traumas that have been endured individually and collectively over the past two years, this exhibition will explore the concepts of rest and reprieve as a starting point for the artistic process.

Darden has worked with the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Black Artists of DC, Eaton Workshop, and more.

2022 Selected Artists

Holly Bass, Adjoa Burrowes, Deborah Grayson, Katie O'Keefe, Britt Sankofa



Hacia La Vida / Towards Life

Spring / Summer 2023

Towards Life features work by Baltimore-based artist Hoesy Corona and the California artist duo Cog•nate Collective. Each of Mexican descent, the artists' featured work creates a new framework for understanding the position of the immigrant as deeply optimistic and full of hope.

Cog•nate Collective develops research projects, public interventions, and experimental pedagogical programs in collaboration with communities across the US/Mexico border region. Hoesy Corona uses a variety of media to develop fabulated narratives that center marginalized individuals.



Choosing to Portage

Fall / Winter 2023

The exhibition, *Choosing to Portage*, uses the metaphor of the portage to emphasize cultural heritage as an active and embodied process.

When traveling by boat, one may choose to portage—to carry one's boat—to avoid an obstacle or to transfer from one body of water to the next. Just as a traveler must approach the idea of a portage, the exhibiting artists, Ashley Freeby, Noelle Garcia, Jeff Huckleberry, and Michael Rakowitz produce their artwork with strategic decision-making, self-awareness of their skill (or lack thereof), and a commitment to the labor.

Like the complex and choreographic task of carrying one's boat and belongings over land, the artists wield agency as they navigate the turbulent waters of contemporary identity. In doing so, they forge paths for audiences to embrace the complexity of cultural heritage while embodying collective inheritance as burden, responsibility, and empowerment.



Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

Anniversary Publication

Thank you to Janet Rems for essay and research contributions

Capital Campaign

Thank you to Ricki Marion for fundraising strategy consultation

The Alloy Project Benefit & Gala

Outreach to Cochairs, Host Committee, and Sponsors

Interested? [Contact info@tephraica.org.](mailto:info@tephraica.org)

The Art School and Career Panel Series

The annual Art School & Career Panel Series allows the opportunity to learn from art educators and professionals to prepare for careers in the fields of fine art, art history, and arts management. Panel members include professors, art practitioners, and art historians.

The program is designed for high school and college students and early career artists and professionals.

Previous speakers have included arts professionals from Artsy, The Parsons School of Art and Design, The Kreeger Museum, Virginia Commonwealth University, and more.



Tephra ICA Arts Festival

2023 Updates



2023 Dates: Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21

Eliminated Festival Friday

Introducing Saturday night concert presented by Reston Town Center Association

Fostering deeper engagement with special programming throughout the event

Tephra ICA Arts Festival Performance

Presented in partnership with Reston Community Center

Hoesy Corona

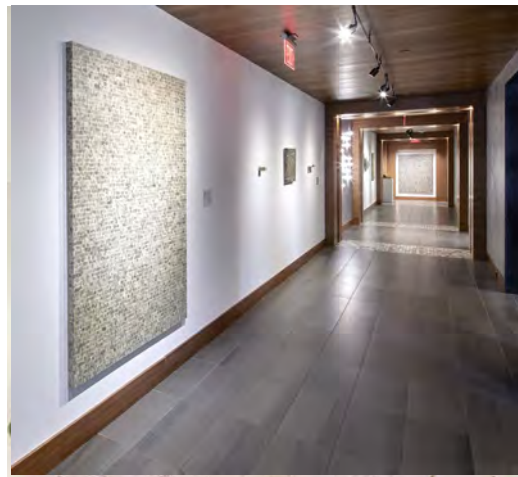
Hoesy Corona is an uncategorized queer Latinx artist who employs a variety of media to develop fabulated narratives centering marginalized individuals while investigating what it means to be a queer Latinx immigrant.

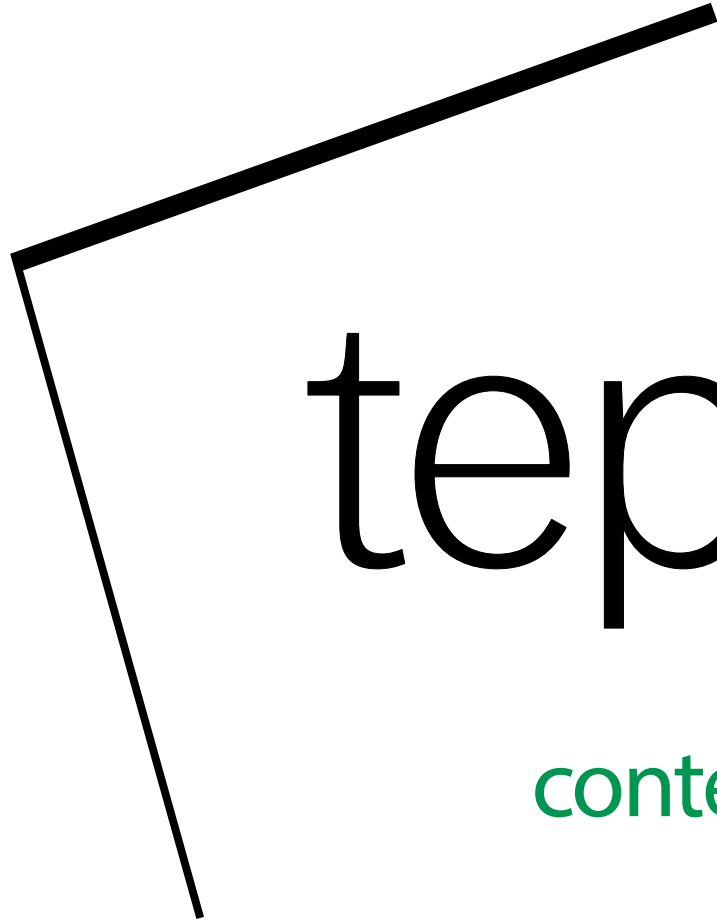
His work has been covered by The Washington Post, Bmore Art Magazine, and The American Scholar among others. He is the recipient of numerous honors and awards including The Nicholson Project artist residency, The Mellon Foundation's MAP Fund Grant, and the Andy Warhol Foundation's Grit Fund Grant. He is a current Winston Tabb Special Collections Research Center Public Humanities Fellow 2022-2023 at the Johns Hopkins University's Sheridan Libraries.

Corona's Festival performance will be an extension of the *Hacia La Vida / Towards Life* exhibition on view in the Tephra ICA gallery.



Thank You Our Valued Supporters





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