



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art

Annual Report

2022-2023

Our Year in Review

Financial & Governance Summary

Financial Overview

<u>Year-Over-Year Comparison</u>		
<u>Item</u>	<u>FY22*</u>	<u>FY23</u>
Income	\$ 523,681	\$ 520,200
Expenses	\$ 568,009	\$ 563,446
September 2021 Net Income	\$ 145,777	N/A
Surplus / Deficit (sans Depreciation)	\$ 101,449	- \$ 43,245
Surplus / Deficit (with Depreciation)	\$ 62,091	- \$ 79,286
Unreserved Cash	\$ 192,000	\$ 117,000
Regeneration Fund	\$ 56,000	\$ 56,000

*Includes hosting two Tephra ICA Art Festivals in one fiscal year (September 2021 and May 2022).

Financial & Governance Summary

Corporate Sponsorships

Peraton renewed \$25k Festival Title Sponsorship
Reston Community Center increased to \$15k Alloy Project Sponsorship
First-time \$10k Festival Sponsorship with Microsoft

The Alloy Project Year-Over-Year Success

More than doubled net revenue and audience size in its second year

Officially Tephra ICA

Accepted by the Commonwealth of Virginia
Restatement of the Articles of Incorporation

Reconfigured Board

Established term limits, Reduced Size

Created Advisory Council

Non-fiduciary Responsibility

Formalized Board Nominating & Hiring Committee

Meeting Social & Cultural Equity Commitment goals

Adopted First Employee Manual

Three-year effort
Adds additional structure and professionalism
Gold-standard leave policy; Codified equity commitments
Remaining challenge: Providing and funding health benefits

Board Equity Committee Remains Engaged

Holding institution accountable on meeting and strengthening
Social and cultural equity commitments

Grants Awarded

Virginia Commission for the Arts General Operating Support	\$12,764 (\$1.6K increase)
ArtsFairfax General Operating Support	\$19,532 (\$4.5K increase)
ArtsFairfax Project Grant <i>Mary B. Howard Invitational between a rock and soft place</i>	\$12,147
Virginia Tourism Corporation Special Events & Festival Grant <i>Second Time Award</i>	\$20,000
Spur Local Formerly Catalogue for Philanthropy <i>First Time Award</i> Selected as a highly trusted, critical non-profit partner in the Washington, DC metropolitan region – one of 19 cultural organizations and among the 14 new partners from Northern Virginia – to receive development resources, guides, and connections to thousands of donors and volunteers. Additionally, Spur Local has raised more than \$57 million dollars to support the work of the participating partners.	N/A



Our Strategy



Preparing 5-Year Strategic Plan

Implemented Balanced but Aspirational
FY24 Budget

Growth in New Fall Fundraiser Concept
The 2023 alloy project doubled revenue and audience
Size in second year

Focus on Increasing Individual Giving and
In-Person Audience for Programs
Continued COVID-19 Pandemic impact

Launched Tephra ICA at 50 Capital Campaign
50th Anniversary Capital Fundraising Campaign

Team Updates

Fully staffed

Hired Advancement Officer to meet and advance development goals

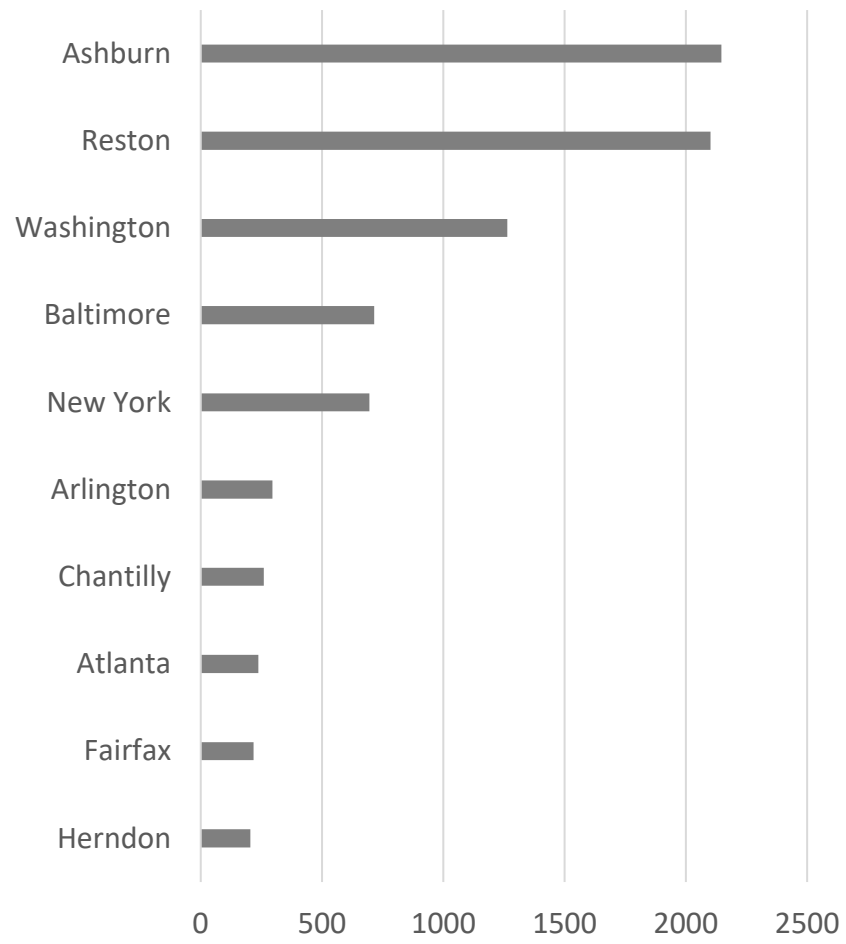
Continuing to invest in the team

Progress in Equity Commitments

- ✓ Continued to expand audience through exhibitions and programs
 - ✓ First-time partnerships with Embassy of Mexico / Mexican Institute of Cultural Institute, Howard University, and The Kreeger Museum
- ✓ Over the past 9 years, three-fourths of artists the institution exhibited identified as historically underrepresented
 - ✓ FY23 included 75% of exhibiting artists who identified in this way
- ✓ Continued to offer and circulate a confidential means for staff, board, visitor, artist, partner, and collaborator feedback
 - ✓ Adapted language that encouraged and resulted in more feedback
- ✓ Launched Tephra ICA at 50 Capital Campaign focused, in part, on infrastructure improvements including accessibility needs for current and future space
- ✓ Met all Hiring, Appointment, Training, and Retention equity commitments, including but not limited to:
 - ✓ Offering Implicit Bias and Anti-Racism training for staff and board every other year
- ✓ Continued to offer anonymous channels for community, staff, and board feedback
- ✓ Remained W.A.G.E. Certified
 - ✓ As a publicly recognized institution ensuring equitable compensation for all artists and speakers

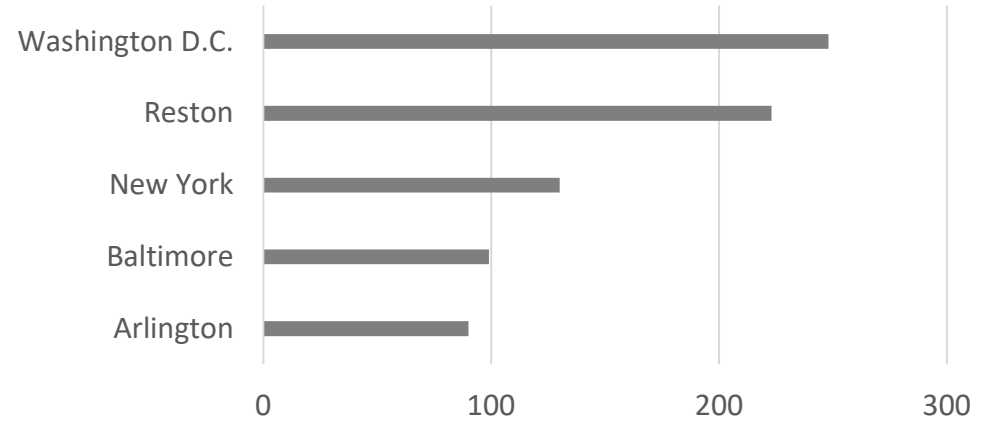
Website Users, Top Ten Cities

23,272 Users in 2023 to date



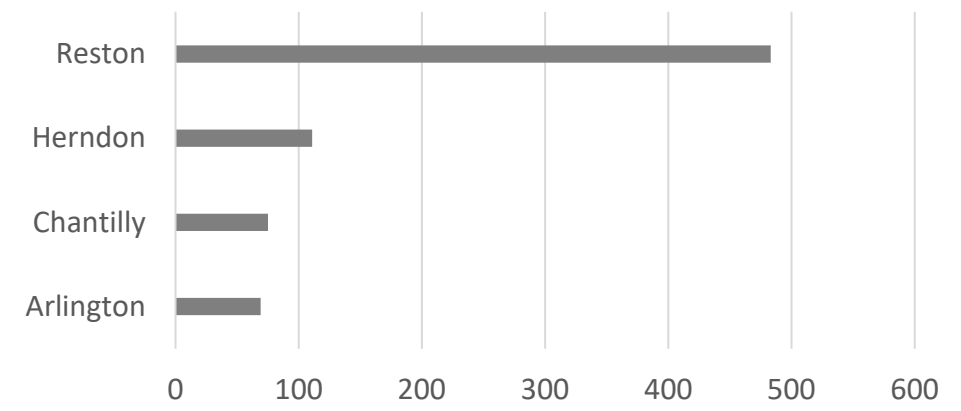
Instagram Followers, Top Five Cities

3,094 Total Followers



Facebook Followers, Top Five Cities

3,266 Total Followers



Our Year in Review (Cont.)

Exhibitions & Programs

What Makes the Earth Shake

Dominic Chambers

September 10 – November 20, 2022

What Makes the Earth Shake featured 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– first-time partnerships for the institution.



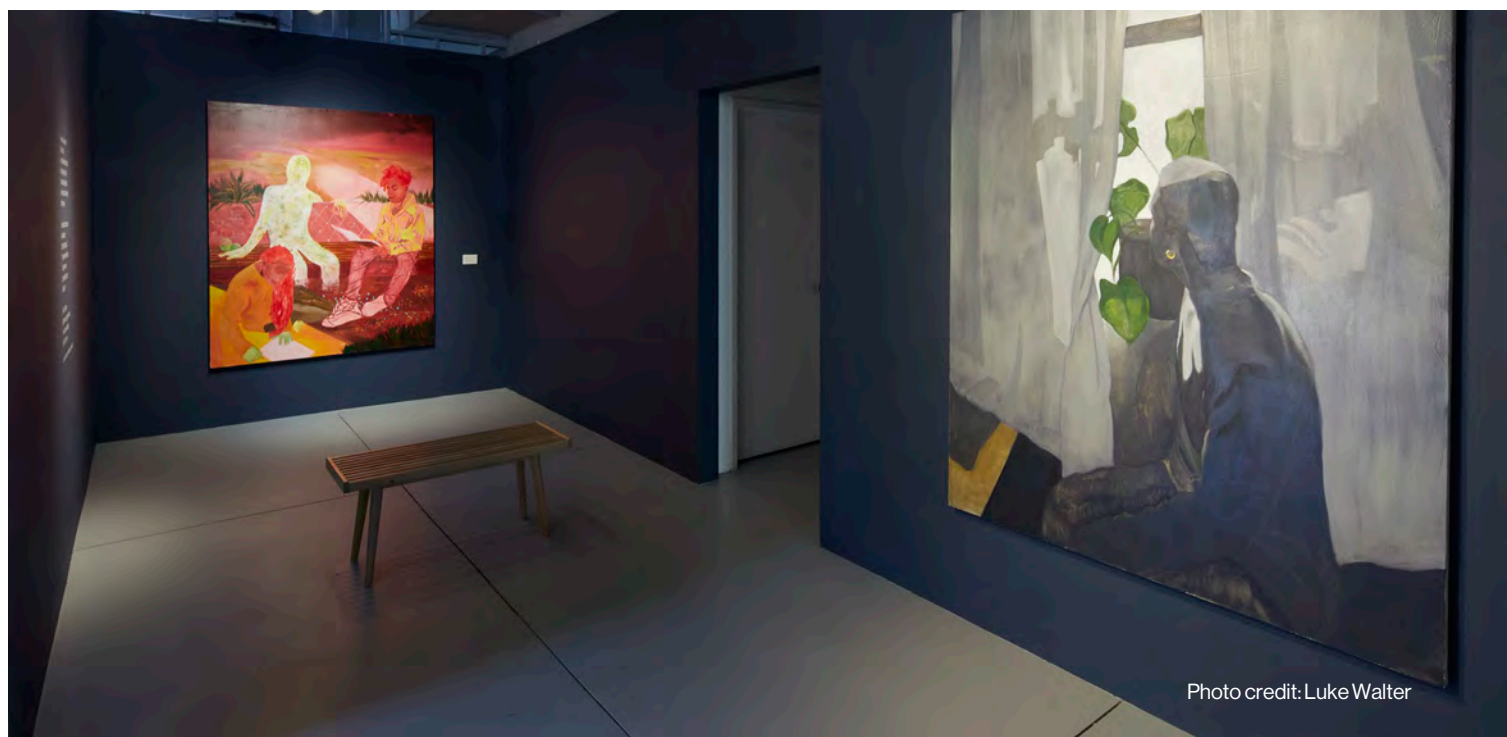
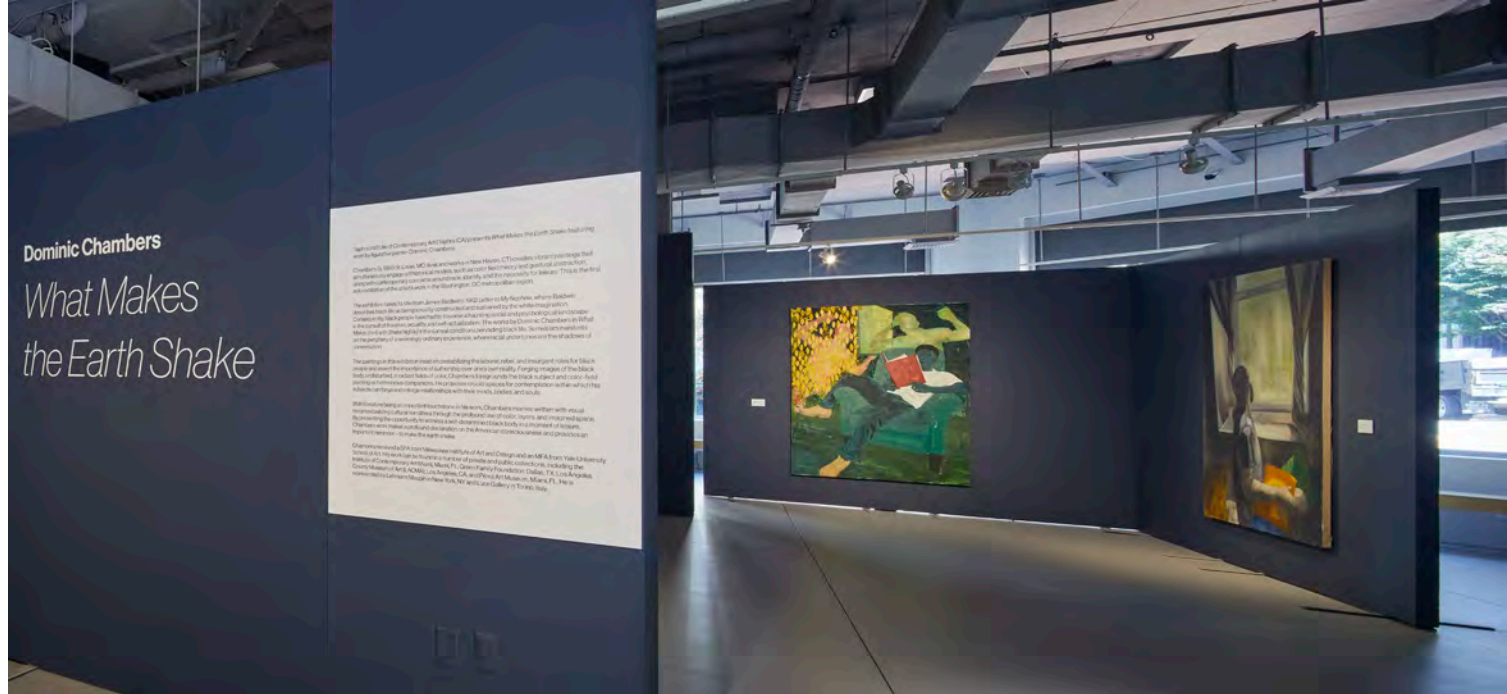
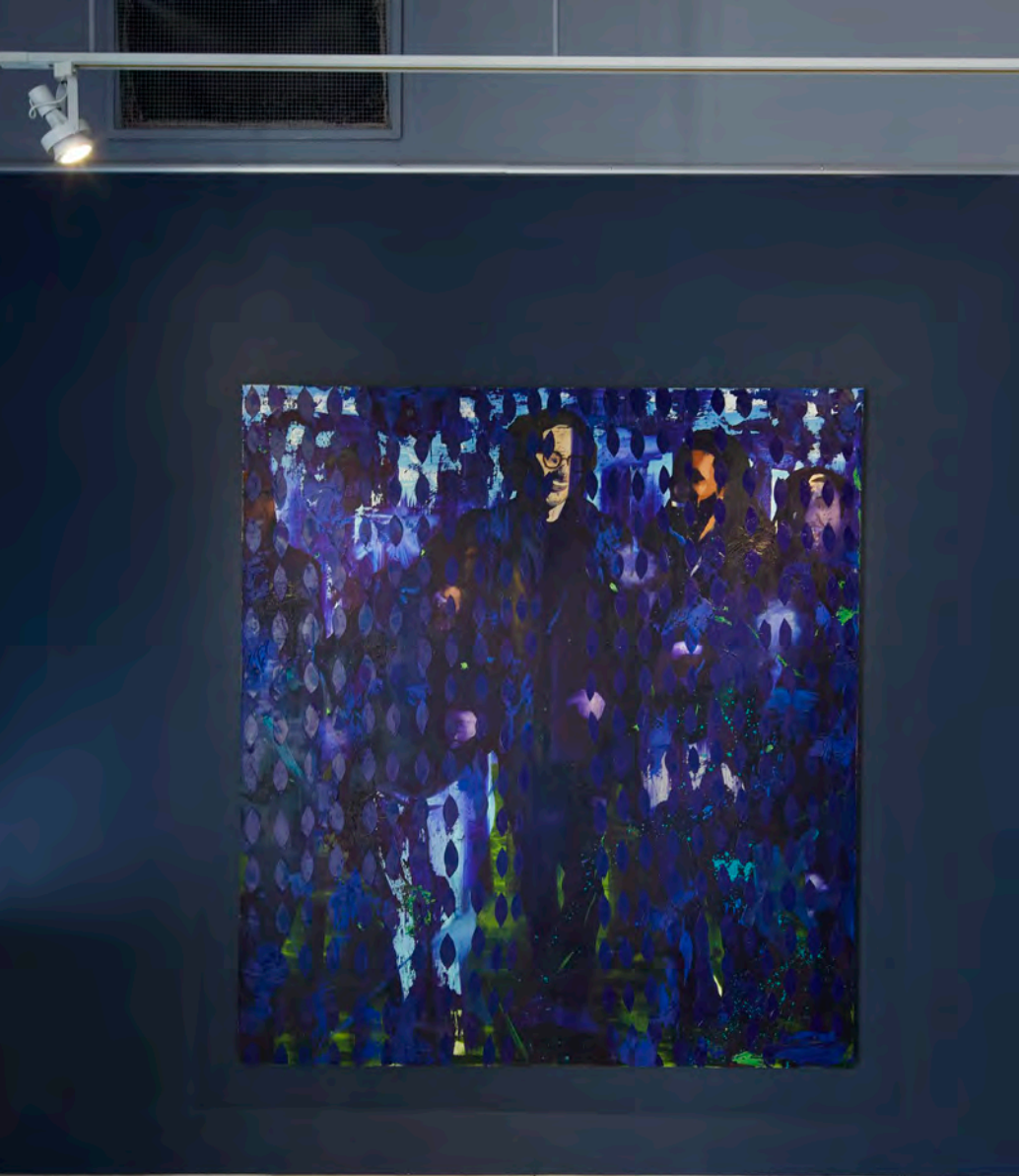


Photo credit: Luke Walter

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, *The Washington Post*



"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.

between a rock and a soft place

Mary B. Howard Invitational

Guest Curated by Deirdre Darden

December 10, 2022 – February 26, 2023

Bringing together the work of five contemporary artists, *between a rock and soft place* opened a conversation about negotiating societal structures that stand between the subject and a life of ease. Who gets rest and when? What is truly restorative? What permissions do we allow for ourselves to slow down, and how?

Guest curated by Deirdre Darden, *between a rock and a soft place* features new work by Holly Bass, Adjoa Burrowes, Deborah Grayson, Katie O'Keefe, and Britt Sankofa. The exhibition is the 2023 iteration of Tephra ICA's Mary B Howard Invitational, a biennial program which values exhibition-making as a collaborative and generative process while supporting the development and public presentation of innovative new work.



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art

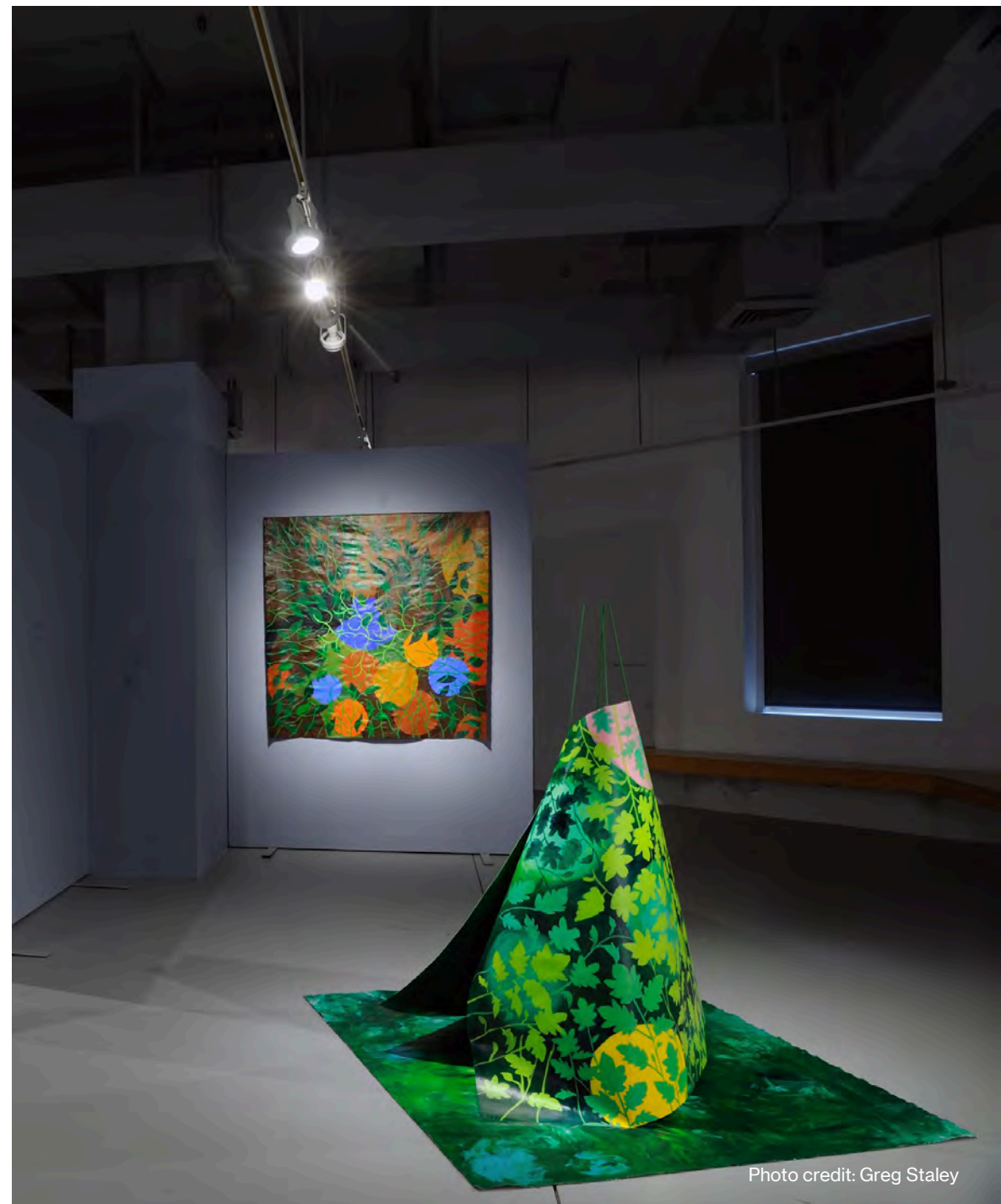


Photo credit: Greg Staley

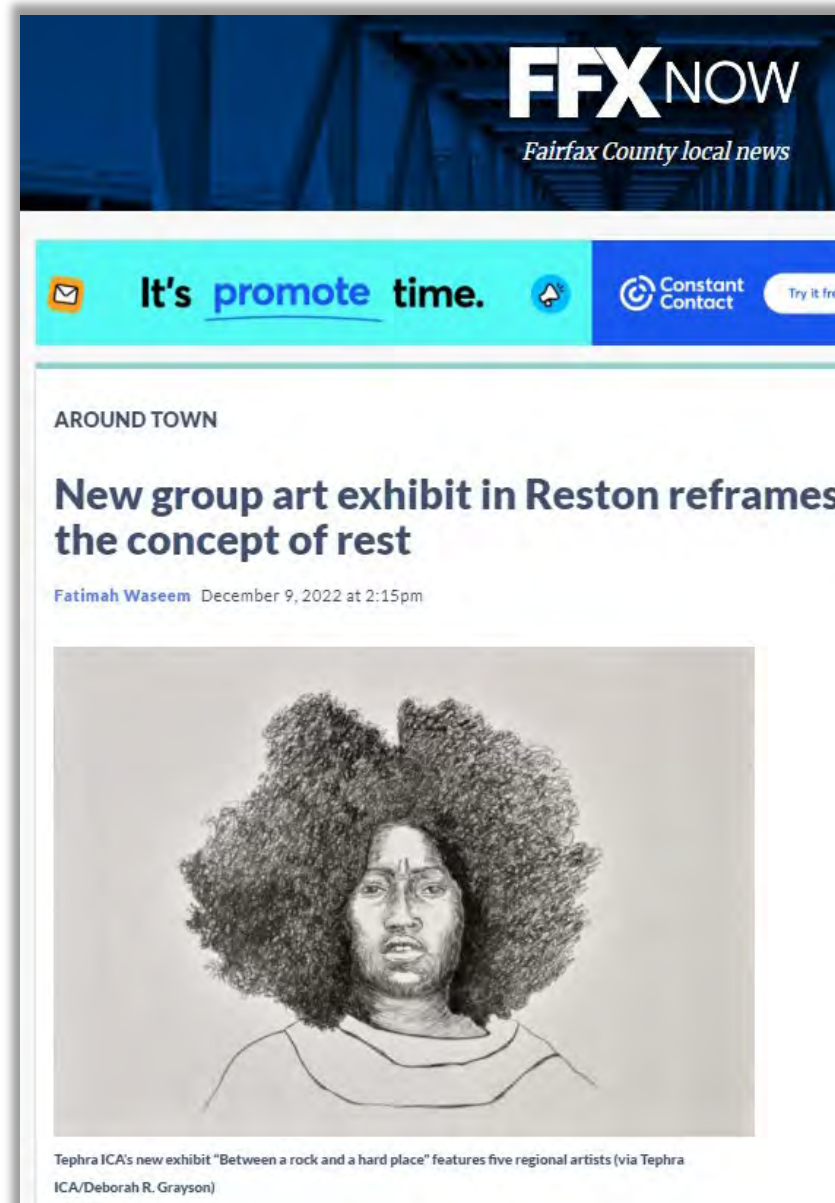


Media Coverage

between a rock and a soft place

"In the exhibit, five regional, contemporary artists — Holly Bass, Adjoa Burrowes, Deborah R. Grayson, Katie O'Keefe, and Britt Sankofa — reflect on the structures that stand between the subject and a life of ease, exploring topics such as who gets rest and when, what is restorative, and how do individuals allow themselves to slow down."

-Fatimah Waseem, *FFX Now*



The image is a screenshot of a news article from FFX Now, a Fairfax County local news outlet. The article is titled "New group art exhibit in Reston reframes the concept of rest" and is written by Fatimah Waseem, dated December 9, 2022, at 2:15pm. The article is categorized under "AROUND TOWN". Below the title is a large black and white photograph of a woman with a large, textured afro hairstyle. The article text is partially visible at the bottom, mentioning "Tephra ICA's new exhibit 'Between a rock and a hard place' features five regional artists (via Tephra ICA/Deborah R. Grayson)".


FFX NOW
Fairfax County local news

It's promote time. Constant Contact Try it free

AROUND TOWN

New group art exhibit in Reston reframes the concept of rest

Fatimah Waseem December 9, 2022 at 2:15pm



Tephra ICA's new exhibit "Between a rock and a hard place" features five regional artists (via Tephra ICA/Deborah R. Grayson)

Tephra ICA at Signature

An innovative satellite gallery space, located at the Signature apartment building in Reston, VA, presenting a year-round schedule of exhibitions featuring work by local and regional artists as selected by Tephra ICA curatorial staff.

Lead Community Sponsor



Provided in Partnership With



Forecast

November 3, 2022 – January 22, 2023

Forecast presented 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 Wrubican’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 Wrubican and Tephra ICA, the installation features an evolving cast of guest oracles and narratives.

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



THE PLAYFUL CITY LAB



Be
hold
Be
love
- Nicole Salimbene



Forecast

November 3, 2022 - January 22, 2023

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Remnants and Echoes

Hillary Waters Fayle

February 3 – June 18, 2023

Hillary Waters Fayle is most often recognized for her “Stitched Botanicals”, intricate embroidery on individual found leaves, and her “Portraits of Place”, for which she collects botanical samples from a particular location and creates large mandala-like arrangements of the leaves and petals. This exhibition, which includes examples from these two series, takes a broader view of the variety of modes of making that comprise her practice: cyanotypes, collage work, quilting, patterns cut into leaves, hand drawn quilt squares, composition studies sewn from fabric scraps, and more.

Through this survey of material processes, *Remnants and Echoes* traces the artist’s exploration of naturally occurring patterns and savors the revelatory potential of her deliberately slow pace.



Hillary Water Fayle, *Remnants VI*, 2022



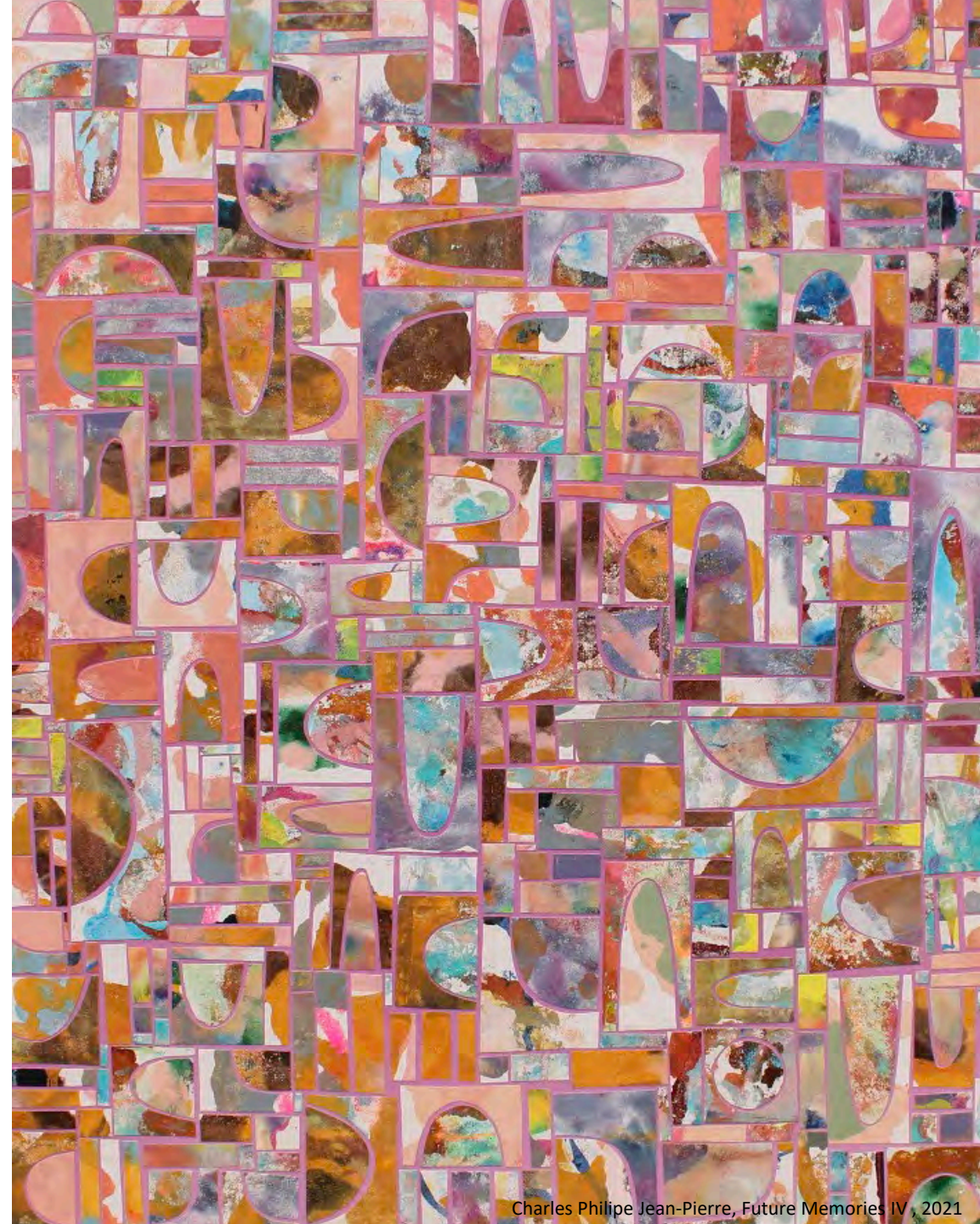
Flare

Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre

June 29 – October 15, 2023

Drawing on his Haitian heritage and his experiences as an immigrant child growing up on the Southside of Chicago, Jean-Pierre's work explores how memory, color, and light shape our historical and contemporary imaginations. His multimedia paintings speak to the nexus of political, social, and economic structures and are representative of the synergy, or lack thereof, between societal perceptions and reality.

The recent works selected for this exhibition radiate with reverence for the people, places, and objects through which the artist constructs his own worldview.





Media Coverage

Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre: Flare

"The exhibition shows us where Jean-Pierre has been with the exciting portraits and landscape paintings that beg for greater attention. The collage technique against the vibrant backgrounds of the portraits help to extend them from the canvas and animates the piece. His landscape paintings are not literal landscapes, but collaged grids abstractly suggesting a matrix of locations. From Jean-Pierre's oeuvre, we can see his proficiency with many techniques and his penchant for experimenting."

- Shantay Robinson, Washington City Paper

Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying an article on the Washington City Paper website. The page header includes the site logo, navigation menu, and social media icons. The article title is "Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre: An Artist on the Move" by Shantay Robinson, dated August 22nd, 2023. The main image is a collage artwork of a person's head and shoulders. To the right, there is a sidebar with a theater advertisement for "MACBETH IN STRIDE" and a newsletter sign-up section with checkboxes for "District Line Daily", "City Lights", and "Events".

Metopic Ridge

Eleanor Mahin Thorp

November 3, 2023 – February 4, 2024

Eleanor Thorp's painting takes us on an immersive site visit to examine the Blue Ridge Mountains, prompting explorations of stability and change, the seen and the hidden within rocks. Through her discerning gaze rocks are more than geological entities; Instead, they metamorphose into vessels of history and human connection. Drawing inspiration from the fascinating transformations depicted in Persian miniatures, Thorp traces the hidden figures and forms in the rocks. Her paintings reveal the duality of rocks' existence as both a firm witness to time and a medium for that which is intangible.

This exhibition is curated by Tephra ICA's 2023 Art Table Curatorial Fellow Sandy Cheng and presented in partnership with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Visual Arts Fellowship program.



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art



Eleanor Mahin Thorp, *Remnants of a Blue Ridge Basement*, 2023

Media Coverage

Tephra ICA at Signature

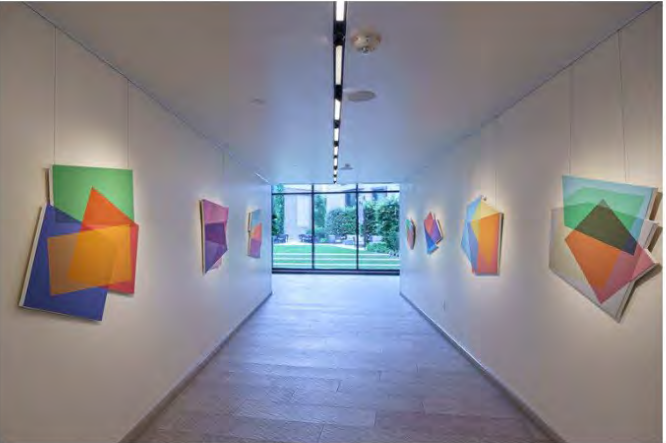
The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

ART

Your new favorite art gallery might be an apartment building lobby

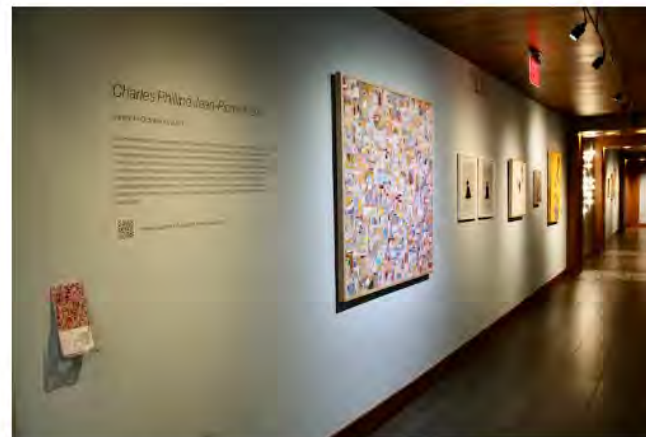
Two expressive painting shows hosted by apartment buildings reveal just how much color a gallery presentation can bring to residential living — and vice versa

Review by Kriston Capps
August 30, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. EDT



Installation view of "Chroma" at the Silva. (Albert Ting)

POSTAL EMPLOYEES get well rest



Installation view of "Flare: Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre" at Tephra ICA's satellite exhibition space at the Signature apartments in Reston. (Maxwell Curry)

The lobby-as-gallery approach is not reserved for hungry art dealers alone. The [Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art](#) — the arts nonprofit formerly known as the Greater Reston Arts Center, which does have a storefront space — has established a satellite location in an apartment complex in downtown Reston. At the [Signature](#), a 508-unit multiuse building on a block-sized development called Reston Town Center, artist Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre has mounted a show that rises above the building's many distractions.

"...So, it's unusual to walk into an apartment building with no other business than to indulge in one of its private assets. Yet a few D.C. area developments are now hosting art exhibitions, inviting anyone to come in and linger as they would in any gallery, and even to buy art. It's an alternative to the private gallery spaces whose numbers have steadily dwindled as prices for real estate have risen. And these multiunit buildings are showing art, not mere decor, or at least that's the pledge from the curators behind them...No one's going to mistake an apartment space for a white-cube gallery, but it offers a lot more to residents than a lot of concepts for amenities that go idle and gives something to the city to boot. Developers, take note."

- Kriston Capps, *The Washington Post*

Public Programs

Andrew Wasserman

Professorial Lecturer Department of Art, American University

Zoma Wallace

Independent curator, art writer, and President of Black Artists of DC

Pierre Edwards

Artist, Co-Founder Studio Sonic

Stephanie Grimm

Art & Art History Librarian, Fenwick Gallery Manager

Melani N. Douglass

Director of Public Programs, National Museum of Women in the Arts

Laura Roulet

Independent curator and writer

Rachel Debuque

Director of Undergraduate Studies at the School of Art and Design,
George Mason University

Maria Karametou

Director of Drawing Program, George Mason University

Justin Sutters

Director, Master of Arts in Education, George Mason University

Maleke Glee

Inaugural Director, STABLE

Molly Warnock

Art historian & critic

Naoco Wowsugi & Valerie Wiseman

Co-Founders, Very Sad Lab

Sreshta Premnath

Multidisciplinary Artist & Associate Professor of Art, Williams College

Additionally Presented

7 Artist Talks, Studio Visits at Howard University and American University, an Artist Workshop in partnership with the Embassy of Mexico / Mexican Cultural Institute, and 3 Family Day Programs

Tephra ICA Ambassadors

Individuals who have made exceptional and enduring contributions in support of Tephra ICA and its mission.

Previously Honored: Joan Kelly and Jim Cleveland

Thank You Maryam Ovissi

Our Third Tephra ICA Ambassador

Long-time supporter and advocate for the institution

Board Member for 12+ years, previously Board Vice Chair



50

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50th Anniversary Exhibitions

Hacia la Vida / Toward Life / *Choosing to Portage* / *SEED: SOLSTICE*

A series of three focused exhibitions exploring the anniversary-related themes Celebration, Legacy, and Future.

Hacia la Vida *Toward Life*

Hoesy Corona and Cog•nate Collective

March 11 – May 21, 2023

Hacia la Vida | Towards Life, featured the work of Baltimore-based interdisciplinary artist Hoesy Corona and the San Diego-based Cog•nate Collective (Amy Y. Sanchez and Misael Diaz). Together, the artists' work honors the position of the immigrant and serves as a reminder that the act of migration is deeply optimistic and full hope.

Hacia la Vida | Toward Life is the first of a series of three exhibitions marking the 50th anniversary of Tephra ICA. The exhibition highlights this important milestone in the institution's history through recurring themes of celebration – a celebration of life, the beauty and importance of interconnectedness, and the vibrancy and lushness experienced through color and flora. The exhibition was co-curated by Tephra ICA curatorial staff Jaynelle Hazard and Hannah Barco.





Photo credit: Greg Staley



Photo credit: Greg Staley



Photo credit: Sofia Blom

Choosing to Portage

Ashley M. Freeby, Noelle Garcia, Jeff Huckleberry,
Jackie Milad, and Michael Rakowitz

September 8 – November 18, 2023

Choosing to Portage brought together the work of five contemporary American artists, each operating with deep reverence for the embodied knowledge that is passed down through skilled making processes and culturally specific objects and materials. From distinctly different cultural backgrounds, they leverage making processes and materials specific to their own lives and cultural heritage to create complex and vital inquiries into the urgent topics of our time. The resulting artworks do not look inward at the identity of the artist, but rather demonstrate the relevance and impact of operating from a position of cultural specificity.

Choosing to Portage was curated by Associate Curator Hannah Barco and is the second of a series of three exhibitions marking the 50th anniversary of Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art (Tephra ICA). The exhibition highlights this important milestone in the institution's history by examining the theme of legacy.



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art



Jackie Milad, *Falla*, 2021
Photo credit: Vivian Doering



SEED

Kendall Buster

December 9, 2023 – February 25, 2024

SEED is a solo exhibition by sculptor Kendall Buster presented in conjunction with her solo presentation, *SOLSTICE*, concurrently on view at The Kreeger Museum in Washington, DC.

The growth of a seed suggests a benign intervention, a germination in which it blossoms from its origin and into a seedling – the beginning of what can be imagined. Trained as a microbiologist, Buster's work suggests ideas of budding, merging, and hybridization, using abstract forms and high-tech materials to create objects that expand what we know of natural and made environments. Her practice examines the microscopic and the monumental, from works that allude to intimate, botanical illustrations to architectural drawings to life-size biomorphic vessels. With the gallery assuming the role of a laboratory, Buster's work interrogates the edges of free expression and posits new ways of thinking about what can and cannot be expressed.



SOLSTICE

Kendall Buster

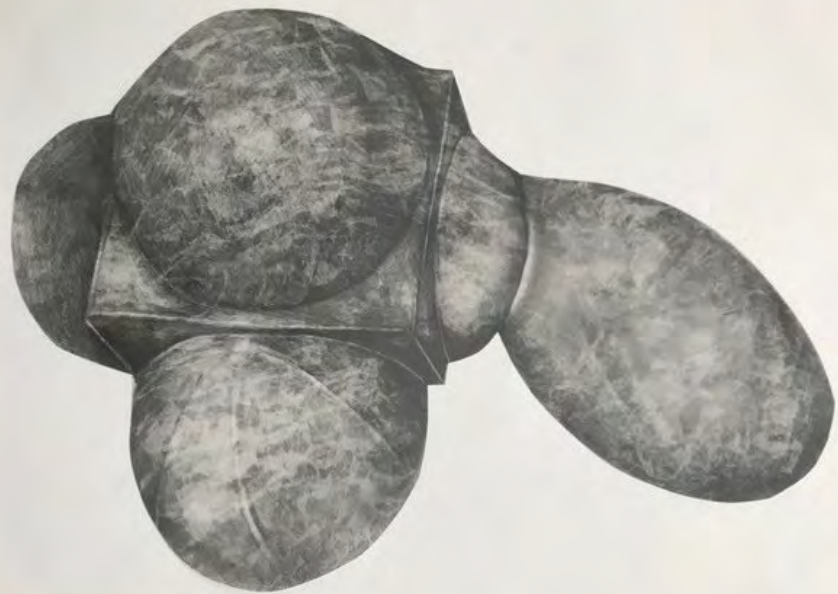
December 9, 2023 – February 25, 2024

SOLSTICE, on view at The Kreeger Museum in Washington, DC, features a single installation suggesting a sprawling landscape of brute forms, referencing both geometric abstraction and modernist architecture. For Buster, the work demonstrates an exploration into ways in which the monumental can be expressed through the miniature. In the exhibition, sunshine filters into the gallery, defining the works' whorls and chambers in an unpopulated cityscape that seems filled with talking shadows. Feeling nostalgic while simultaneously futuristic, there is a dialogue with nature and a negotiation of light in the space, providing a sense of strange wonderment.

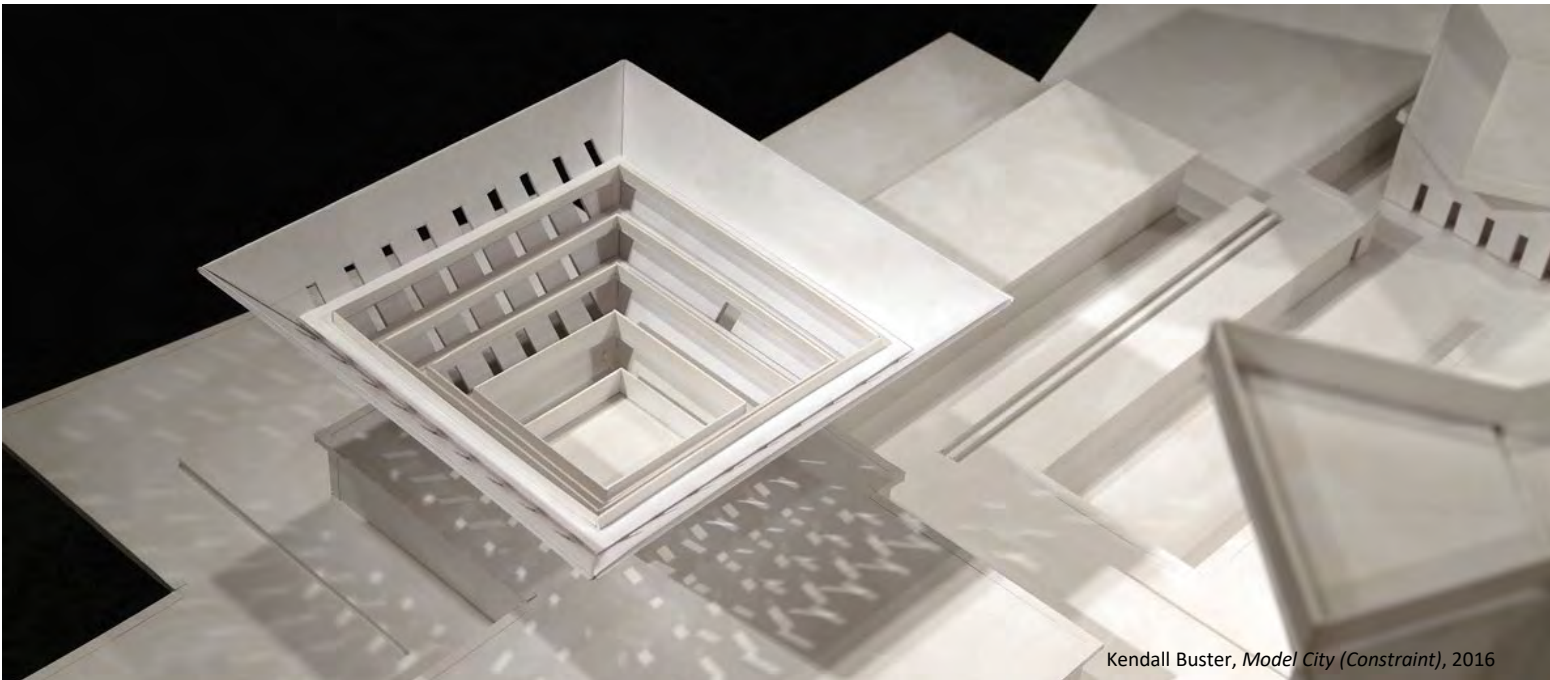
With the installation being perfectly white and its chalky, gouache matte material, the angled models made with cardboard and paper suggest observation towers, enclosures without exits, windows for hidden eyes, or coliseum-like pits. In alignment with Buster's practice, there is a push and pull of the interior and exterior, provoking the question of whether the viewer is looking in, looking out, looking up, looking down, or whether they are being looked at.

SEED and *SOLSTICE* are curated by Jaynelle Hazard and make up the third of a series of three exhibitions marking the 50th anniversary of Tephra ICA. The exhibition highlights this important milestone in the Institute's history by emphasizing the significance of place while examining themes of life, future, and innovation.





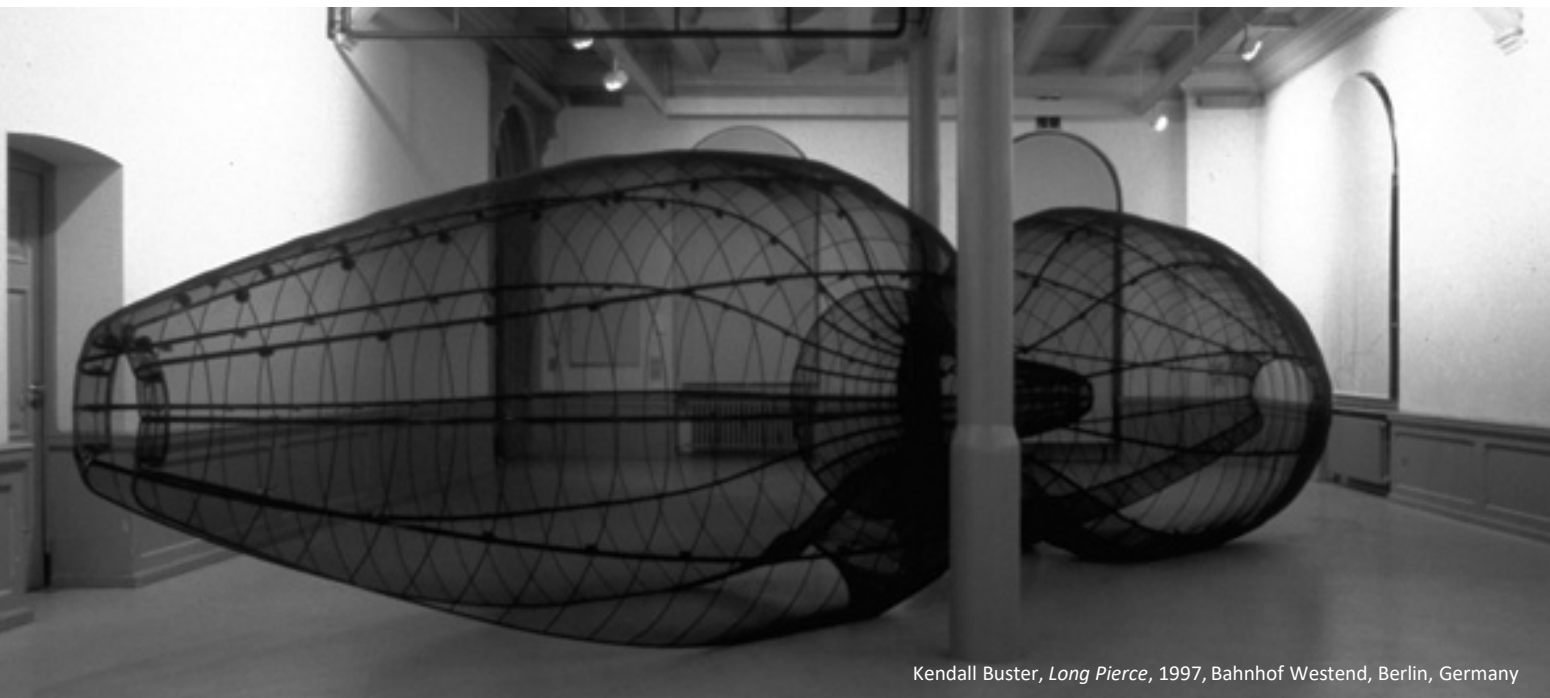
Kendall Buster, *New Growth: Biological Models for a New Architecture*



Kendall Buster, *Model City (Constraint)*, 2016



Kendall Buster, *Model City (Constraint)*, 2016



Kendall Buster, *Long Pierce*, 1997, Bahnhof Westend, Berlin, Germany



Beyond the Gallery

Special Events, Public Artwork, and More

Buoyant Force

Sue Wrubican

2020 – Ongoing

Buoyant Force is a 50-foot steel sculpture by Sue Wrubican 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 Wrubican'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 Wrubican to realize one of her structures at full-size in Reston Town Square Park.

The exhibition dates of *Buoyant Force* have been extended courtesy of RTCA. *Buoyant Force* will eventually be installed permanently at GMU.



architecture
incorporated





Taking place every third weekend in May, the 2023 the Tephra ICA Arts Festival (formerly titled the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival) brings more than 200 contemporary artists and artisans traveling from across the country to present original handmade artwork to share with Festival audiences.

Drawing upon a robust exhibitor and collector base coupled with Tephra ICA's contemporary art foundation, the Festival has become one of the region's most anticipated events, attracting tens of thousands of people to the unique, outdoor environment of Reston Town Center.

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Artists Awards Sponsor



Family Art Park Sponsor



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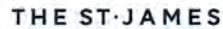
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Artist Block Sponsor



Event Sponsors



Festival Cocktail Hour Host





FAMILY ART PARK

SPONSORED BY  Microsoft





Lauchlan Davis, Neighborhood Pool, 2020

First time WMATA ad placement
With funding from Virginia Tourism Corporation

Full footprint of 208 artists
With many double booths and endcap rentals

Expanded the Make-a-day-of-it Saturday Schedule
Artist Award Ceremony sponsored and hosted by The Hyatt
Reston Town Center Association (RTCA) Concert in the Pavilion

New Family Art Park Sponsorship by Microsoft
With return to an in-person experience post-pandemic

37% of participating artists new to the Festival

1500 QR-code views of Digital Festival Guide



Photo credit: Craig Lawrence





Photo credit: Craig Lawrence

Hoesy Corona | *Hacia La Vida*

2023 Festival Performance Presented by Reston Community Center



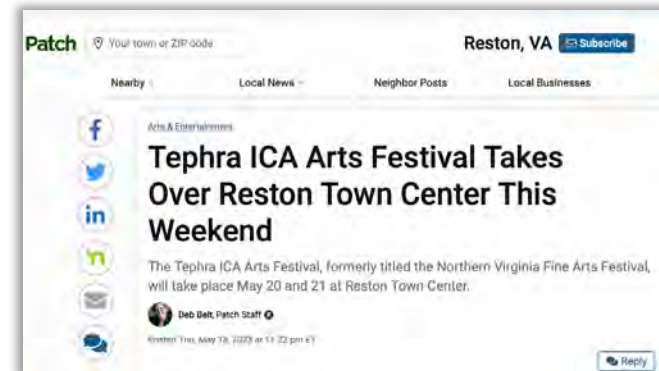
Photo credit: Craig Lawrence

Media Coverage

Tephra ICA Arts Festival

"The event — formerly known as the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival — brings together more than 200 contemporary artists and artisans from around the country to present artwork in front of audiences. This year, more than 200 artists from 32 states across the U.S. and Canada will take part in the event."

- FFX Now



The Alloy Project

Tephra ICA Annual Benefit & Cocktail Event

September 30, 2023

The Alloy Project, Tephra ICA's Annual Benefit, is a 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 2023, The Alloy Project invited three 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.



Caitlin Teal Price & Mars Ibarreche



Sandy Williams IV & Mariana Parisca



Emon Surakitkoson & Katie Pumphrey

The Alloy Project

Tephra ICA Benefit & Cocktail Event

Throughout the day, visitors could view the *Choosing to Portage* 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 attend a VMFA lecture at the Tephra ICA gallery.

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 Sandrine Schafer and Jeremy R. Brookes, this event was one of our most vibrant nights of the year. Paella and hors d'oeuvres by Barcelona Wine Bar and live music by DJ Oz.

Generous Support for The Alloy Project Provided By

Cochairs

Joanne and David Bauer
Ila and Reggie Forster

Host Committee

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Adjoa Burrowes
Irene Clouthier
Kim D. Denver
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Investing in the Next Generation

Youth Programs & Initiatives

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 affected participation rates for the 2021-2022 program and 2022-23 program. The program has returned to already 9+ schools in 2023-24, and growing.

2022-23

Dominic Chambers: What Makes the Earth Shake



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

2023-24

Choosing to Portage

Ashley M. Freeby, Noelle Garcia, Jeff Huckleberry, Jackie Milad, and Michael Rakowitz



Jackie Milad, *No Hay, No Hay*, 2021

Explore More

Explore More returned to an in-person format in our remodeled education center. This in-gallery, self-guided program is intergenerational and encourages close looking, art making, and discussion.

Explore More Home Edition is still available virtually via the Tephra ICA website. This program continues to grant kids and families the ability to explore contemporary art from the comfort of their home.

Explore More is free for Tephra ICA members and \$5 for non-members. Explore More Home Edition is free and open to the public.



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.

The 2023 Summer Art Camp introduced new camp themes: Pictures & Stories, What a Colorful World, and Playful Spaces. The super creative 6–12-year-olds explored everything from how pictures tell stories, to mixing their own paint palettes, to building large-scale installation art!

The 2023 Summer Art Camp empathized environmentally sustainable materials and worked with the Walker Nature Center to gather these materials.

Provided to parents and our stakeholders a first-time Summer Art Camp report.



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, George Mason University, The Kreeger Museum, Virginia Commonwealth University, and more.





Looking Ahead

Exhibitions & Programs

Pressing

Rena Detrixhe and Katherine Tzu-Lan Mann

Celebrating Earth Day

March 16 - May 19, 2024

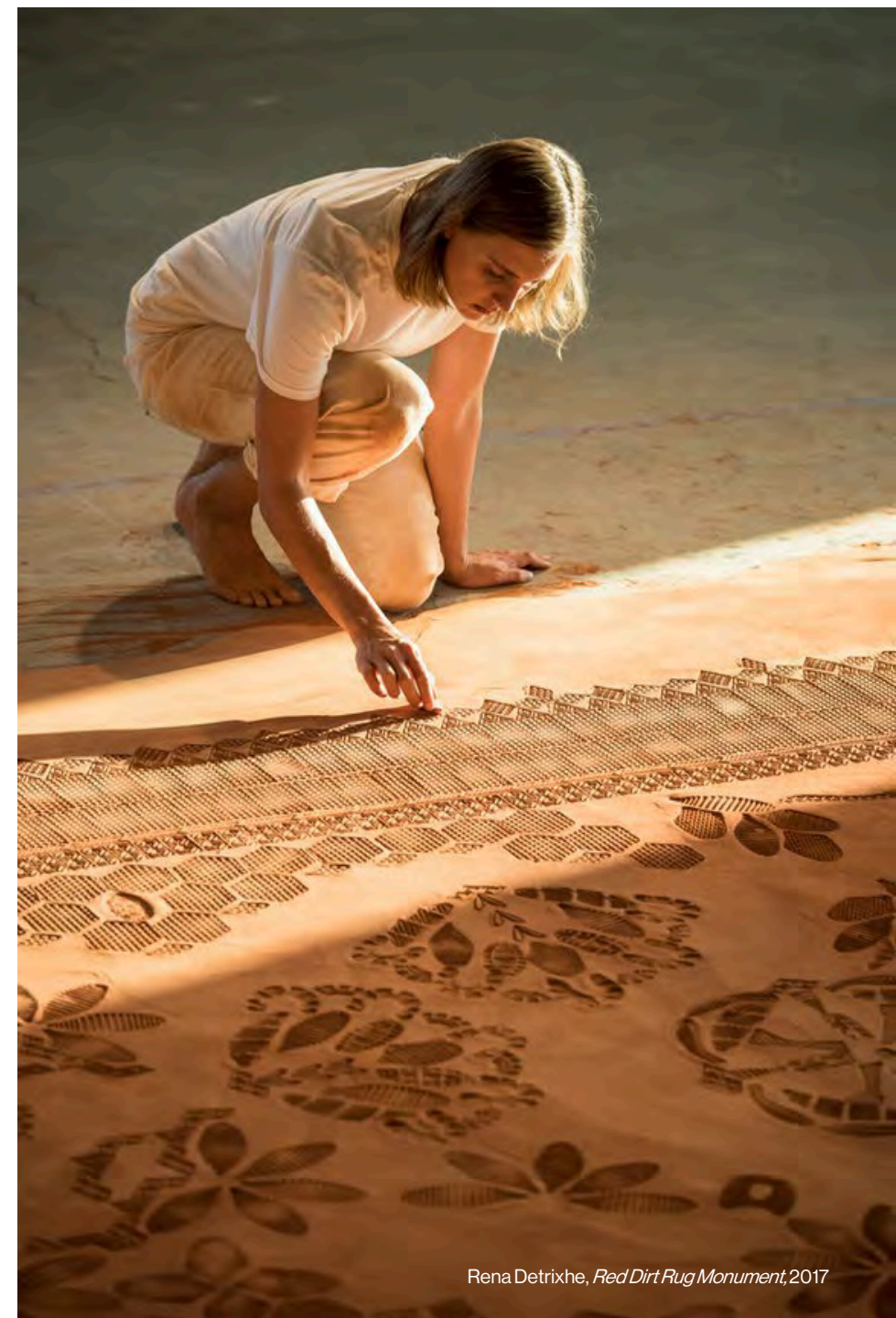
Pressing features new work by Kansas-based installation artist Rena Detrixhe and Washington, DC-based painter Katherine Tzu-Lan Mann, inviting audiences to simultaneously revel in the beauty of the natural world while considering the complexities of human history in relationship to the land.

At a moment when much of the social discourse around climate change is politicized, reactionary, and focused on increasingly concerning storms, sea levels, fires, and heatwaves, Detrixhe and Tzu-Lan Mann create intricate and meditative works that reinsert slowness and contemplation back into the conversation about human impact on the environment. While the exhibition title points to the urgent need to address environmental preservation and climate change, it also refers to the gesture of a hand, an intimate touch, that as exemplified by these artists can have great significance.

The *Pressing* exhibition will be presented in conjunction with the first annual Earth Day Celebration in Reston Town Center in partnership with Reston Town Center Association.



Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art



Rena Detrixhe, *Red Dirt Rug Monument*, 2017

... three kings weep ...

Ebony Patterson

September 21 - November 16, 2024

Experience the visuals, sound, and emotion in a large-scale video installation created by Jamaican-born artist Ebony Patterson. Shown slowly in reverse, Patterson's film portrays a trilogy of three men, each on a separate screen, dressing themselves while tears quietly roll down their cheeks. Like the triptych paintings often found on the altar pieces at the front of churches built during the Renaissance, these figures occupy a chapel-like space where viewers can sit and contemplate their presence.

The voice of a young boy reading the poem "If We Must Die," by Jamaican-born Harlem Renaissance poet Claude McKay, frames the scene. McKay wrote his poem, published in 1919, following weeks of race riots dubbed "the Red Summer," in which hundreds of African Americans were killed during attacks on Black communities in several cities across America. One hundred years later, Patterson reiterates McKay's words as a soundtrack to her visually arresting work, exposing the continued vulnerability of Black bodies in our present society.



Tephra ICA Arts Festival May 18–19, 2024

2024 Tephra ICA Arts
Festival Performance

Danielle Hatch

Presented in partnership with
Reston Community Center



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, 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 10 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. 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 are represented in this series of portraits is Nakadate's matriline or "mother line".

In the series, The Kingdom photographs depict Nakadate's father and her mother 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 direction to put the baby in the grandmother is being shown together for the first time.

A concurrent exhibition, MOTHER, is on view at Mason Exhibit Hall, March 2022. This is the third iteration of the group exhibition which was first shown at Leslie Tonkonow Artworks+Project. MOTHER explores the idea of motherhood from a diversity of perspectives.

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

*Thank you, Jaynelle, Hannah, and the Tephra team, for your generous care in devising the exhibition **Hacia La Vida | Toward Life**. Your attention to detail was apparent in the final exhibition, performance, and catalogue. Because of your amazing curation I was able to secure gallery representation with **RoFa Gallery** and will be debuting with the gallery at **SWAB Barcelona Art Fair** in the fall! It was a pleasure to be a part of Tephra's 50th anniversary and I look forward to 50 more! Please know that the work you are doing reverberates across the DMV and beyond! Thank you.*

– Hoesy Corona, Featured Artist in *Hacia la Vida | Toward Life* exhibition and 2023 Festival Performance Presenter

"I can see Arabic writing in this sculpture and Arabic is part of my culture!"

– Participating 3rd grade student as part of the 2023-24 Emerging Visions program in response to the *Choosing to Portage* exhibition

[T]hank you for all of the time, care and thought you put into the curation of my work. The exhibition looked outstanding! Truly, I was so proud to see my work exhibited at Tephra. The energy that flowed through the space the evening of my talk was exhilarating. I cannot adequately express how wonderful I feel. Thank you for coordinating with AU & Howard; speaking with their students was a major highlight for me. Again, thank you so much!

– Dominic Chambers, *What Makes the Earth Shake*

Tephra ICA has been instrumental in developing my career as an artist and educator. The projects connected to Buoyant Force with the community of DMV artists have created new connections between these artists and have had an effect of what Donna Haraway might call "tentacular." – Sue Wrbican

– Sue Wrbican, *Forecast*

The curatorial work of the exhibition was incredible. It was very good to see my work in the context of the other artists in the show. Hannah's writing in the (gorgeous) catalogue not only was impressive to read, but opened up some ideas for me in the studio.

– Jackie Milad, *Choosing to Portage*

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Anniversary Publication

Thank you to Janet Rems for essay and research contributions

Tephra ICA at 50 Capital Campaign

Thank you to Ricki Marion for consulting on fundraising strategy

The 2024 Alloy Project Benefit & Gala

Interested in becoming a Cochair, Host Committee member, or Sponsor?

Contact pavery@tephraica.org



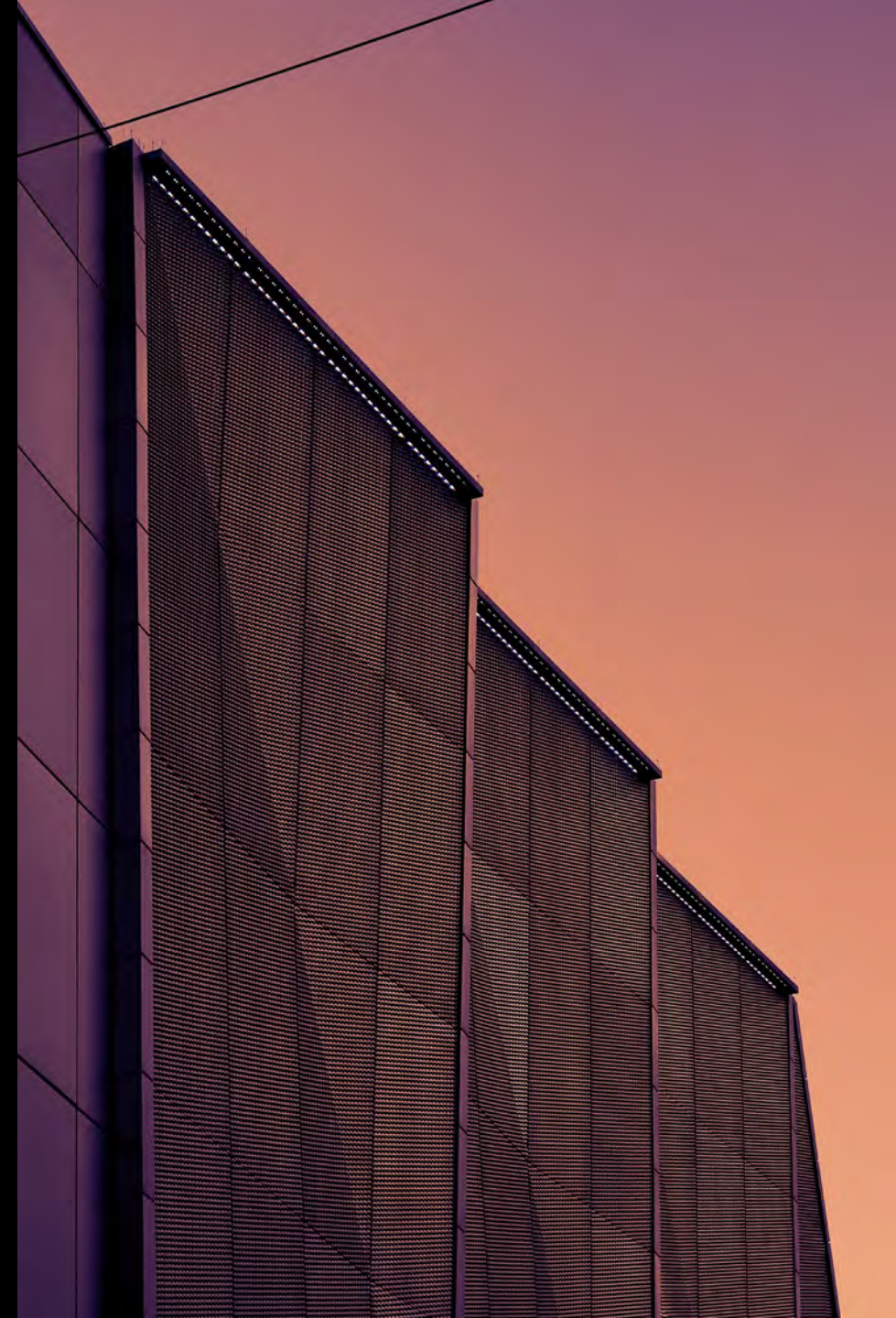
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Our Path into the Next 50 Years

In the Tephra ICA at 50 Capital Campaign, there are three key areas of investment that will enable us to continue to build on the tremendous momentum we have created during this past decade of evolution and growth: current infrastructure, future facility planning, and a seed fund for **our next home.**





A Special Gift

From Robert and Theresa Goudie

Robert and Theresa Goudie generously announce that they will match the first \$50,000 in combined individual donations made over the course of the ongoing 2023-2024 Tephra ICA at 50 Capital Campaign.

“Robert has brought impactful leadership to the board and the institution over the last decade, and he and Theresa have been invaluable champions of Tephra ICA. We’re so grateful to have their support and friendship in launching our next chapter and helping the institution go beyond.” – Jaynelle Hazard, Tephra ICA Executive Director

More information about how to [donate](#), the journey of Tephra ICA, the capital campaign, and donation benefits can be found [here](#).



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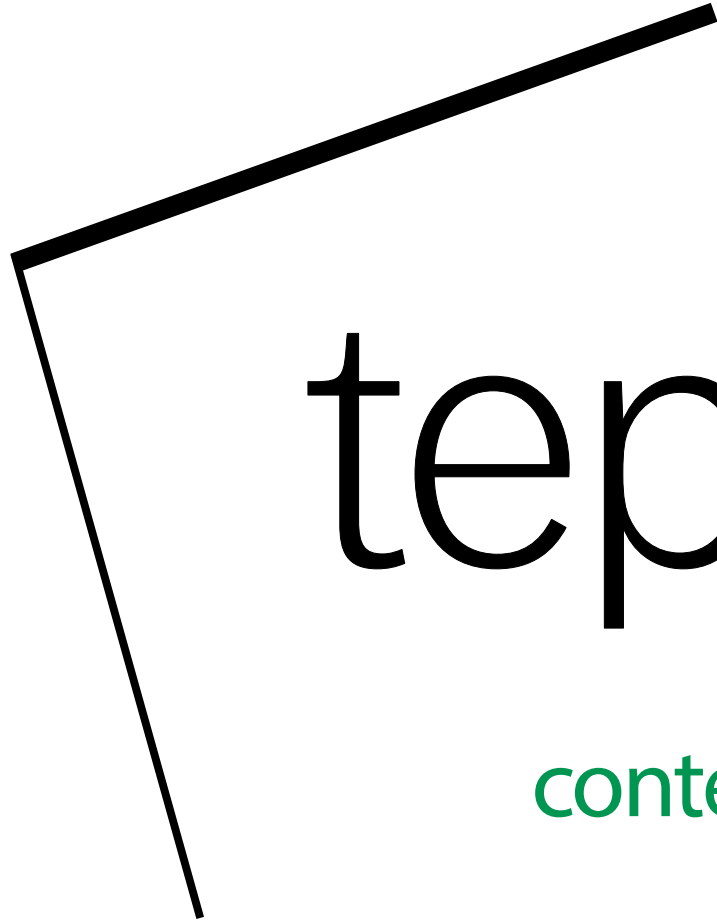
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