

Related Events

Solid Gold Saturday

Saturday, September 15, 1PM- 5PM
Kanter McCormick + Creative Wing + Parking Lot/Plaza
An afternoon of free-art making activities, performances, food and fun.

Public Critique with Center Program Artists, 2nd floor | 1:00 - 3:00PM

Cabin Fever: More than a trace | 3:30 - 4:30PM

Artistic Director Elana Jacobs and dancers Emily Craver and Aaron Raheim White will develop 19 tiny movement phrases, dedicated to each of the artists in *The Art of Being Dangerous*.

Artful Aging Workshop

Monday, October 15, 11AM - 1PM

Mueller Meeting Room

Artist Jasper Goodrich leads a free workshop for seniors on drawing techniques and building thoughtful compositions through charting memories.

CHICAGO ART: EXPANDED. ENCOURAGED. EXPLORED

A series of Thursday evening programs highlighting the emerging thoughts & concerns of artists in the current exhibitions. Evenings feature dialogues & new performance works.

Access and Inclusion for Artists with Disabilities

Thursday, October 11, 6 PM - 8PM

TBD moderated by Pooja Pittie.

Performances by Liz McCarthy (Gallery 1) and Betsy Johnson (Gallery 1).

Art & Core

Thursday, October 18, 6PM - 8PM

Pond + Gallery 1

Performance by Maryam Taghavi (Gallery 1)

Bring your yoga mats and journals for this free pilates and writing hour-long workshop.

Distance Between Words: Conversations About Culture, Language, Family

Thursday, October 25, 6PM - 8PM

Pond + Gallery 1

Performances by Max Guy, Justin Nalley & AJ McClenon

Speakers include Ashley Freeby, Kandis Friesen, Maryam Taghavi, moderated by Ishita Dharap

Ground Floor Catalog Release Party & De-Colonizing Art Criticism Dialogue

Thursday, November 8, 5:30PM - 8PM

MMR + Gallery 1

The artworks on view are available for purchase through Hyde Park Art Center. Pricelists are located in a binder at the front desk. If interested, contact exhibitions@hydeparkart.org.

The Center Program is partially supported by:



Hyde Park **ARTCENTER**

5020 South Cornell Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60615 773.324.5520 www.hydeparkart.org. Hyde Park Art Center is a unique resource that advances contemporary visual art in Chicago by connecting artists and communities in unexpected ways. The Art Center is funded in part by the: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; Field Foundation of Illinois; Harpo Foundation; Harper Court Arts Council; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Irving Harris Foundation; The Joyce Foundation; Leo S. Guthman Fund; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; Polk Bros. Foundation; Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust; and the generosity of people like you.

Ground Floor

Gallery 1, 2 & Cleve E. Carney Gallery
Septmeber 9 - November 11, 2018



Jessica Sladek, *Ravine*, 2017, Archival Inkjet Print, 40 x 88 inches

Ground Floor 2018 Artists:

Mark Blanchard
School of the Art Institute, 2017

Madeleine Finley
School of the Art Institute, 2018

Mina Fitzpatrick
Northwestern University, 2017

Ashley M. Freeby
School of the Art Institute, 2018

Kandis Friesen
Northwestern University, 2018

Jasper Goodrich
School of the Art Institute, 2018

Ben Harle
School of the Art Institute, 2018

Betsy Johnson
University of Illinois-Chicago, 2018

Melissa Leandro
School of the Art Institute, 2017

Frances Lee
University of Chicago, 2018

Kat Liu
Columbia College Chicago, 2018

Liz McCarthy
University of Illinois-Chicago, 2017

Carissa Meier
Columbia College Chicago, 2017

Roni Packer
University of Illinois-Chicago, 2017

Joseriberto Perez
School of the Art Institute, 2017

Jessica Sladek
Columbia College Chicago, 2017

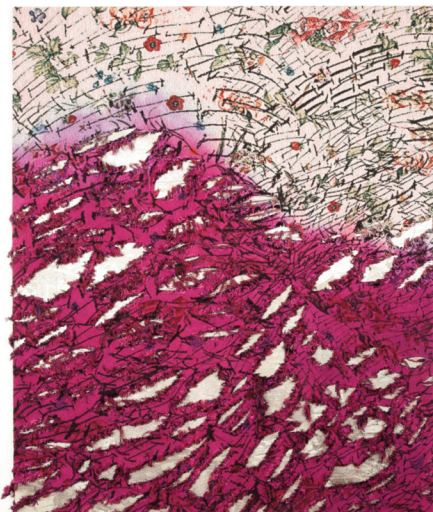
Maryam Taghavi
School of the Art Institute, 2017

Shanna Zentner
University of Chicago, 2017

Zespo
University of Chicago, 2018

FeiFan Zhang
Columbia College Chicago, 2018





Melissa Leandro, *Jardin, Abbreviated*, 2018, Woven cloth, dye, foil, polyester, 58 x 48 inches, Courtesy of the artist and Andrew Rafacz Gallery

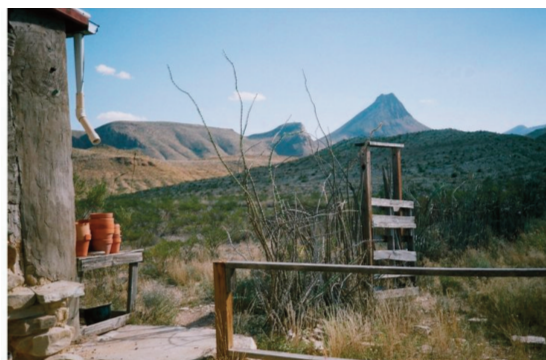
Politics have always been a spectacle, but since 2016 they have turned into literal episodes of reality television—like the time Kim Kardashian met with Trump to discuss criminal justice reform. The tense political climate in the United States, resulting from an administration that literally oppresses people of color and immigrants, through policy, trickles into our daily experience where people are shouting at each other online and participating deeper and deeper into tribalism, both liberal and conservative. We are in an urgent moment where taking action and pragmatism are required to make change. Yet, we feel helpless and futile because opposing forces and systems seem insurmountable. This frustration has shifted into an over assertion of opinions and political claims, where our relationships with each other, the truth, and criticality, are deteriorating over insignificant things.

The artists in *Ground Floor 2018* emerge from this tense and absurd moment, offering us much-needed spaces

for nuance and complexity. Through intellectual, emotional, and physical labor, they deconstruct ideas, questions, histories, text, and material, situating the viewer within a space of processing and introspection. There are endless combinations for demonstrating how these artists are in conversation with one another, so I hope you consider establishing new relationships and conversations as you experience the work. Each artist requires you to think through a piece—to dismantle and rebuild with them. Their works demand our attention, as the artists ask us to slow down, and approach every image and object with a fierce criticality. In this, they present us with an antidote to spectacle and to the hopelessness: a deep rigorous engagement with the gray areas we currently face as a society.

—excerpt from “Making the Case for Nuance” Ground Floor 2018 catalogue essay
by Lynnette Miranda*

Every other year when Hyde Park Art Center hosts the exhibition *Ground Floor*, all of the emerging artists in the show receive nomination by leaders from the Chicago arts community, with final selections decided by an Exhibitions Committee. The 2017-2018 committee is comprised of Dawoud Bey as chair, and members Zachary Jack Buchner, Tempestt Hazel, Lauren Leving, Dawit Petros, Lorelei Stewart, Scott Wolniak, and the Director of Exhibitions & Residencies here at the Art Center, Allison Peters Quinn. For this



Mina Fitzpatrick, *WANDERVOGEL*, 2017, digital video and 16 mm film, 20 min.

fifth year of the exhibition, the ambition of *Ground Floor* as an opportunity remains the same: to provide these twenty young artists a public venue in which to display their work at a critical beginning and ascent of their careers. This year in particular, we witness in the artists a desire to rebuild themselves, and through their vision and work, to influence and rebuild society.

The selected *Ground Floor* artists are graduates from Chicago's top-ranked Master of Fine Art programs: Columbia College Chicago, Northwestern University, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, The University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Chicago, from the classes of 2017 and 2018. Thus, *Ground Floor* is a unique exhibition and project in that it presents a vantage into the pedagogical models and experimental freedoms that have come to define arts education cross-institutionally in this city. Beyond functioning as distinct spaces and identities, Chicago arts is at its best one whole community. MFA graduates join this body in full once the intense period of formal education concludes and changes, each person more than prepared to contribute to the creative scene of a new hometown. Symbolically, the artists announce this by showing as a group.

In themes among their individual practices, several of the artists in this year's *Ground Floor* bring into question what it means to inhabit a national heritage as part of “home”—whether in a terrestrial sense, ethno-culturally, or in memory alone—and through sensorial texture, vibrant pattern, and unexpected materialities. Further, many of the artists experiment with the legibility of visual image as well written language. They create systems and tell stories of self and the universe—through configuration, repetition, movement, and color. At moments, they attack back through humor, and hold their public accountable to tragedy.

This group defies archetype. They value ancestry as well as future. They see land with the same enthusiasm as they see stars. These artists exclaim who we are as a Chicago arts community, presented across 6,000 square feet and the entire first-level of the Art Center.

Asha Iman Veal
Exhibition & Residency Coordinator



Roni Packer, *Pleasing (Bright Pink)*, 2016
Oil and mixed media on wood,
23 x 23 inches, Courtesy of Scott J Hunter

*The full *Ground Floor 2018* catalog, written by Lynnette Miranda, will be available in November 2018.