

UT '22 STATEWIDE ANNUAL

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PAINTING SCULPTURE INSTALLATION

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Ogden Contemporary Arts // 455 25th St /
Ogden / Utah

artsandmuseums.utah.gov/state-wide-annual
ogdencontemporaryarts.org

PAINTING SCULPTURE INSTALLATION



Nancy Rivera
Visual Arts Coordinator

The Statewide Annual Exhibition, presented by the Utah Division of Arts & Museums, is an annual, juried exhibition of current, outstanding visual art by Utah-based artists. The 2022 edition features 20 artists at various stages of their careers working in the mediums of painting, sculpture, and installation.

Ogden Contemporary Arts located in the historic Monarch building in downtown Ogden welcomed us into their space to host this year's juried exhibition. Their versatile art center perfectly showcases the dynamic array of artwork featured in this group exhibition. Included among the 28 artworks is a site-specific installation and engineering feat by artist Stephanie Leitch, large-scale paintings by artists Cody Chamberlain and Alexis Rausch that create an immersive experience, and delicate paper and textile works by Adah Bennion, Sara Luna, and Laura Sharp Wilson that blur the line between 2-D and 3-D works. Conceptually, the exhibition's artists explore themes related to the environment, immigration, identity, and the body which are themes that resonate on a local and global level.

PAINTING SCULPTURE INSTALLATION

The artwork selection process was led by our two guest jurors, multi-disciplinary artist Anna Valdez from Los Angeles, California, and visual artist Ya La'Ford from the Bronx, New York, who together reviewed over 400 individual artworks submitted by nearly 250 artists from around the state. Valdez and La'Ford's jury process was meticulous and thoughtful and I thank them for the enthusiasm and collaborative spirit they brought to this project. It's always a welcome surprise when two jurors find the type of synergy that Valdez and Ya'LaFord so easily embraced.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to the artists who engaged in our call for entries. It is truly an honor for our staff and our guest jurors to review your submissions — your proactive spirit is what allows us to discover new and innovative practices in contemporary and traditional art that can be found in our state. We have a deep respect for you and your practice and are deeply grateful for your unwavering commitment.

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JURORS



Ya La’Ford
Artist • Bronx, New York

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I would like to thank Nancy Rivera, Visual Arts Coordinator for the Utah Division of Arts & Museums for inviting me to serve as a juror for the esteemed Statewide Annual Exhibition. This juried exhibition found its genesis in 1899 and serves as a beacon of inspiration within the Utah

visual art eco-system, highlighting the best emerging and professional artists in the great state of Utah. I was also delighted to share the

selection duties with fellow juror, Anna Valdez, through an enriching experience intended to examine and survey such a dynamic range of works expressed through painting, sculpture, and installation. Each of the submissions presented a high degree of creativity, ingenuity, and artistry which made the selection process both challenging and difficult. Art is a universal language and applied through its diverse and complex mediums, can offer a common bond that serves the function of creating new knowledge as a means to observe our ever-evolving relationship to each other and the natural world. It was exciting to see such transformational works provide a new lens to observe the environment, the human journey and experiences aimed to evaluate the past, present, and promising future possibilities in such a visually arresting way. While there was such a good cadre of artists' submissions, I decided to delve deeper into artists who were moving their craft forward in both unique and distinct ways. Thus, many of the works met this standard through both masterful technique, vision, and function. Congratulations to all of the

artists who submitted works to the Statewide Annual Exhibition. Your contributions to this effort add new dimensions of debate, consensus, vibrancy and distinctiveness to both local boundaries and the world beyond.

JURORS



Anna Valdez
Artist • Los Angeles, CA

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Serving as a juror for Utah's Statewide Annual Exhibition was an exciting and illuminating experience. It was a pleasure to work with co-juror, Ya La'Ford, during the selection process, as we both responded to similar themes that were prevalent in this year's submissions. Many of the works we juried in this exhibition merged themes of the body and its relationship to the environment and time. Observing this common thread throughout artists' submissions echoes the presence and power of

a landscape, both environmentally and politically, and its impact on the collective mind.

Gravity and scale are also common themes examined in a variety of installations that were selected. Stephanie Leitch's installation, Milk Field, explores a synthetic reference to natural elements found in caves that move and solidify over time. Using suspension rods and glue, Leitch conjures a connection to the experience of isolation, allowing time to move both slowly and quickly all at once. The abstracted body is beautifully demonstrated in Nakita Shelley's soft sculpture drip installation, Remain, which the artist states is a reference to the body during quarantine.

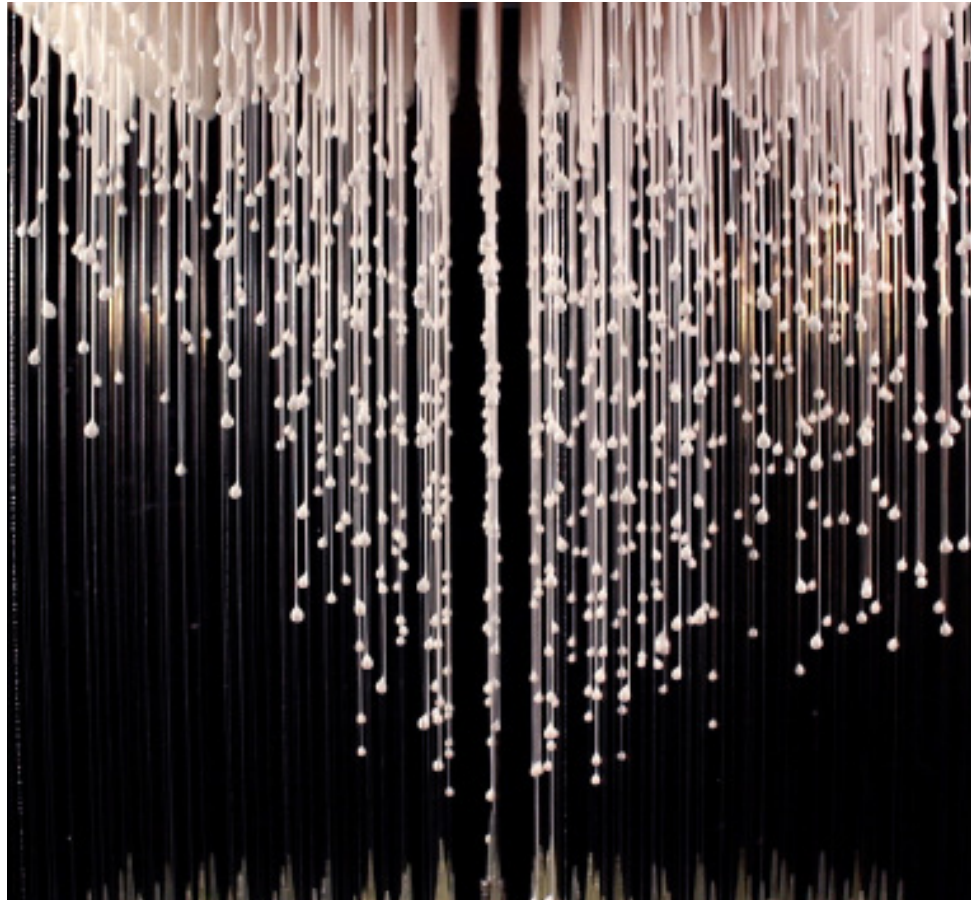
Ron Lin's Folded Earth, Christopher Kanyusik's Proxy, and Shasta Krueger's Wall Composition #20: Trillium, all refer candidly to the earth as both a subject or material. Using stones taken from the land and placed in a soft color gradient, Folded Earth, samples the rich hues of Utah's landscape. Proxy, uses stones and cast plaster in a small but thoughtful piece that orients the natural with the man-made, which can be read as an allegory

of mending land. Wall Composition #20: Trillium is an installation of repeating stoneware aligned in a uniform, vertical rhythm that illuminates the strong history and presence of ceramics in the South West, as well as material and pattern exploration.

We are asked to think about the history of land through Cody Chamberlain's large-scale painting, Procession, consisting of petroglyphs that highlight the presence and history of Utah's Indigenous peoples. Douglas Tolman's Last Gesture begs us to seek alternatives to negative land use practices that are causing irreparable damage. Rocio Vasquez Cisneros' Mis Raíces is an embroidery installation telling a poetic journey of generational migration, sacrifice, gratitude, and ancestral land. This powerful observance—woven into pillows aligned neatly on a bright-pink fabric, featuring Indigenous patterns—conjures the experience and trauma of laws bestowed upon individuals and fabricated through arbitrary lines, such as political borders. Horacio Rodriguez's Bad Hombre is a ceramic sculpture of an Olmec head whose graffiti evokes

**Stephanie Leitch BEST
IN SHOW**

Milk Field
Suspended installation with acrylic, steel, test tubes, pipette tips, fender washers, brass



Adah Bennion

Returning Star
Repurposed plastic "Thank you" bags, thread
2022



Cody Chamberlain JURORS' AWARD

Procession
Oil on linen stretched over
aluminum
2020



Cody Chamberlain

Juniper Sky
Oil on linen stretched over
aluminum
2020



Rachel Henriksen JURORS' AWARD

Sight Unseen
Acrylic on wood on foam panels



Christopher Kanyusik

Separate/Together
2021



Christopher Kanyusik

Proxy
Stone, cast plaster
2021



Shasta Krueger

Wall Composition #20: Trillium
Woodfired stoneware
2021



Shasta Krueger

Maroon and Black Vase
Woodfired stoneware
2020



Cyan Larson

Mind Block
Concrete
2020



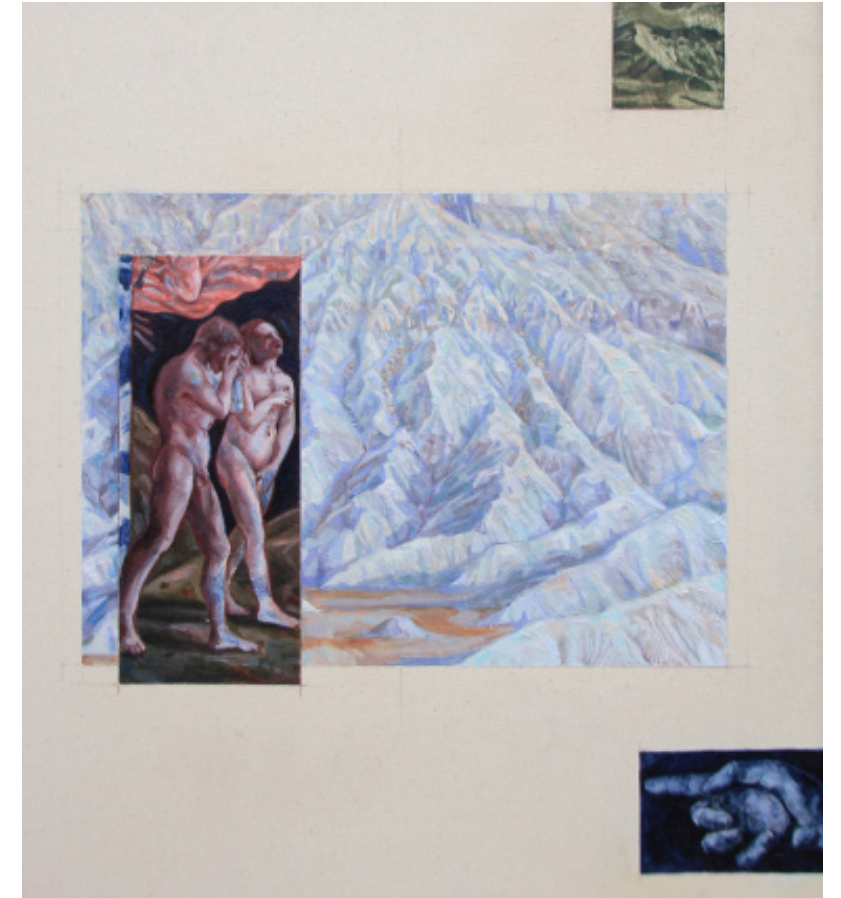
**Ron Linn HONORABLE
MENTION**

Folded Earth
Oil on canvas, found stones
2022



Ron Linn

Into/Out of Eden
Oil on canvas
2021



**Sara Luna HONORABLE
MENTION**

What I saw
Punch needle embroidery
2021



Sara Luna

Summer
Punch Needle embroidery and
fibers
2022



Zaida Machado

Precision y Paciencia
Oil paint on board
2022



Laura Mason JURORS' AWARD

Electric
Acrylic
2022



Laura Mason

Monsoon Season
Acrylic
2022



Aimee Odum

Two Unknowns
Glazed ceramic, video
projection
2019



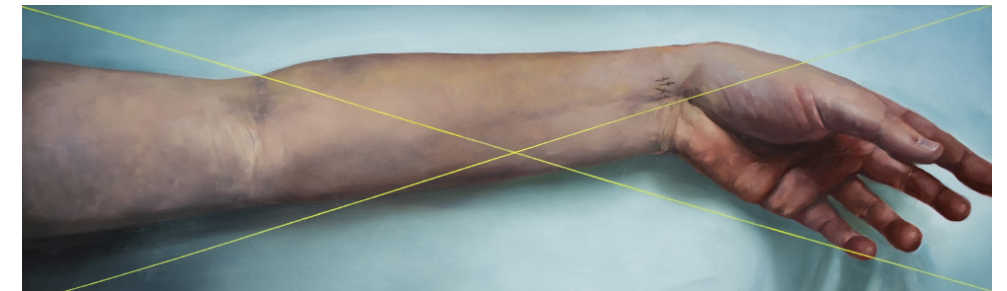
Rebecca Pletsch

Dark Tide
Oil on canvas
2021



Alexis Rausch

No Story, Thanks
Oil on panel
2019



Alexis Rausch

Surveillance Curtain 1
Cotton, polyester, curtain rod
2022



Horacio Rodriguez JURORS' AWARD

Bad Hombre (Olmec Series)
Slip-cast terracotta, underglaze,
colored slip,
ceramic decals, gold luster,
ceramic glaze
2021



Horacio Rodriguez

Educate, Engage, Resist
Slip-cast and wood-fired
ceramic, ceramic glaze,
gold luster, spray enamel
2021



Nakita Shelley JURORS' AWARD

Remain
Mixed media and soft sculpture
2021



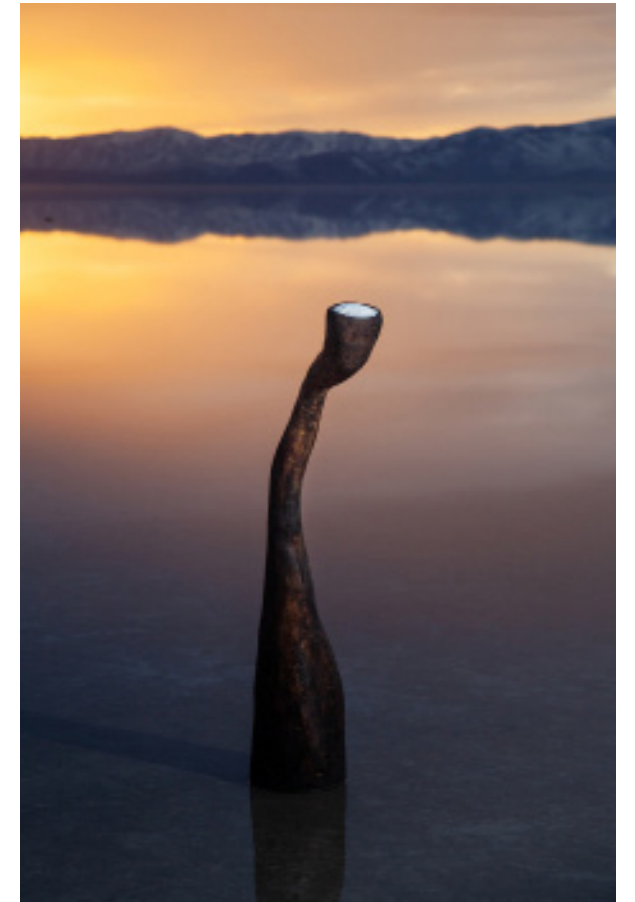
Sam Stoddard

*The Somatic Effectivity of an
Unmade Bed*
Oil on canvas
2021



Douglas Tolman

Last Gesture
Reclaimed Pine Pallet, Salt, Fire
2021



Rocio Vasquez Cisneros
JURORS' AWARD

Mis Raíces
Fabric & embroidery
2022



Laura Sharp Wilson

We Don't Understand
Acrylic on cut paper pinned to wall
2022



ARTISTS

ADAH BENNION

Returning Star
Repurposed plastic
"Thank you" bags, thread
2022

CODY CHAMBERLAIN

Procession **JURORS' AWARD**
Oil on linen stretched over aluminum
2020

Juniper Sky
Oil on linen stretched over aluminum
2022

RACHEL HENRIKSEN

Sight Unseen **JURORS' AWARD**
Acrylic on wood on foam panels
2020

CHRISTOPHER KANYUSIK

Separate/Together
2021

Proxy
Stone, cast plaster
2021

SHASTA KRUEGER

Wall Composition #20: Trillium
Woodfired stoneware
2021

Maroon and Black Vase
Woodfired stoneware
2020

CYAN LARSON

Mind Block
Concrete
2020

STEPHANIE LEITCH

Milk Field **BEST IN SHOW**
Suspended installation with acrylic, steel, test tubes, pipette tips, fender washers, brass EDM line and school glue
2022

RON LINN

Folded Earth **HONORABLE MENTION**
Oil on canvas, found stones
2022

Into/Out of Eden

Oil on canvas
2021

SARA LUNA

What I saw **HONORABLE MENTION**
Punch needle embroidery
2021

Summer
Punch Needle embroidery and fibers
2022

ZAIDA MACHADO

Precision y Paciencia
Oil paint on board
2022

LAURA MASON

Electric **JURORS' AWARD**
Acrylic
2022

Monsoon Season

Acrylic
2022

AIMEE ODUM

Two Unknowns
Glazed ceramic, video projection
2019

REBECCA PLETSCH

Dark Tide
Oil on canvas
2021

ALEXIS RAUSCH

No Story, Thanks
Oil on panel
2019

Surveillance Curtain 1
Cotton, polyester, curtain rod
2022

HORACIO RODRIGUEZ

Bad Hombre (Olmec Series) **JURORS' AWARD**
Mixed Media
2021

Educate, Engage, Resist
Mixed Media
2021

NAKITA SHELLEY

Remain **JURORS' AWARD**
Mixed Media
2021

SAM STODDARD

The Somatic Effectivity of an Unmade Bed
Oil on Canvas
2021-2022

DOUGLAS TOLMAN

Last Gesture
Reclaimed Pine Pallet, Salt, Fire
2021

ROCIO VASQUEZ CISNEROS

Mis Raíces **JURORS AWARD**
Fabric & embroidery
2022

LAURA SHARP WILSON

We Don't Understand
Acrylic on cut paper pinned to wall
2022



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Utah Division of
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