# OPEN LOOP 2024: LAY OF THE LAND

FORM+CONTENT GALLERY GROUP EXHIBITION

GUEST JUROR ALEXANDRA BEAUMONT

ARTISTS: DREW ARRIETA, TAMARA AUPAUMUT, DEL BEY, KRISTIN BICKAL, MATTHEW BINDERT, RENÉE BOYNTON, LAUREN CALLIS, MARK COSIMINI, NIMA DESAI, VINCENT DEZUTTI, DUDDLEY DIAZ, JACOB DOCKSEY, HALEY FRIESEN, JO GARRISON, DEB GROSSFIELD, CARMEN GUTIÉRREZ-BOLGER, JANELL HAMMER, THOMAS HARDY, BEN HERING, LEEYA ROSE JACKSON, JEREMY JONES, SHANA KAPLOW, VICTORIA KOSEL, CL MARTIN, NATALIE MCGUIRE, BRADY MCLEAREN, JANE MEYER, BRANDON MOVALL, SCOTT MURPHY, AMY CRICKENBERGER OETH, CHRIS RACKLEY, JO-ANNE RESKE KIRKMAN, PAUL SCHLOSSMAN, CARLEY SCHMIDT, ZARA SIEBERS, HAWONA SULLIVAN JANZEN, ERIKA TERWILLIGER, GRACE THERIOT, LAURA TORGESON, KAT WARREN, MICHAEL WEATHERLY, MICHELLE WESTMARK WINGARD, JUDITH YOURMAN

FEBRUARY 29-APRIL 6, 2024

EXHIBITION LOCATIONS: FORM+CONTENT GALLERY HEWING HOTEL NATREUM NORTH LOOP PLAYER'S CAFE

#### **Exhibition Dates**

February 29 through April 6, 2024

#### **Opening Reception**

Saturday, March 2, 2024, 5:00 - 7:00 pm at Form+Content Gallery Pop-up locations will also be open during reception hours.

#### Juror's Walk & Talk

Meet guest juror Alexandra Beaumont beginning at Form+Content Gallery and stopping by each of the 3 pop-up locations to discuss and view artwork.

Saturday, April 6, 2:00 - 4:00 pm (meet at Form+Content Gallery at 2:00 pm)

#### **Artwork Sales**

Sales inquiries will be forwarded to the artist by the gallery. Artists will complete sales directly with buyer. The gallery and pop-up locations will not facilitate sales or retain a commission on sales. To inquire about purchasing artwork, email openloop.formcontent@gmail.com and your contact information will be forwarded to the artist.

All copyrights of text and images belong to each artist ©2024

#### Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Open Loop Pop-Up Partners and Sponsors, juror Alexandra Beaumont, the exhibiting artists, Form+Content Gallery, gallery members Beth Bergman and Joyce Lyon for catalog printing support, as well as Open Loop sponsoring gallery member and organizer, Moira Bateman.

#### Form+Content Gallery Mission Statement

Form+Content Gallery nurtures diverse artistic practice and thoughtful dialogue. We value art as a catalyst for critical thinking. We value integrity and the artistic process. We aspire to link personal expression to broader social contexts.

Form+Content Gallery is dedicated to moving the definition and practice of culture forward in new and lively ways.

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The same place seen through many different eyes. Eyes of artists, yes, but also doctors, teachers, civil engineers, parents, students, many ages, many races. We're all here, now, looking around us. These views are inevitably shaped by our own histories – personal, cultural, social – some of which overlap or dance alongside each other. And we all converge here.

An open call of Minnesota artists affords us an insight into what's going on in this place, now, that begs response, digestion, interpretation, parsing. In the many beautiful submissions made for this inaugural Open Loop, a landscape emerged. It is taut with longing - grief for what has gone or is fading, a pre-nostalgia for what could be. Longing for a future we hope to create but streaked through with the very real fear that we're not going to make it.

This anxiety presents one way in fractures and re-formations (Carmen Guttiérrez-Bolger's La Bahia, Jacob Docksey's Chopping Block, Matthew Bindert's Traumas, Del Bey's Neighbors). A whole as an imperfect compilation of parts, each requiring examination, simultaneously splintering and unifying your view. Scott Murphy's Minimum Wage Moon presumes a space-age future unable to escape systems of earthly exploitation. There is obvious precarity in Jo Garrison's Egg Game and Sack of Eggs and Deb Grossfield's Cup & Lily, poignantly un-still lifes. Maybe form can emerge through decomposition - Erika Terwilliger (Trappings) and Jeremy Jones (A Perfect Collapse) suggest as much – maybe not; we can't tell where their sculptural freeze frames have been plucked from the timeline.

Art historical references in the show prickle with layers of modern meaning. Paul Schlossman's gear setup in The Process recalls renaissance figure groups. Janell Hammer's diligent reworkings of classical statue (Grief and Les Deux Graces et Demie) incisively echo contemporary self-constructions of feminine expression for social media. Thomas Hardy builds elaborate stages for humble bugs. The Ghent Altarpiece comes to mind as I look at Bug on a Flower in the Hills; a vision of nature glorified as we actively sacrifice it.

Some artists invite us to consider our relationship to the natural world in various ways. Works by Vincent DeZutti (In the Grass), Victoria Kosel (Alternating), and Brandon Movall (In Search of a Connection) reflect the distorting impact of technology – dislocating, blurring, abstracting, and mitigating our sensory perception. The experience of nature becomes indirect, filtered, and artificially reproduced rather than felt. On the other hand, Natalie McGuire (Pine Edged Road) and Kat Warren (Big Sky, I'd Move Mountains for You) seek to encounter and appreciate nature through tactile, embodied reproductions. Any distortions here are a matter of engaged interpretation.

Other works confront pre-nostalgia head on with adamant documentation, attempts to capture fully and honestly, to let nothing slip without notice, to slow time. Boynton's Diaphanous and Bickal's Magic Beans and Duet lovingly depict the beauty in organic forms, while Zara Sieber's 7th Street, Grace Theroit's Field Day, and Lauren Callis' Gossips preserve fleeting personal frames. These are quietly hopeful moments. Nima Desai locates another in the wild with Solid, highlighting the awe of natural landscape fluctuations. Yet Haley Friesen's Amherst crystalizes the heartbreak of departure. Its wake of dissolving ice reads as particularly mournful this snowless winter.

Actual land/earth serves as material and subject in some works. The mud in Shana Kaplow's Palm begins as offering, as evidence, but quickly merges with and becomes indistinguishable from the body. Rightly so. In Michelle Westmark Wingard's Frost

Feathers #5 and Brady McClaren's Ripple, Wither, Scum the earth is the art, beautiful and grotesque and ultimately fragile.

Lay of the Land also presents a shared witnessing of the dissolution of the American landscape. Ghosts of commercial and industrial architecture haunt works by Chris Rackley (Mall Memory Fragment 04), Amy Crickenberger Oeth (Peachy), and Jo-Anne Reske Kirkman (Drill II). Not forgotten and not quite gone either, these urban skeletons shape our cities physically and psychically even in their obsolescence. Jane Meyer (Alley Idling) and Carley Schmidt (Lawn Study #2) comment on the paradoxical isolation of residential spaces, while Drew Arrieta (Every Day is Mayday), Michael Weatherly (Weep II), Laura Torgeson (May Songs and In One Ear), and Mark Cosimi (Small Town on Warner Road) refuse to let realities of human need and human perseverance fade into the cityscape.

Multiple artists, by reaching into their personal and cultural histories, create contemporary iconography to serve as hopeful beacons for world making. The divine and determined feminine in Duddley Diaz's The Icon, Judith Yourman's Ceramic Wall Drawings, Leeya Rose Jackson's Grow and Reach, and C.L. Martin's Head of a Girl tether our pasts and pull us toward tender futures. Tamara Aupaumut's NDN Time, Ben Hering's They Rode Horses, and Hawona Sullivan Janzen's Blue Cowboy draw on ancestral strength for our collective renewal.

In layers of meaning, reflection, mourning, and dream, the works included in Lay of the Land all demonstrate a necessity to reckon with the complexities of our landscape, our histories, our selves. Simplicity is unavailable. So, what is a viewer to do? First, look and sit with it. Then choose-your-own-adventure: Fall back into nostalgia? Get stuck in sadness? Indulge limp poeticism? Or get creative and push toward the future we want to realize? I implore us all to join this last camp, and there are many local organizations working at the intersections of justice, equity, and climate action. A few are:

Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light Faith-based communities fighting climate change www.mnipl.org

Appetite for Change
Building equitable and sustainable food systems
<a href="https://appetiteforchangemn.org/">https://appetiteforchangemn.org/</a>

Repowered
Electronics recycling with a social impact
<a href="https://getrepowered.org/">https://getrepowered.org/</a>

Looking is only the first step.

**Alexandra Beaumont** is a textile artist and dancer working in fabric and movement to explore personal and collective joy. Her handmade banners reference the visual, kinetic, and metaphoric elements of parades, through collaged cloth portraits of celebrants in movement.

2024 2024 **OPEN LOOP ART OPEN LOOP ART** 



**Drew Arrieta** 

Every Day is Mayday Medium: Digital photograph

Size: 16 by 13 inches

Year: 2023 Price: NFS

Location: Form+Content



## **Tamara Aupaumut**

**NDN Time** 

Medium: Glazed ceramic Size: 7 by 11 by 11 inches

Year: 2022

Price: \$730

Location: Form+Content



Kristin Bickal

Kristin Bickal

Year: 2023 Price: \$350

Size: 11.25 by 8 inches

(18 by 14 inches framed)

Duet

Magic Beans Medium: Photo polymergravure intaglio

Medium: Photo polymergravure intaglio

Size: 11 by 8 inches,

(18 by 14 inches framed) Year: 2023

Price: \$250

Location: Form+Content



#### **Matthew Bindert**

Traumas

Medium: Woodcut, screenprint, and acrylic collage on recycled helmet

Size: 12 by 12 by 12 inches

Year: 2023 Price: \$3,000

Location: Form+Content



**Del Bey** Neighbors

Medium: Archival print

Size: 16 by 16 inches Year: 2002/2023 Price: \$1616

Location: Form+Content



2024 2024 **OPEN LOOP ART OPEN LOOP ART** 



Renée Boynton

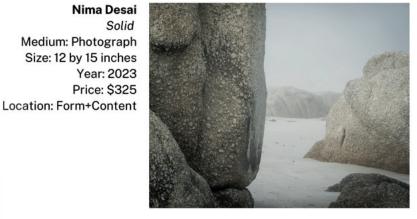
Diaphanous Medium: Charcoal and pastel on

paper

Size: 12.5 by 12.5 inches (20 by 20 inches framed)

Year: 2023 Price: \$1500

Location: Form+Content



Lauren Callis

Gossips

Medium: Gouache Size: 6.5 by 6.5 inches

Year: 2023 Price: \$220

Location: Natreum North Loop



Solid



**Mark Cosimini** 

Small Town on Warner Road

Medium: Oil

Size: 10 by 8 inches

Year: 2021 Price: \$325

3

Location: Form+Content





The Icon Medium: Carved wood with polychroma and

> gold leaf Size: 12 by 9 by 1 inch

Year: 2023 Price \$950

Location: Form+Content





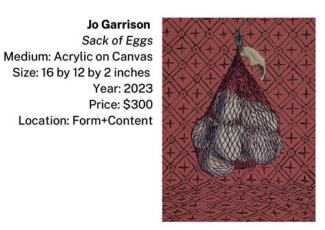


**Jacob Docksey** Chopping Block II Medium: Stop motion animation Size: 3 minutes

2024

Year: 2023 Price: NFS

Location: Form+Content



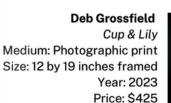


Haley Friesen

Amherst Medium: Inkjet photo Size: 12 by 9 inches

Year: 2015 Price: \$600

Location: Form+Content



Location: Form+Content





Jo Garrison

Egg Game

Medium: Acrylic on canvas Size: 16 by 12 by 2 inches

Year: 2023 Price: \$300

Location: Natreum North Loop



La Bahia

Medium: Graphite, handmade kozo paper, color copies & envelope on panel Size: 12 by 12 inches (13 by 13 inches framed)

Year: 2000 Price: \$225

Location: Form+Content





**OPEN LOOP ART** 

Janell Hammer Grief Medium: Aquatint on paper Size: 15.5 by 12.5 inches Year: 2023



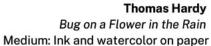


Janell Hammer Les Deux Graces et Demie Medium: Aquatint on paper Size: 16 by 14 inches Year: 2022 Price: \$100 Location: Form+Content

**Thomas Hardy** 



Bug on a Flower in the Hills Medium: Ink and watercolor on paper Size: 8 by 8 inches Year: 2023 Price: \$250 Location: Natreum North Loop



Size: 14 by 11 inches Year: 2023

Price: \$300 Location: Form+Content



**Ben Hering** They Rode Horses Medium: Acrylic on birchwood panel Size 16 by 12 by 1.5 inches Year: 2023 Price: \$495



Leeya Rose Jackson Grow and Reach Medium: Ink print on archival paper Size: 18 by 12 inches framed Year: 2022

Price: \$125 Location: Hewing Hotel



OPEN LOOP ART 2024 OPEN LOOP ART 2024



Jeremy Jones
A Perfect Collapse
Medium: Cone 05 ceramics and

underglaze

Size: 16 by 16 by 8 inches

Year: 2022 Price: \$425

Location: Form+Content



**Shana Kaplow** 

Palm

Medium: Archival inkjet print

Size: 16 by 12 inches

Year: 2022 Price: \$250

Location: Form+Content



Victoria Kosel

Alternating

Medium: Hand-cut archival inkjet

print

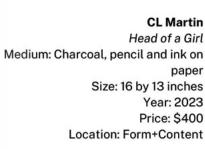
9

Size: 10 by 10 inches

Year: 2023

Price: \$400

Location: Hewing Hotel





#### **Natalie McGuire**

Pine Edged Road Medium: Photograph with mosaic stainedglass frame

Size: 16 by 14 by 1 inch

Year: 2023 Price: \$899

Location: Hewing Hotel



#### **Brady McLearen**

Ripple Wither Scum Medium: Ceramic, dried

pears, rock

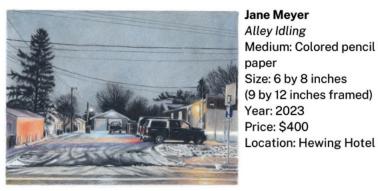
Size: 14 by 13 by 12 inches Year: 2022

Price: \$2500

Location: Form+Content



2024 2024 **OPEN LOOP ART OPEN LOOP ART** 



Jane Meyer Alley Idling Medium: Colored pencil on paper Size: 6 by 8 inches (9 by 12 inches framed) Year: 2023 Price: \$400



**Brandon Movall** In Search of a Connection (December 2022) Medium: Photograph on aluminum Size: 8 by 12 by 1 inch Year: 2022 Price: \$300 Location: Form+Content



Minimum Wage Moon Medium: Oil on aluminum Size: 11 by 14 by 1 inch Year: 2023 Price: \$500 Location: Form+Content

**Scott Murphy** 





**Chris Rackley** Mall Memory Fragment 04 Medium: Graphite on paper Size: 10 by 8 inches Year: 2023 Price: \$250 Location: Form+Content



Jo-Anne Reske Kirkman Drill II Medium: Photograph on aluminum Size: 12 by 8 inches Year: 2023 Price: \$350 Location: Hewing Hotel



OPEN LOOP ART 2024 OPEN LOOP ART 2024



#### **Paul Schlossman**

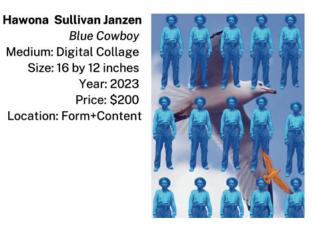
The Process

Medium: Photographic print

Size: 12 by 15 inches

Year: 2023 Price: NFS

Location: Player's Cafe



#### **Carley Schmidt**

Lawn Study #2

Medium: Etching with relief

roll, monotype Size: 11 by 10 inches

Year: 2022 Price: \$300

Location: Form+Content





#### Zara Siebers

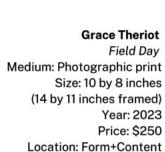
7th Street

Medium: Photographic print

Size: 11 by 14 inches

Year: 2023 Price: NFS

Location: Form+Content









**OPEN LOOP ART** 

# Laura Torgeson

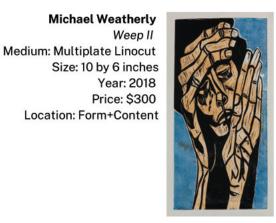
In One Ear

Medium: Collage and watercolor

Size: 12 by 9 inches

Year: 2023 Price: \$300

Location: Hewing Hotel



#### Laura Torgeson

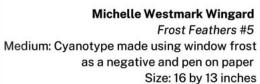
May Songs

Medium: Collage and watercolor

Size: 12 by 9 inches

Year: 2023 Price: \$300

Location: Form+Content



Year: 2023 Price: \$425

Location: Form+Content



#### **Kat Warren**

Big Sky, I'd Move Mountains for You

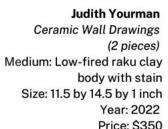
Medium: Wool

Size: 14 by 14 inches

Year: 2023

Price:\$222

Location: Form+Content







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Kristin Bickal Vincent DeZutti Janell Hammer Ben Hering

Leeya Rose Jackson Victoria Kosel

Natalie McGuire Jane Meyer

Jo-Anne Reske Kirkman

Laura Torgeson

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Lauren Callis Jo Garrison Thomas Hardy

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Amy Crickenberger Oeth Paul Schlossman

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Drew Arrieta Tamara Aupaumut

Del Bey Kristin Bickal Matthew Bindert Renée Boynton Mark Cosimini

Nima Desai

Duddley Diaz

Jacob Docksey Haley Friesen Jo Garrison Deb Grossfield

Carmen Gutiérrez-Bolger

Janell Hammer Thomas Hardy Jeremy Jones Shana Kaplow CL Martin

Brady McLearen Brandon Movall Scott Murphy Chris Rackley Carley Schmidt Zara Siebers

Hawona Sullivan Janzen

Erika Terwilliger Grace Theriot Laura Torgeson Kat Warren

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# OPEN LOOP 2024: LAY OF THE LAND

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