



Lamont Gallery Exhibition Archive

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NATALIE ANDREW
SEAN BEAVERS
GLORIA CALDERÓN-SÁENZ
BEAR KIRKPATRICK '84
JUNG MI LEE + JON SAKATA + JOHN ELLIS
LAURA MORRISON

Lush Life

MARCH 23-MAY 2, 2015

Opening Reception: Friday, March 27, 5-7pm

Gallery Talk: Saturday, March 28, 10am

Lush Life

March 23-May 2, 2015

Artists in *Lush Life* consider nature as subject and as poetic springboard.

Gloria Calderón-Sáenz is a painter and printmaker from Colombia who currently works and lives in the Boston area. Her textured paintings imagine rivers as sites of abundant nourishment and ecological collapse. Speaking of the images in *Lush Life*, Calderón-Sáenz states, "I represent rivers to accept and celebrate the impermanent nature of life. There is a tension between the act of carving, so physical and rooted in the present, and the essence of the carved image that is just movement and energy." Calderón-Sáenz uses wood as a ground to carve and paint, a practice that originated in the traditional use of wood for printmaking but has evolved in her work as



Gloria Calderón-Sáenz, *Rivers and Nests #3*

a medium on its own. Calderon-Saenz attended Universidad Nacional de Colombia and Atelier Adac in Paris, France. She is also the illustrator of several award winning illustrated books and has shown her work in solo and group shows in Colombia, France and the US.



Natalie Andrew, *The Bump* (detail)

Artist-scientist **Natalie Andrew's** "research forests in miniature" are living tableaux of mosses, ferns and slime molds - nestled in beads and glitter - that question divisions between the natural and the artificial. Andrew is an "artist, biologist, engineer, and cognitive-scientist researching creativity, myxomycete biology, paradigm shifts, and the ingredients of wonder." About *Hidden Marriage* Andrew notes that "this piece was inspired by my experience of straddling the worlds of art and science and is an exploration of how surprising changes of context and strange juxtapositions can inspire a new worldview." Andrew has exhibited at the McColl Center for Visual Arts, Axiom Gallery, Boston Cyberarts Gallery, Nave Gallery Annex, and was a 2013 Massachusetts Cultural Council award recipient. A biologist at Harvard University, Andrew has published in *Nature Cell Biology* (where her illustrations made the cover) and other journals. and currently lives and works in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The photographic portraits of **Bear Kirkpatrick '84** compel us to notice the richness of the world that we sometimes fail to see. Kirkpatrick defines the imagery in his large scale, layered works "...as evidence, documents of past and present human psychological states." Kirkpatrick has had many careers included mason's tender, bookkeeper and furniture builder to name just a few. He attended Phillips Exeter Academy, the University of Michigan, and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Bear's work has been exhibited at Daniel Cooney Fine Art, 555 Gallery, the Center for Fine Art Photography, Houston Center for Photography, and Drift Gallery. His work has been honored with the 2013 & 2014 Critical Mass Finalist Selection, the NH Charitable Foundation's Artist Advancement Grant, and 3 International Photography Awards. Kirkpatrick lives and works in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.



Bear Kirkpatrick, *Samuel: The Battle of Ushant*



Fudo, a site-specific installation by **Jung Mi Lee, Jon Sakata** and **John Ellis** invokes the complexity and chaos of climate systems. In this piece the artists reference the work of the philosopher Tetsuro Watsuji who believes that “...climate (fudo) not only pertains to a study and description of environmental conditions of a given area or location; but also how human perception of, and relation to, environmental phenomena is innately linked to human experience and culture formation.”

John Ellis, Jung Mi Lee, & Jon Sakata, *Fudo* (Detail)

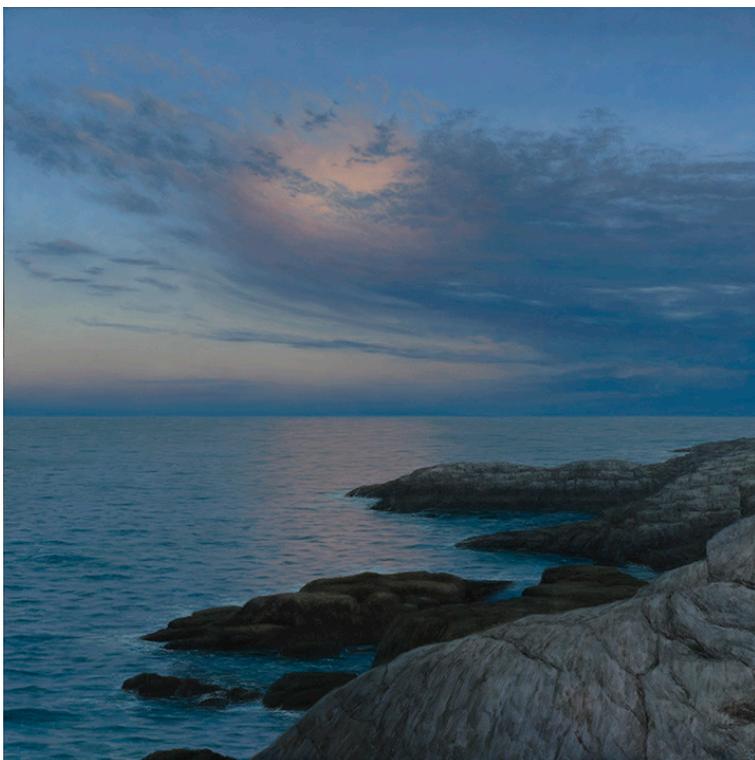
artisans Lee and Sakata have taught at Phillips Exeter Academy since 1996 and 1994, respectively. They have performed as soloists and collaborators around the world including some renowned venues and institutions such as Radialsystem V (Berlin) and Färgfabriken (Stockholm).

Ellis is an architect and has been an educator at the Wentworth Institute in Boston for more than 20 years. He is co-founder of an international studio devoted to the study and implementation of sustainable Urban Architecture and Urban Villages in West Africa.

Sean Beavers uses still life and landscape painting to look more attentively at the natural world and to meditate on beauty, life and death. On the subject of beauty in his work, Beavers states, “when I say beauty I don’t mean sweet or sentimental. Nature can be quite harsh at times, but there is always balance in it, something melodic to offset the dissonance. It’s that relationship between beauty and despair, that truth, that’s what moves me, that’s what I’m after.”

Beavers attended the School of Visual Arts in New York City and graduated with the Rhodes family medal for outstanding achievement. He has had numerous exhibits in and around the New York metropolitan area, and in Maine and New Hampshire. Beavers has also created commissioned work for clients such as:

AT&T, The Wall Street Journal, Time Life Inc., The Village Voice, and Random House. Beavers currently works and lives in southern Maine.



Sean Beavers, *Evening Star*



Laura Morrison, *Mutation: Specimen E*

Fiber artist **Laura Morrison** imagines “wild, open spaces,” and contemplates a fantastic natural world of the future, that will exist with or without us. Morrison “...combines traditional fiber art techniques such as felting, embroidery, crochet and knitting to create her artwork. Rich in color and texture, the work is so tempting to the viewer that Morrison often finds people subversively ‘petting’ her sculptures and wall hangings.” Morrison’s work has been shown in numerous galleries and she has had many public art installations in locations such as the Arsenal Center for the Arts, in Watertown, Massachusetts and New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord, New Hampshire. Morrison attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she studied graphic design. She began her career as a designer in Chicago but she calls her move to New Hampshire “...the catalyst that changed her life.” She states: “moving to New Hampshire opened my eyes to the beauty of nature with its wild, open spaces. Here, I can truly breathe deeply and be the artist and person I want to be. My surroundings directly influence my art.”



David Shepley '16

Also on View:

Interconnected: Community & Conservation

April 6-May 2, 2015

Interconnected: Community & Conservation is photographic exhibit by David Shepley, Class of 2016. Shepley will be showing images from both Namibia and Tanzania as he presents two stories of the unique relationships between Africa’s wildlife and the different indigenous peoples of the continent. During his travels throughout Namibia, Shepley learned about the ancient relationship between wildlife and the San Bushmen, of the ever-challenging human-wildlife conflict between farmers and large carnivores, and the tireless efforts to

combat poaching. During his most recent expedition in Eastern Tanzania, he lived among the Maasai People outside of Tarangire National Park. Over the course of two months Shepley learned about the improving efforts to reduce conflicts between Maasai herders and large cat predators, while immersing himself into the ancient culture. In his exhibit Shepley hopes to share his stories from abroad to raise awareness for the hopeful efforts to reduce human wildlife conflict, a key step in the preservation of our world’s endangered wildlife.

Related Links

Natalie Andrew

Sean Beavers

Gloria Calderón-Sáenz

Bear Kirkpatrick

Jung Mi Lee & Jon Sakata

Laura Morrison

Review of Lush Life - Art New England

Review of Lush Life - The Exonian

Photos of Exhibit and Events on Flickr