



THE  
**SHELDON**  
Arts Without Borders

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## **GUEN MONTGOMERY'S WORK LOOKS CRITICALLY AT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POSSESSIONS, HISTORIC PRIVILEGE AND WHITENESS**

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon Art Galleries presents ***Guen Montgomery: Indexical Lacunae***, March 5 – May 15, 2021 in the Gallery of Photography. A free public opening will be held **Friday, March 5 from 12 - 9 p.m.** Visitor capacity for the opening will be limited to 10 visitors per 15-minute time slot. Advanced registration is required at [TheSheldon.org/events/springopening/](https://TheSheldon.org/events/springopening/). *Registration ends at 10 a.m. on March 5.* Registration for an exclusive, 45-minute time slot for a party of up to 10 people, is required during normal gallery hours. Sales end at opening time each day (noon on weekdays and 10 a.m. on Saturdays). Gallery hours are Tuesdays – Fridays, noon – 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Admission is free. All staff and visitors age 9 and older will be required to wear masks. For more information on exhibitions, reservations and safety procedures, visit [TheSheldon.org](https://TheSheldon.org).



Guen Montgomery describes her work as “wound up with the complicated lives of things.” Her love of objects and obsession with material culture stems from her family’s fraught relationship with physical possessions. She goes on to explain, “My mother and extended maternal family live in rural Scott County, Tennessee. I see their relationship to the material world as not only related to the region’s depressed socio-economic status but something culturally deeper. I understand these family members, their ideologies and idiosyncrasies, through their love of things, which in turn informs my studio practice.”

MORE...

*Sheldon Art Galleries / Guen Montgomery: Indexical Lacunae*  
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Montgomery's work examines the life of "things," the longing to acquire, and how the objects we surround ourselves with tell our stories. It investigates identity through studies of gender, regional narrative and family mythology. Located in the intersection between printmaking, performance and sculpture, her recent pieces have looked critically at the relationship between possessions, historic privilege and whiteness.

Montgomery has exhibited nationally and internationally and has work in multiple public collections including the Centre for Art and Design in Churchill Australia, and Mushashino Art University, Tokyo, Japan. In 2019, Montgomery participated in the 2019 Terrain Biennial in Springfield, IL, and started a new body of work during a residency at the Vermont Studio Center that will be exhibited in upcoming solo shows in Chicago and Massachusetts. She currently teaches in the studio program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where she lives with her wife and three cats.

The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries' spaces on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, music art and history, and children's art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

Financial Assistance to the Galleries are provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency and by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

For more information about the Galleries call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org).

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Image caption: Guen Montgomery, *Slippage*, 2019, collagraph: reclaimed clothing, fabricated steel hanger, steel clothes pins, 45 x 20 inches courtesy of the artist.