



T H E  
**S H E L D O N**  
Arts Without Borders

Chris Peimann  
Director of Advancement  
[cpeimann@TheSheldon.org](mailto:cpeimann@TheSheldon.org)

Sarah Samples  
Marketing Manager  
[ssamples@TheSheldon.org](mailto:ssamples@TheSheldon.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 23, 2022

## **SHELDON ART GALLERIES FEATURES ARTISTS IN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY IN NEW EXHIBITS**

ST. LOUIS - The Sheldon Art Galleries spring schedule includes three new exhibits, on view in the *Bernoudy Gallery of Architecture*, *AT&T Gallery of Children's Art* and *Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery*, by artists who are university level instructors and students. The exhibit mediums include watercolor and mixed media paintings, but also ceramics and printmaking.

The Spring 2022 exhibitions kick off with a free public opening **Friday, March 4, 2022 from 5-8 p.m. Galleries are open until 9 p.m. for First Fridays in Grand Center. Exhibits run through May 7, 2022.** Gallery hours are Tuesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free.

### **Sheldon Helfman – *Out of the Ordinary*** *Bernoudy Gallery of Architecture*

Sheldon Helfman studies imperfections in the urban environment. After choosing a view, in a conscious attempt at objectivity and restraint, Helfman will edit very little, as his watercolor process is methodical enough to provide a careful rendering of complex light patterns. The watercolors presented in this exhibit showcase Helfman's mastery of the realist painting style.

A New York City native, Helfman studied at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art and later earned an M.F.A. in painting at Yale School of Art. He is professor emeritus at Washington University School of Architecture in St. Louis, where he taught drawing, design and color theory. He has had one-man exhibits at Eliot Smith Gallery, Maryville University, Fontbonne University, Meramec Community College Art Gallery and Washington University's Steinberg Gallery of Art. **Co-sponsored by Kristen Peterson and Ryan Easley.**

### **SIUE B.F.A. Exhibit** *AT&T Gallery of Children's Art*

A group exhibit featuring recent work by six graduating students from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's (SIUE) art department, the works featured include printmaking, ceramics and painting. At SIUE, Bachelor of Fine Arts students prepare to be lifelong practitioners of the studio arts by engaging in close mentoring relationships with faculty, while developing independent bodies of work that demonstrate professional competencies on conceptual, technical and visual levels. The Department of Art and Design offers a core foundation of skills that students can build upon in order to produce meaningful and engaging works with diverse objectives. This exhibit is the culmination of their undergraduate studies.

MORE...

**Jessica Thornton – (In)secure Identities**  
*Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery*

Jessica Thornton's recent paintings focus on the layered issues of race, privilege and hybridity. Influenced by her mixed-race identity, her work explores a conflict of lineage and perspective in an unidentified other space. These unclaimed worlds are an attempt to renegotiate aspects of ownership and what she sees as the "ethnic authentic."

Thornton earned a B.F.A. in painting from the Lyme Academy of Fine Arts. Soon after, she received a three year residency with the Connecticut Commission on the Arts Urban Artist Initiative that led to a focus in non-profit and community development via the arts. In 2008 Thornton earned an M.F.A. in Visual Arts from Washington University in St. Louis. She is currently an assistant professor in painting and drawing at the University of Missouri School of Visual Arts in Columbia. **Free Gallery Talk with Jessica Thornton: Saturday, March 5, at 11 a.m.**

For more information, visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org) or call 314-533-9900. More information about each individual exhibit available upon request.

The Sheldon continues to monitor the regulations and recommendations set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the City of St. Louis regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. **In accordance with City of St. Louis guidelines, we require everyone over the age of 5 wear a mask.** For an updated list of health and safety guidelines for concerts and gallery exhibits please visit <https://www.thesheldon.org/covid-updates/>.

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.

###