



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SHELDON ART GALLERIES OPENS TWO NEW INSTALLATION PIECES
EXTENDING BEYOND TRADITIONAL GALLERY SPACES**

ST. LOUIS - The Sheldon Art Galleries spring schedule includes two new installations, by artists Ben Bradshaw, and Donna Moore, Guen Montgomery and Emily Bivens respectively, that reimagine the traditional gallery space. In the case of Ben Bradshaw's sprawling exhibit, the "gallery" includes two floors, a stairwell and the glass bridge, creating a truly immersive experience. Moore, Montgomery and Bivens' collaborative installation uses the spaces in The Sheldon's Kemper Atrium in unexpected ways.

The exhibitions open **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.

Ben Bradshaw – *INNERWHRLD*

Ann Lee and Wilfred Konneker Gallery and throughout The Sheldon

Ben Bradshaw is a multimedia artist whose myriad processes have their foundation in natural expansion. Drawing, animation, sculpture, textiles, ceramics and installation all form from a similar dance of balance between intuitive generation and sustainable structure. *INNERWHRLD* is a hyper-site specific installation. It is constructed entirely out of neon string that maps the unique architecture of the hallways connecting the first-floor entrance to the gallery to the concert hall. Bradshaw's work is inspired by mathematics, diagrams of space/time and structures of growth. **Free Gallery Talk with Ben Bradshaw: Saturday, April 9 at 11 a.m.**

Donna Moore, Guen Montgomery and Emily Bivens - *Desire Paths*

Kemper Atrium

Desire Paths is on view in The Sheldon's Kemper Atrium, just outside of the Lucy and Stanley Lopata Sculpture Garden. This collaborative work investigates the ability of objects to hold supposedly dispelled narratives of the past and the vestiges of oppression that are ensnared in the seduction of nostalgia. Hand-made plastic clothing is created from vintage dress patterns utilizing recycled table cloths, construction cloth, and camo clothes with screen-printed, idealized images of flowers and birds that have met an untimely death. The vacuum-sealed bags full of bones, feathers, chicken waste and vintage agricultural utensils form the prefilled pockets. An antenna-like clothesline holds the dresses and allows them to flap in the wind, momentarily reanimating the dead birds and giving them an impossible last flight.

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Donna Moore is a photographer and educator from Blaine, Tennessee. She works with pinhole cameras and prints with historic and alternative photographic processes. She collects images of botanicals and small animals and birds as a form of *Memento Mori*: a symbolic reminder of the inevitability of death and as a memorial of life. She is the co-director of the Big Camera, a traveling darkroom and camera obscura

Guen Montgomery is an artist and performer whose work investigates identity through studies of gender, regional narrative and family mythology. Materially, Montgomery's work is located in the intersections between printmaking, performance and sculpture. She currently teaches in the Studio Arts program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Emily Bivens' solo and collaborative work has been shown both nationally and internationally in festivals, museums, galleries and washaterias. Bivens creates installations where the inanimate becomes animate through stop-motion animation of dead animals, taxidermy, and video and sound projection embedded in and on objects. She is a Professor of Time-Based Art at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

For more information, visit 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.

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