

# TEXAS BIBLIOPHILIA MARCH 2005 AUSTIN

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Elaine Bradford  
Candace Briceno  
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Serena Lin Bush  
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Charlotte Smith  
Debra Sugarman  
Daniel Tackett  
Tara Welch



March 2nd - 30th 2005

## Welcome to Austin, and welcome to OUR Texas Biennial!

Austin is enjoying a power surge of art-energy right now, and damnit, there's a great group of young art entrepreneurs who are running with it. Compared with other Texas cities like Houston and Dallas, our art infrastructure has been as liquid and fragile as Barton Springs. We've got more diversions, character and attitude than the others, but our art scene has suffered through some serious ups and downs in the past few decades. When I arrived here in 1999 the pulse of younger artists was weak, the best alternative space—Women and Their Work—was closed to half the population, there was little energy in art support and collecting, and the larger institutions were puffing up their chests in ways that were uh, kinda embarrassing in retrospect. Since then things have stabilized, shifted a bit, and we're more comfortable in our own skins than ever before.

I give a lot of credit to a handful of dedicated people who have started scrappy shoestring spaces and new programs to get good young art seen and heard. The scene is wider, stronger and more diverse than ever. This is a big deal for the future of the visual arts here in Austin, and I believe, for Texas. This phenomenon is an important part of a growing Austin art ecosystem, a pond for creative juices to bubble and ferment, where exchanges and hybrid form, and from which the strongest new artists will hatch, go forth-talking, showing, teaching, sharing, and making an impact with art that pushes people's buttons.

The founders of this Texas Biennial expanded beyond our celebrated city limits, to welcome key creators from other cities, and reached out to keen contemporary art minds from across the state to serve as jurors. The by-products of this dialogue have great promise for the future. Maybe there will be many other Texas Biennials launched from Austin, or maybe Albany will do it next time. But for now, in Austin, 36 artists are spread across five art spaces with only 30 days to see them, so get out on the street and check it out.

Dana Friis-Hansen  
Executive Director, Austin Museum of Art  
Austin, TX



## How dare this show call itself the Texas Biennial?

Well, Relax. Despite the authoritarian title, this show is not run by big institutions or the government. No one gave the organizers of this show the right to be the Texas Biennial; they found it abandoned, and simply took it. Along with the name "Texas Biennial" comes a world of trouble. It gets everyone's hopes up. It promises continuity, implies authority, and is inevitably seen as a summing-up of Texas art. Suddenly, your innocent sprawling juried show becomes a gripe magnet.

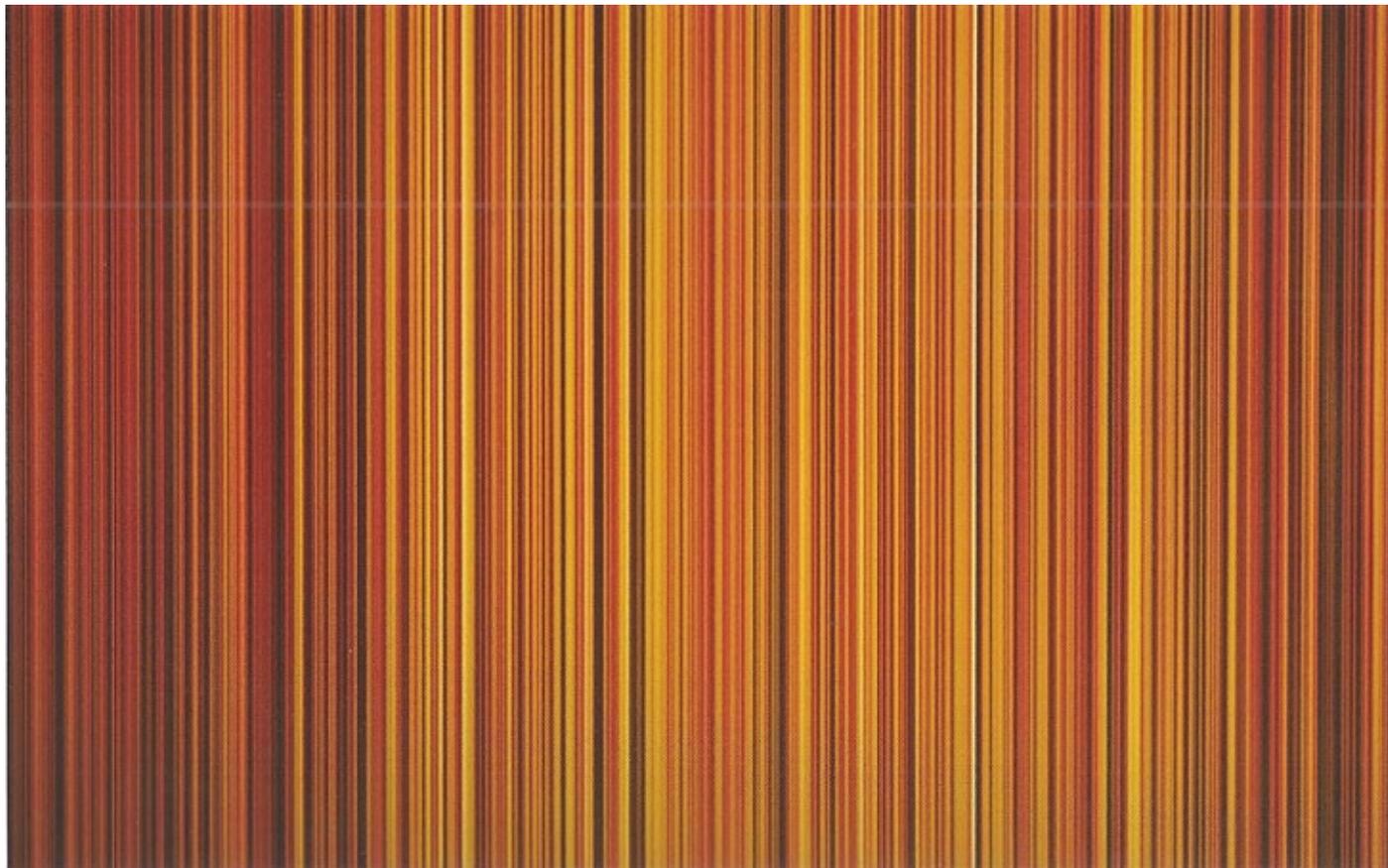
This is really the third Texas Biennial, anyway. Dallas' DARE had one in 1993, Houston's Contemporary Arts Museum had a Texas Triennial in 1998. Both were juried shows, each sought to present a snapshot of Texas art, neither was repeated. Now it's Austin's turn. It's useful to think of the three shows, in 1998, 1993 and 2005, as a continuous tradition: a bipolar history in which peaks of ambition trail off into troughs of apathy only to regenerate again with new players. It's the classic boom-and-bust cycle, and very Texas.

Can this show present a perfectly balanced, complete and correct overview of Texas Art? Of course not. It's more interesting than that. This third biennial draws the attention of the Texas art scene towards the burgeoning network of mostly new, mostly uncommercial artists and art spaces of Austin, making good use of the Biennial glamor to pull in over 600 entries, among them exciting new works and artists I've never seen before.

In other art centers there's a rigid hierarchy of prestige, wealth and tradition which confers the right to biennialize; here in Texas we have a hierarchy of energy: whoever will make the effort, gets the goods. The subterranean swell of Austin art has used the biennial idea to flex its muscles on a statewide stage, without any sanctions at all beyond the willingness to take the lumps.

Bill Davenport  
Houston, TX





**William Betts** ★ Houston, TX

***Something Wonderful***

Acrylic on MDF, 72" x 44"

William Betts was born and raised in New York City and graduated in 1991 with a BA with high honors in Studio Art from Arizona State University. He Lives and works in Houston, Texas and shows his work in Houston and New York.

These paintings are an exploration of the visual experience and how technology can enhance the sensation of seeing providing views we could not otherwise experience. The paintings have their roots in digital photography, industrial technology, and classical painting. Using personal photographs as source images the paintings represent a sample of digital information extruded to create abstract work that maintains its organic origin and essence while being something entirely new and synthetic.

**Elaine Bradford** ★ Alice, TX

***By the Fire***

Mounted deer head, yarn, buttons, faux fire place, 72" x 44" x 21"

Elaine Bradford received her BFA from The University of Texas at Austin in May 2000, and her MFA from California Institute of the Arts in May 2003. She is now living and working in Houston. Interested in an idea of domestic camouflage, her most recent work involves crocheting sweaters for taxidermied animal heads.

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**Candice Briceño** ★ Cedar Creek, TX

***Peering***

Mixed media on wood shelf, 72" x 8" x 4"

My work is based on the observation of extraordinary moments within landscape. Those particular moments that reflect on the beauty and fascination of forms, colors, the silhouette of decapitated trees and all its wonderfully abstracted forms. The work highlights those unforgettable moments when we are entranced by the outdoors and how our recollection of that particular time is often idealized and perfected by our memories.

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**Rosalyn Bodycomb** ★ Dallas, TX

***Military, Venice 2003 1***

Oil on linen 15" x 20"

My goal as a painter is to extract a level of emotional honesty from my surroundings. The beautiful, the horrible and the mediocre, my intentions are not to dramatize any of these but to paint them with the same resplendence as in real life.

Represented by Mulcahy Modern Gallery

214-948-9595

[modgallery@sbcglobal.net](mailto:modgallery@sbcglobal.net)



**Richie Budd** ★ San Antonio, TX

***What's Going on Behind What's Going on***

Mixed media, 36" x 78" x 42"

As of recently, linguistic diversity influences my work. How people use verbs of perception to communicate informs the multimedia sculptural systems I create. By recontextualizing and fusing common pedestrian objects (cultural capital), the work communicates through visual, auditory, kinesthetic, olfactory, and gustatory means. I believe this is where true diversity lies. These perceptual modalities exist in the work, to elicit a visceral response. This encompassing perceptual response leads to memory and neurological firings in the experience of the work. By doing so, I expect the work will occupy a lingering place in the mind of the observer.

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**Serena Lin Bush** ★ Houston, TX

***Speak Easy***

Video, sculpture installation, 35" x 75" x 30"

Serena Lin Bush creates video installations imagined from mundane physical and mental gestures and the space they occupy. Houston-based since 1998, she has also collaborated with disciplines including contemporary dance and music. Bush received her MFA from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and BFA from Washington University (St. Louis).



**Jerry Chamkis** ★ Austin, TX

### ***Kosmophone***

Electronic sculpture and Midi sounds

I've been an electronics designer for about 40 years and always include artistic aspects. For the past 20 years I've been building AERCO microphone pre-amplifiers which are held in high regard by sound recordists. For the last 10 years I've been building purely art-related projects in my spare time.

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**Susan Cheal** ★ Denton, TX

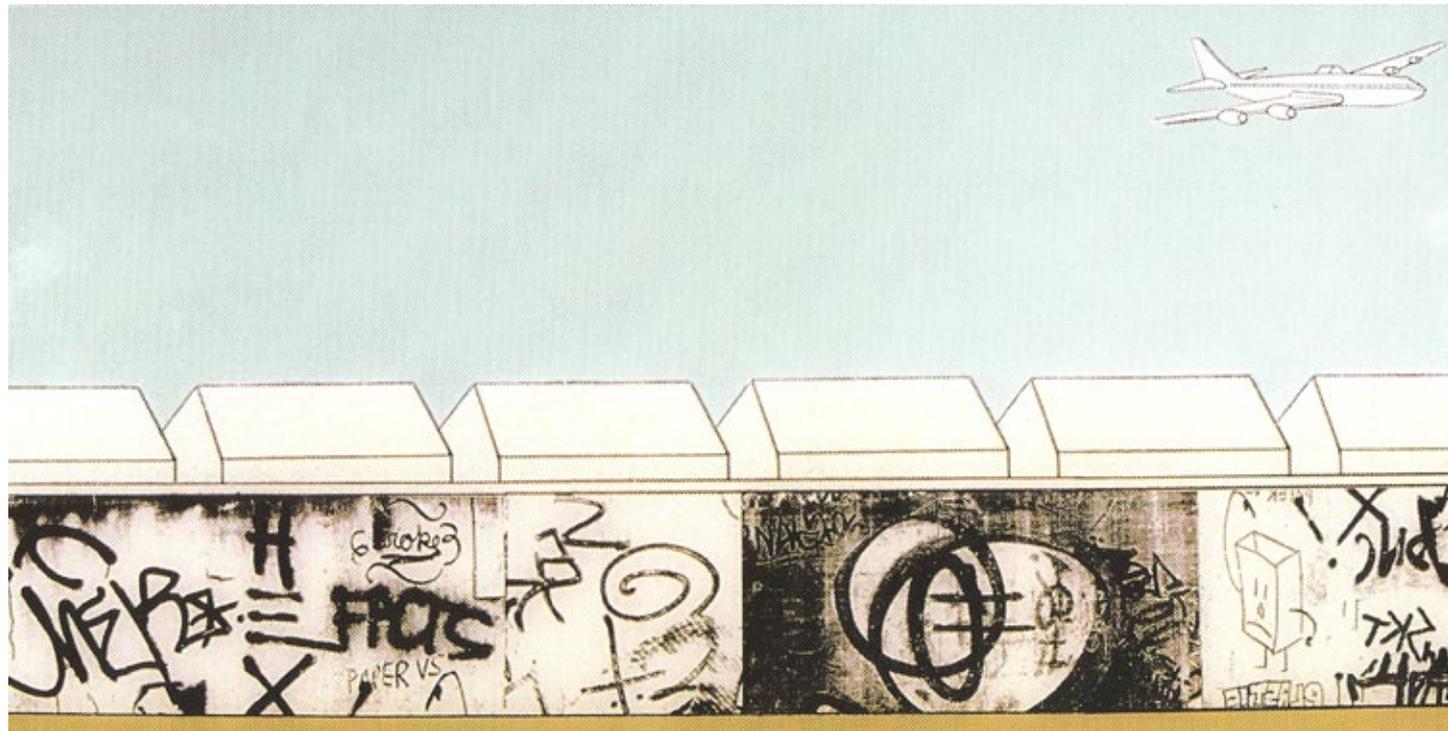
***Flee***

Oil on canvas 48" x 60"

Susan Cheal received her M.F.A. from the U.T.S.A in 1989. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the drawing and painting area at the University of North Texas in Denton. Recent exhibitions include Fladbed Press in Austin, the Longview Museum of Art, El Centro College Gallery, and Blue Star 19, in San Antonio. Upcoming solo exhibitions include Gallery 414 in Fort Worth (March 2005) Montgomery Gallery in Conroe, (April 2005) Collaborative Concepts in NYC (July 2005) and Cactus Bra Gallery in San Antonio.

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**Jonas Criscoe** ★ Austin, TX

***Plane and Graffiti***

Acrylic and silkscreen on plexi, 24" x 12" x 2"

The neighborhood that I grew up in is in North Austin and is the same as any other suburban landscape throughout the United States. It is one that is made up of tract homes, chain restaurants, and mini malls; it is consumer culture at it's finest. My work explores the iconography of this suburban landscape through the semiotics of this way of life.



**Patricia Donahue** ★ San Antonio, TX

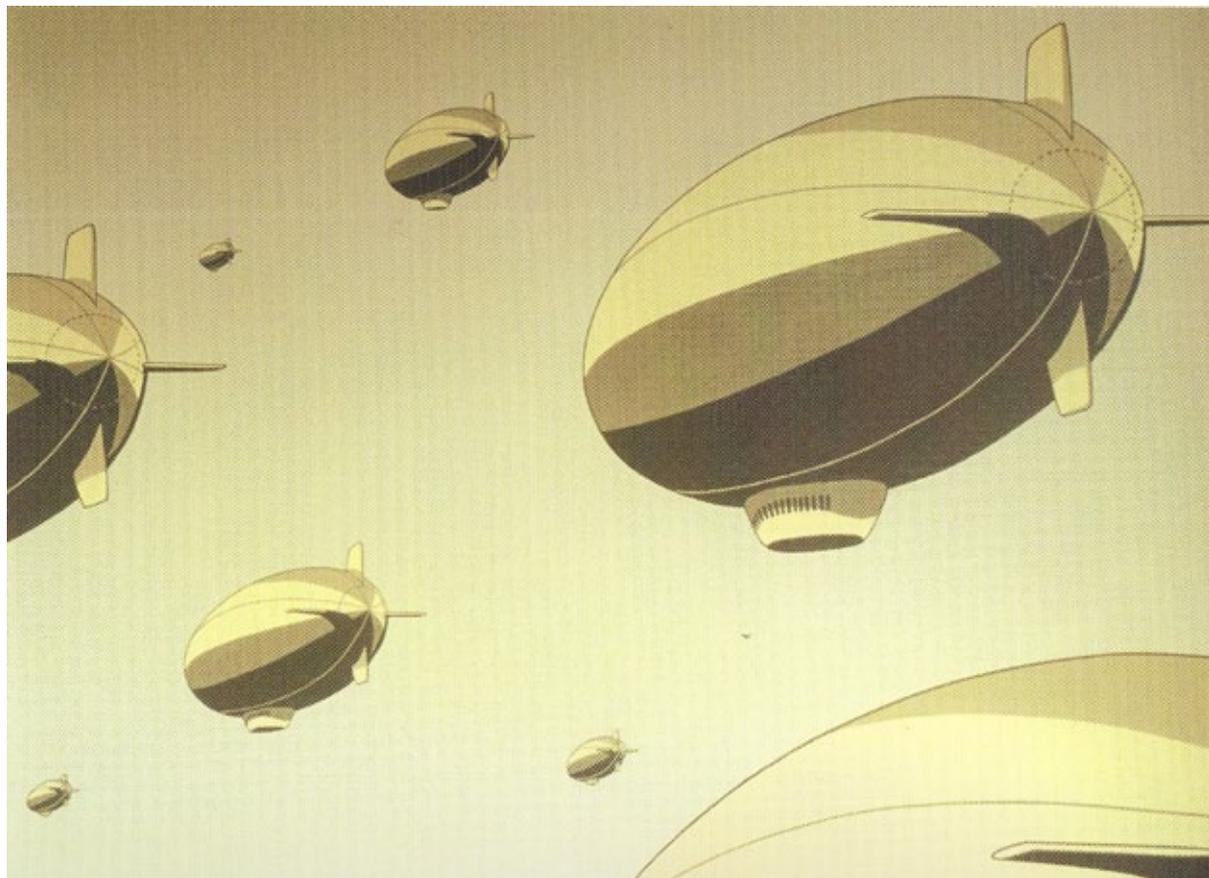
***The Reader #2***

Oil on canvas, 70" x 45"

For most of my adult life I made my home in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona, and while I lived there my paintings always reflected my engagement with the harsh, exotic beauty of that environment.

Two years ago I moved to South Texas. Since that time my paintings have become more reflective, serving in part as meditation on the loss of memory of a specific place.

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**Peat Duggins** ★ Austin, TX

***The Gathering: II Evening***

Acrylic on canvas, 100" x 72"

Peat Duggins was born in Omaha, Nebraska, 1977. After receiving his BFA in 2000 from the Rhode Island School of Design's Film Animation & Video department, he relocated to Austin, where he currently lives and works. Duggins also co-founded the acclaimed artist-run exhibition space, the Fresh Up Club in Austin.

[peatd@38andahalf.com](mailto:peatd@38andahalf.com)



**Celia Eberle** ★ Ennis, TX

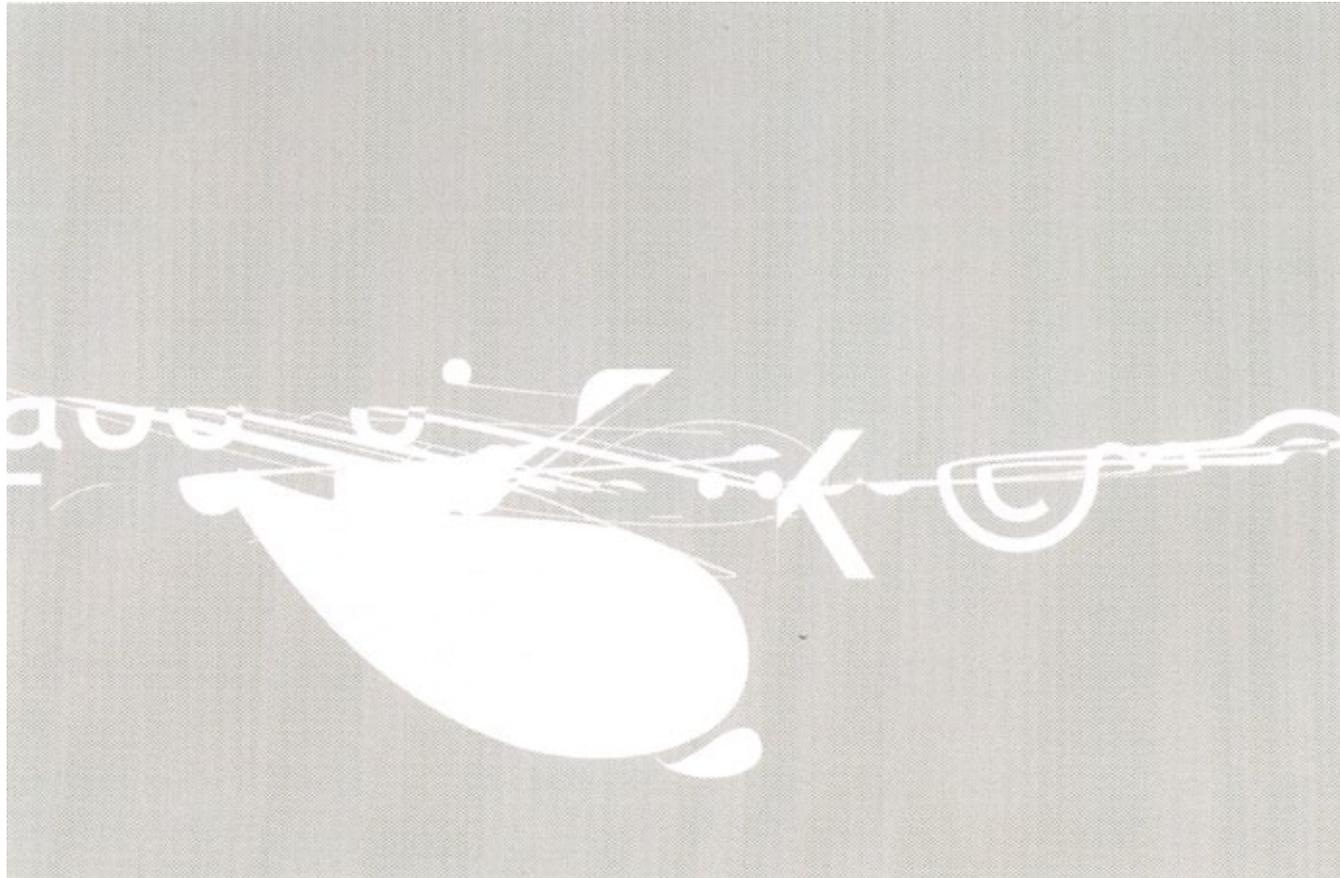
***Harvest***

Applique on found crewel, 11" x 30"

I believe the basic nature of the human experience remains essentially unchanged. This explains the continuing power of myth, religion and philosophy. I have been exploring these ideas through various means: painting, sculpture and installation. A native of East Texas, Celia Eberle lives and works in Ennis, Texas.

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Represented by Mulcahy Modern Gallery  
214-948-9595  
modgallery@sbcglobal.net



**Chris Ferebee** ★ Houston, TX

***Dyslexia***

Iris print, 46" x 34"

Chris Ferebee is self-taught in photography, mixed media, digital media, furniture design, and graphic design. Born in Virginia Beach in 1971, Ferebee continually expands into new areas of art and design which include experimentation with various types of industrial composite materials and found objects. He is also the principal for the Houston-based design studio, 521 Design, formed with business partner Laurice Parkin in 1999 where he has designed award-winning and internationally recognized furniture designs.

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**Ali Fitzgerald** ★ Austin, TX

***Blubbery Heights***

Ink and acrylic, 144" x 96"

Ali Fitzgerald is a first year grad student in painting at the University of Texas at Austin. In 2004, she received a BA from Davidson College and also attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. Her work has often been described as "Michelangelo meets Mad Magazine."

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**Heyd Fontenot** ★ Austin, TX

***Michelle W. with Swarm of Butterflies***

Ink on paper, 9" x 12"



Heyd Fontenot is a painter and filmmaker living in Austin, Texas. His work contains themes mixing sexualities and moralities, producing oddly playful material which subtly questions the dominant culture. He is included in the 2005 traveling exhibition, "Contemporary Erotic Drawing" at Diverseworks in Houston, Texas and The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, Connecticut.

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www.heydfontenot.com



**Faith Gay** ★ Austin, TX

***Langleybandontherun***

Acrylic, paper, 30" x 30"

Born and raised in Port Arthur, Texas, loving and livin in Austin, Faith takes great pleasure in obliterating the illusion of uniqueness and individuality promised by mass-produced, pre-coded, craft materials. By using throw-aways, paint swatches, packing and labeling supplies ,scrapbook paper punches, Perler Beads, and a red hot iron, she makes her Hobby Lobby dreams come true.



**Christine Gray** ★ Austin, TX

***Forest Compression***

Oil on panel, 18" x 36"

This work investigates the transference of landscape imagery and space into the compressed space of the still-life. Forms found in landscape: bushes, grass, clouds, and trees, reduced to graphic icons, which are quoted from cartooning, are assembled into models for paintings that represent the icon in a new way.

Since completing her B.F.A. at The University of Texas at Austin, Christine Gray has lived and worked in Austin.

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**Matthew Guest** ★ McAllen, TX

***Sick-Sixty-Sick***

Acrylic on canvas, 72" x 48"

Matthew Guest (b. 1969) lives and works in the Rio Grande Valley. In 2004 he achieved his MFA in studio art. As a professional artist Matt published comics with Fantagraphics Books in Seattle, drew caricatures at Six Flags Over Texas in Dallas, and taught art at South Texas College in McAllen.



**Joe Ives** ★ Houston, TX

***The Music in My Head***

Video installation

Joe Ives is concerned with being a helpful and useful artist. This desire leads him to create customized solutions which are humorous reevaluations of architecture and design. Creating interactive sculptures and props for his videos from cast-off materials, Ives especially enjoys the social relationships and situations devised by his installations.

[joeives@aol.com](mailto:joeives@aol.com)



**Lance Jones** ★ Dallas, TX

***Plush***

Acrylic, 38" x 38"

Using figuration as well as abstract elements, my work employs new developments in image making as well as nostalgic, "out-dated" techniques to explore the process of capturing a moment in time using pieces of data to be altered through dissection, deconstruction, and manipulation.

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**Young-Min Kang** ★ Austin, TX

***Interstate Junction***

Digital prints installation, 180" x 108" x 108"

Young-Min Kang is from Korea, and he graduated from the University of Texas at Austin (MFA). His work centered in expanding the limits of a particular media through changing the format of the information contained within. In digital prints, he emphasizes pixels by extremely lowering the image resolution and transporting these processed images into an actual space either as installation or as 3D objects.

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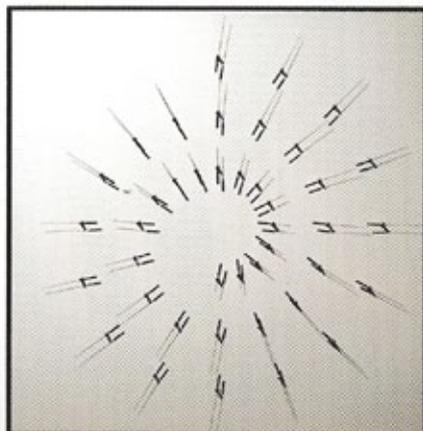
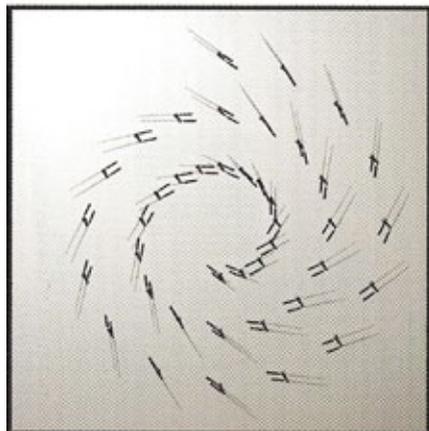
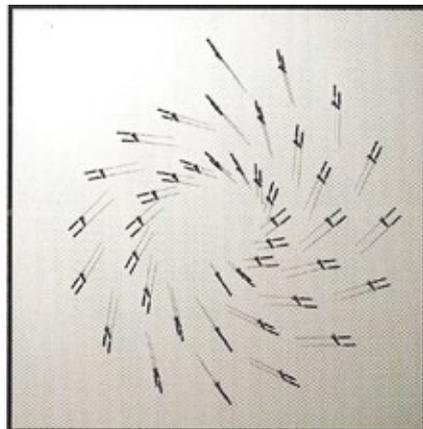
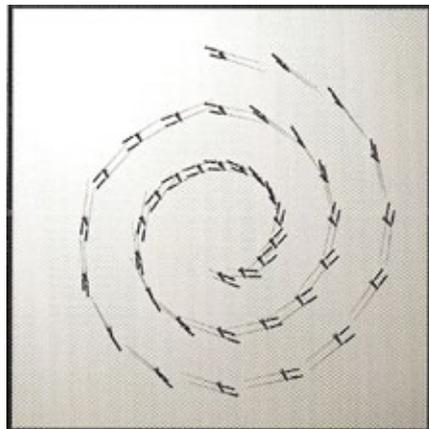
**Jimmy Kuehnle** ★ San Antonio, TX

***Fuck Bike***

Welded steel, 110" x 58" x 27"

James Kuehnle earned a BFA from Truman State University. After a stint teaching English in southern Japan, he enrolled in graduate studies at the University of Texas at San Antonio. His art bikes have been featured in news programs in Missouri, Memphis, Wisconsin, Japan, and now Texas.

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**Barna Kantor** ★ Austin, TX

***Sweeping Scan***

Clock movements, second hands, gatorboard, 48" x 48"

Barna Kantor is a recent UT Austin, Studio Art graduate. He is researching "gray rooms" mostly, venues that pick the best of black box cinema and white cube exhibition halls. He builds crude, cinematic projectors that fabricate delicate, infra-slim illusions, the kind that only exist in the grey room.



**Janaki Lennie** ★ Houston, TX

***Breathing Space #12***

Oil on masonite, 16" x 20"

My paintings and drawings are a response to my urban environment and the dilemma of beauty and the landscape: the strange ambivalence by which we cherish the idyllic or mythic landscape while destroying its last real vestiges. In a cluttered mundane world sometimes the only respite is to gaze upwards.

**Jason Makepeace** ★ Houston, TX

***...What a Wonderful Toy...***

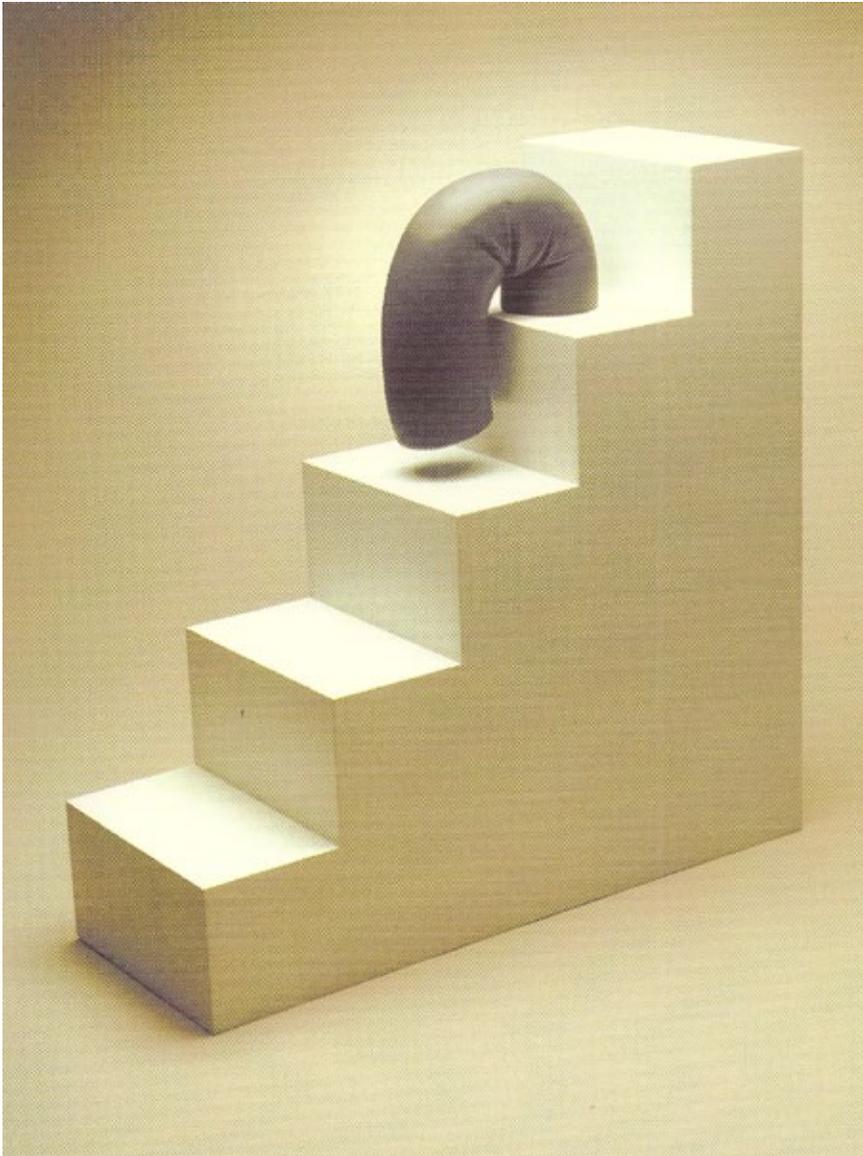
Wood, acrylic, foam, plastic, 32" x 32" x 12"

Born: Pearisburg, Virginia 1974

My latest body of work was conceived during my residency at Edward Albee's Barn. My work is based upon the comparison of man's imperfection with the perfection of machinery, epitomized by the perfect machine: the Slinky® is a perfect machine. However, the reference to the Slinky® is merely a reference; the concept is man perfecting the idea of machine.

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**Jonathan Marshall** ★ Austin, TX  
***The Eruption of Mt. St. Helen, 1980***  
Acrylic, ink on panel, 48" x 72" x 4"

b. 1981 Morgantown, West Virginia.  
Lives in Austin, TX.  
Eagle Scout.



**Richard Martinez** ★ San Antonio, TX

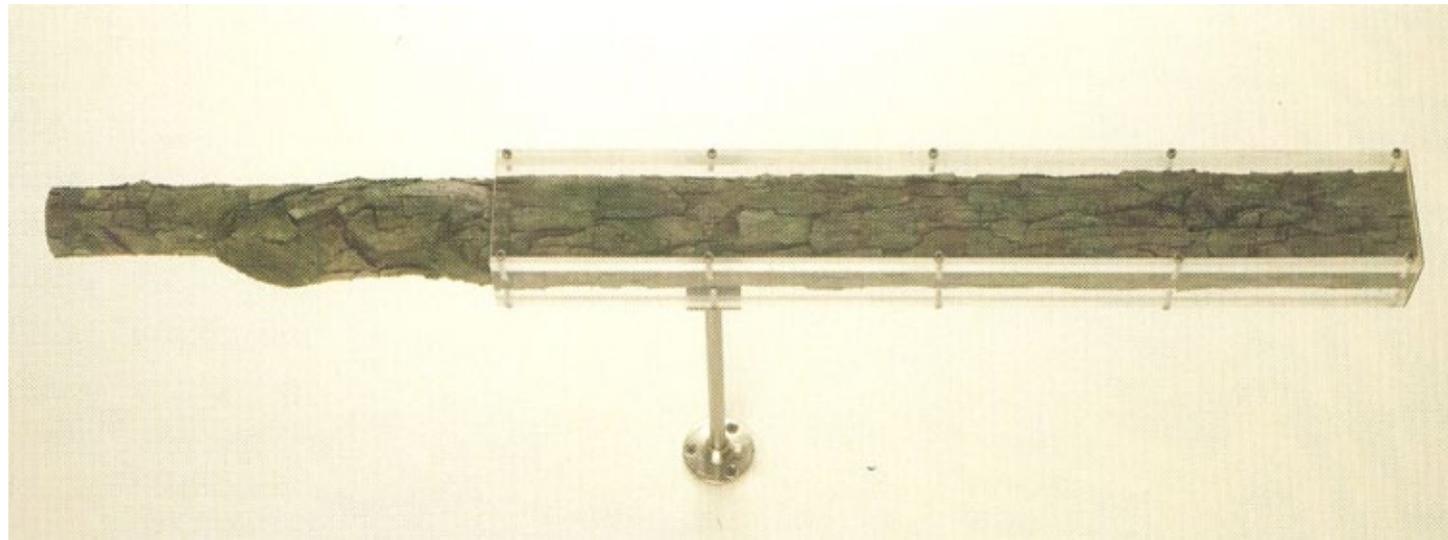
***Broken Link***

Oil on canvas, 45" x 30" x 2"

Richard Martinez recently moved to San Antonio, and is Assistant Professor of painting at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Before coming to Texas he lived and worked in Oregon, and California. His current work explores shaped formats, and a wide range of painterly approaches.

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**Seth Mittag** ★ Houston, TX

***Partially Grown Two by Four***

Polyurethane foam, acrylic, 35" x 3½" x 2½"

Seth Mittag is a Houston-based artist who crafts meticulous sculptures, creating works which wittingly challenge perceived ideas about nature. His Growing Lumber Experiment is a fictional idea based on real attempts by lumber companies to cut milling costs by forcing trees to grow in square tubes, Mittag is able to grow lumber rather than mill it.

**Mari Omori** ★ Spring, TX

***Pilgrimage***

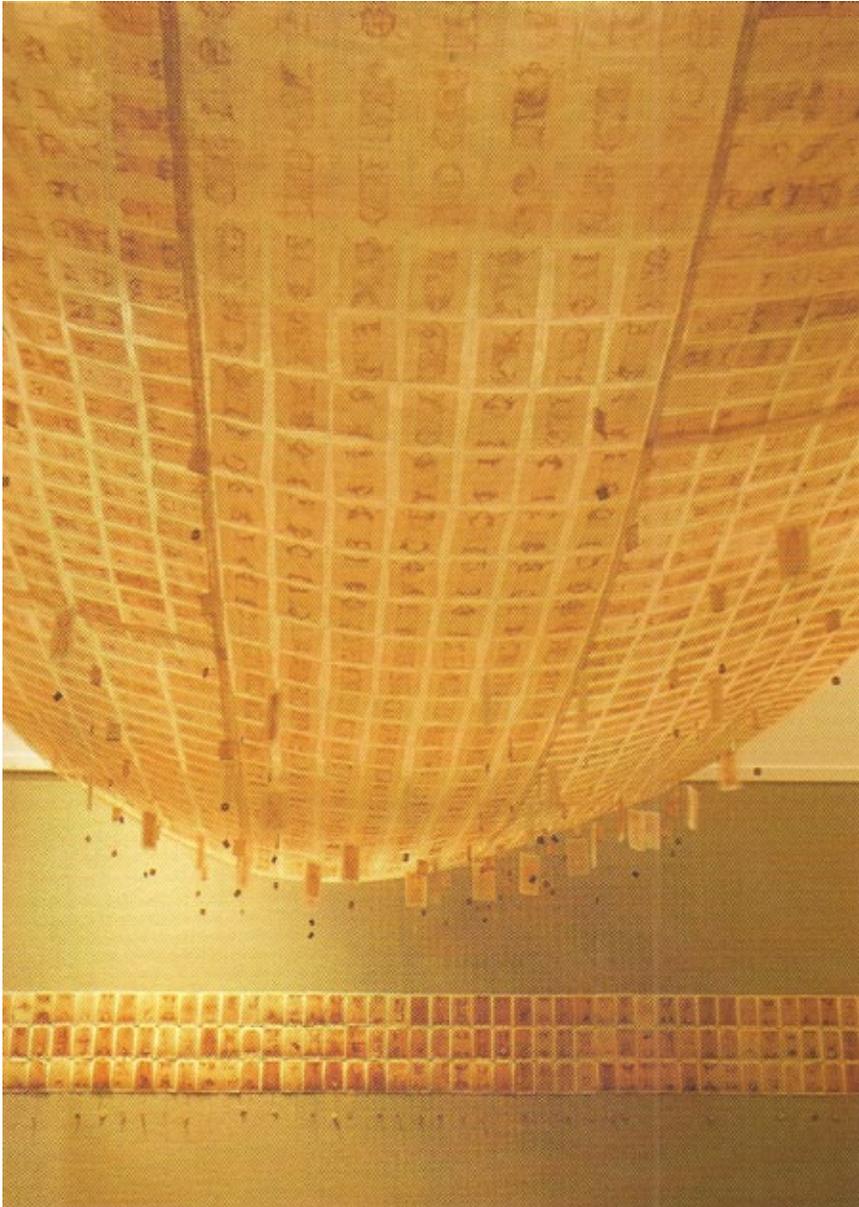
Teabags, mosquito net thread, 144" x 240"

My interest is in abstraction. I explore its possibilities in a wide range of forms and dimensions with the material on hand. The ideas often emerge in response to the materials and elements of chance. The forms undergo construction, transformation, articulation, deconstruction, inarticulation and settle in between the states of absence and presence, temporal and permanent, east and west.

The tea bag piece in this show is a result of collaboration, tea makers and tea servers and tea drinkers and tea seamstresses and tea worshippers.

281-350-2577

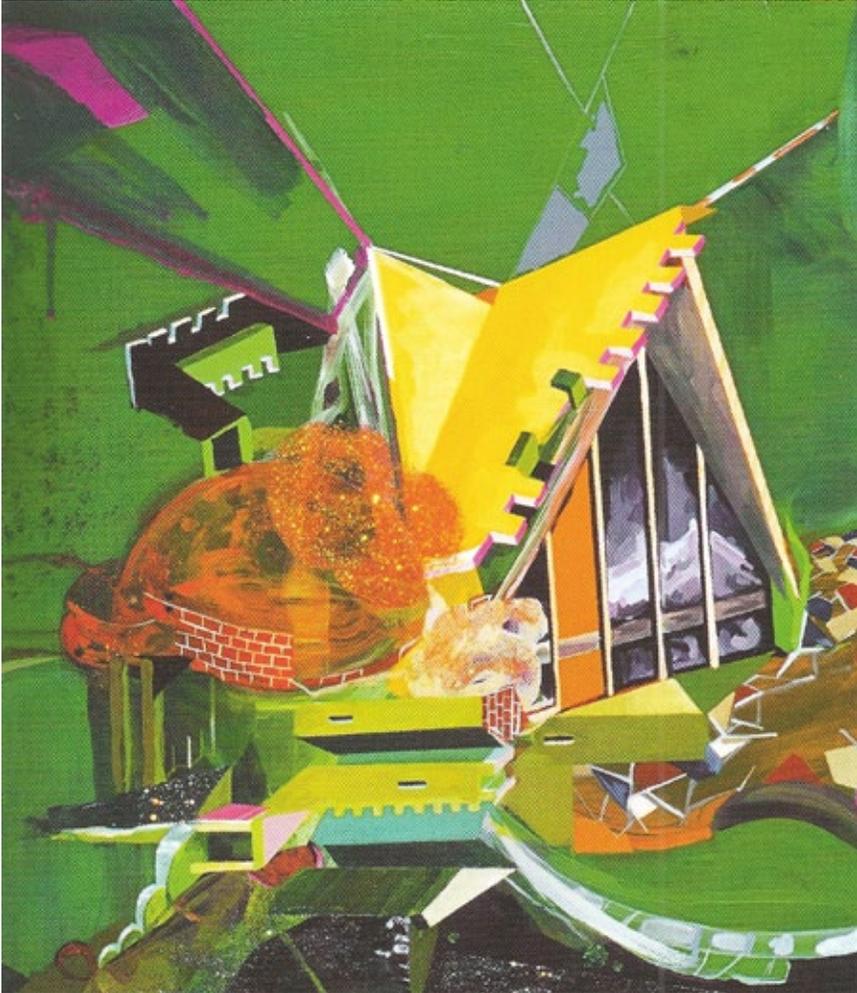
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**Nina Rizzo** ★ Austin, TX

***Lodge***

Acrylic on panel, 16" x 14"

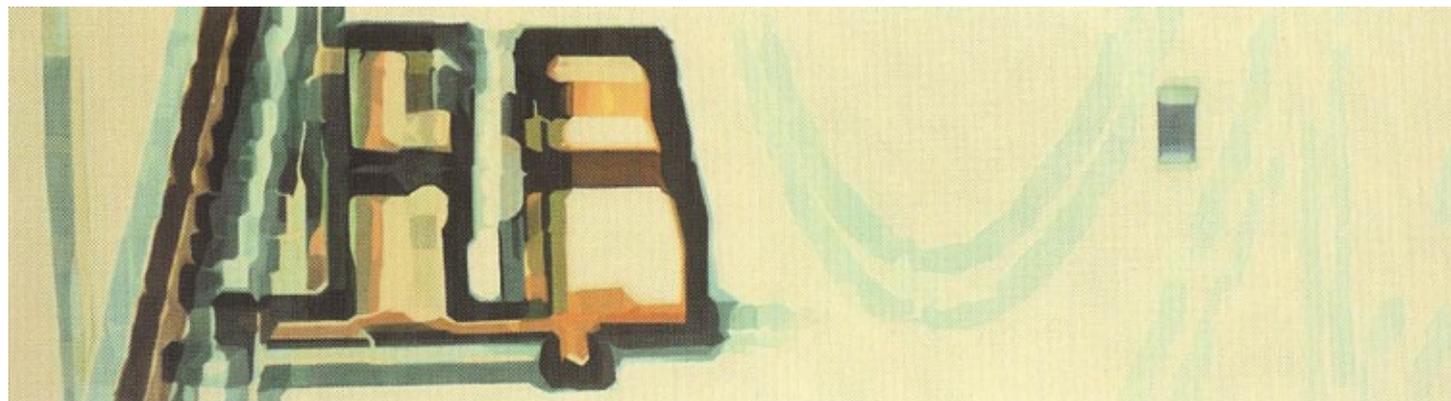


**Matthew Rodriguez** ★ Austin, TX  
***Girl from Ipanema***

Paint on wood, 35" x 40"

Matthew Rodriguez has a background in street art. His signature characters can be seen on walls, dumpsters, and trains all over North America. Rodriguez has been exhibiting large site specific installations consisting of individual paintings on metal and wood panels along side photos of graffiti and old family photos.





**Annie Simpson** ★ San Marcos, TX

***Untitled***

Oil on canvas, 17" x 59½"

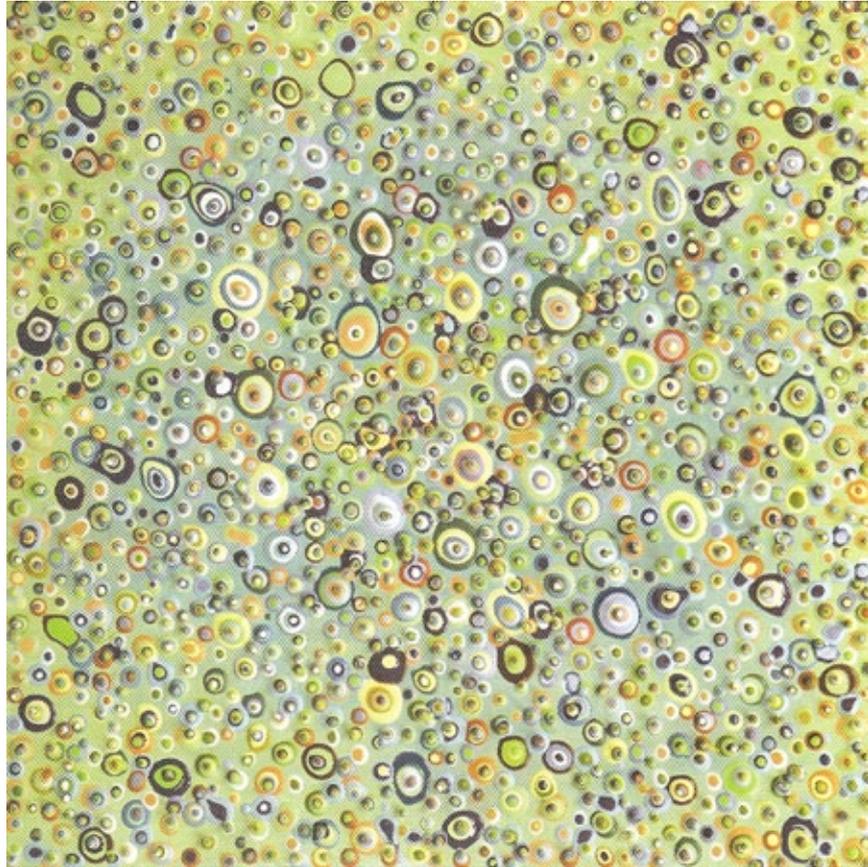
Along night highways, light indicates motion, and high speed flickers and slowly glides. My paintings begin in this space; within them forms dematerialize, and time is both an instant and a continuous flow.

MFA, Yale University School of Art

BFA, Univeristy of Texas, Austin

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**Charlotte Smith** ★ Dallas, TX

***Blue Pile Up***

Acrylic on board, 15" x 15"

My recent paintings and installations continue my exploration of materials and painting processes. Paint drops stack up and form intriguing little piles. These pieces visually relate to pointillism in an abstract way. The strangeness and density of the dots intentionally draws in the viewer. This new series of paintings are purposefully obsessive. The installation pieces visually relate to the paintings with the multitude of small plastic pieces utilized.



**Debra Sugerman** ★ Austin, TX

***Talking to Grandpa***

Photograph, 10" x 10"

The content of my pictures varies. The essence of my black and white images is mainly about my observations of what I call the "minutia" of our world: things we see or experience in everyday life, but sometimes miss. If context is meaning then "context" references my emotional status. My images are not predicated on but rather limited by my emotional groundswells and experiences. I am like many artists: making art is simply about a need to extricate or better delineate. My black and white images hold fast to the influences that major life events can create.



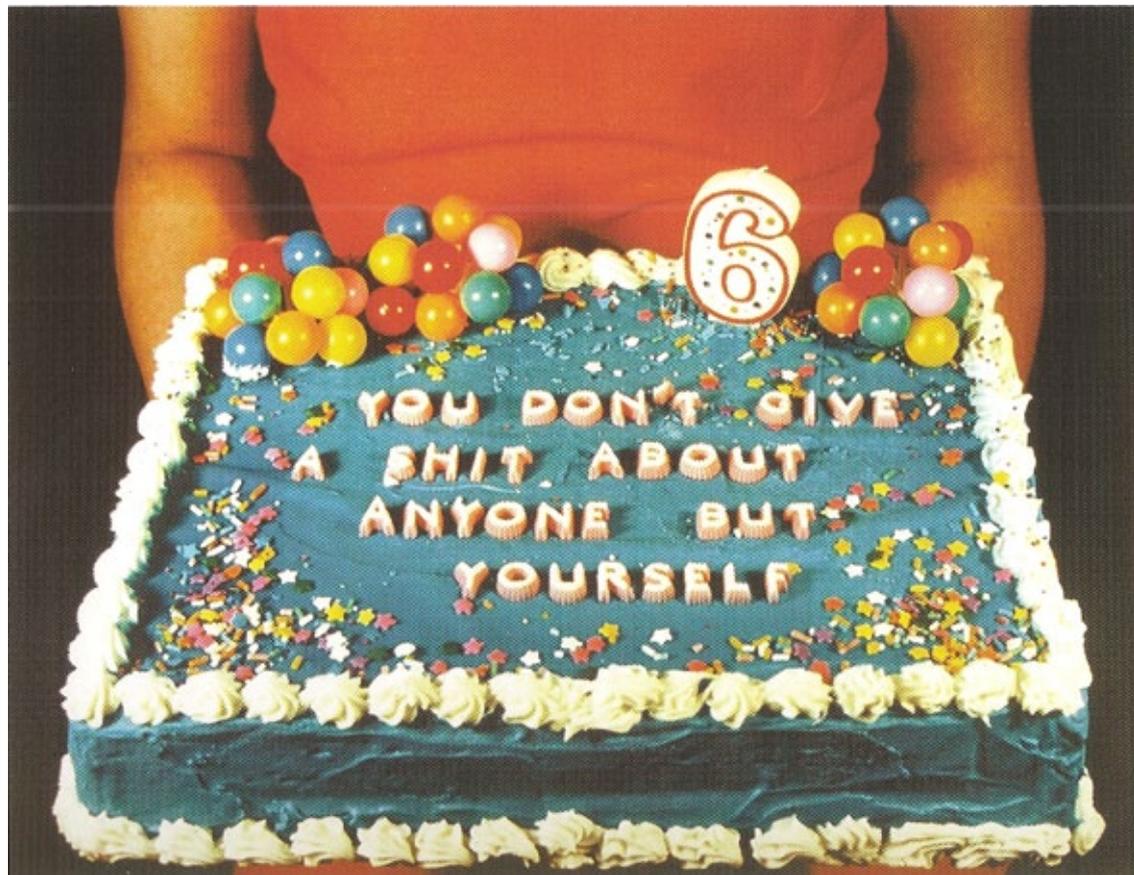
**Daniel Tackett** ★ Paige, TX

***Sub-mit***

Oak and found objects, 28" x 8" x 8"

I strive to create a dialogue between the viewer and artwork by applying bits of the commonplace and addressing contemporary issues within element of humor. Born in 1971 in Fort Worth, Texas. Received a B.F.A. in 1996, M.F.A. degree in 1999. Built a studio in 2002 in Paige, Texas.

greypig@netzero.net



**Tara Welch** ★ Denton, TX

***You Dont Give a Shit About Anyone but Yourself***

C-print, 22" x 18"

Few events are as documented as a child's birthday party. Using color photography, my aim is to stage an iconic "presentation-of-cake" birthday photo that reveals an underlying sentiment. This sentiment reveals domestic power struggles, accusations, and familial abuse. My background includes working in printmaking, photography, and installation.

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**36 artists from 12 cities:**

<b>Alice</b>	<b>Houston</b>
<b>Austin</b>	<b>McAllen</b>
<b>Cedar Creek</b>	<b>Paige</b>
<b>Dallas</b>	<b>San Antonio</b>
<b>Denton</b>	<b>San Marcos</b>
<b>Ennis</b>	<b>Spring</b>

**Jury Panel:**

<b>Bill Davenport</b>	<b>Artist and writer from Houston</b>
<b>Ben Fyffe</b>	<b>El Paso Museum of Art</b>
<b>Benito Huerta</b>	<b>Gallery at UT Arlington</b>
<b>Sara Kellner</b>	<b>DiverseWorks - Houston</b>
<b>Jimmy Peña</b>	<b>Artist from Corpus Christ</b>
<b>Hills Snyder</b>	<b>Sala Diaz - San Antonio</b>
<b>Jeff Wheeler</b>	<b>Artist from Lubbock</b>
<b>Shea Little, Joseph Phillips &amp; Jana Swec</b>	<b>Bolm Studios</b>
<b>Michael Sieben &amp; Allison Sands</b>	<b>Camp Fig</b>
<b>Arturo Palacios</b>	<b>Dougherty Arts Center</b>
<b>Jon Lawrence</b>	<b>Eastside Artist Coop</b>
<b>Rachel Koper</b>	<b>Gallery Lombardi</b>

The purpose of the Texas Biennial is to discover, promote & support contemporary artists working in Texas. The Biennial is an artist initiative, organized by Bolm Studios, Camp Fig, Dougherty Arts Center, Eastside Artist Coop and Gallery Lombardi, with the help of affiliates from across the state.

The Texas Biennial would like to thank our sponsors for their support:  
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