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The Rose Art Museum opens exhibitions by Walead Beshty and Sam Jury



Walead Beshty, Untitled, 2013. Photograph by Mike Lovett.



WALTHAM, MASS.- Opening on February 13, the [Rose Art Museum](#) will present On the matter of abstraction (figs. A & B), a dynamic installation of art from the permanent collection organized by Los Angeles-based artist Walead Beshty in collaboration with Rose director Christopher Bedford, and the installation, Walead Beshty: Untitled.

Also opening on the 13th will be Sam Jury: Coerced Nature, a series of painterly videos by the British artist shown both at the Rose and in public spaces on campus.

Artist Walead Beshty collaborated with Christopher Bedford, Henry and Lois Foster Director of the Rose, to create On the matter of abstraction (figs. A & B). Comprised of post-war non-figurative works drawn from the Rose's permanent collection, the exhibition takes the architecture of the museum's original building (Max Abramovitz, 1961), and uses it to structure two parallel narratives. The entry level, a terrazzo clad room with floor to ceiling windows, features works in the tradition of analytic abstraction by Ellsworth Kelly, Sol Lewitt, Robert Mangold, Kenneth Noland, Agnes Martin and Judy Chicago, among many others. Downstairs, the materially laden objects on display demonstrate a contrasting investment in the unruly. With works by Mark Bradford, Jessica Stockholder, Ana Mendieta, Helen Frankenthaler, Robert Rauschenberg and Charline von Heyl, among others, the lower level focuses not only on the gesture and body of the artist but also on the cultural detritus of the world at large. Beshty describes the visitor's descent to the lower floor as a movement from "the cathedral to the cave... both existing as traditional sites of ritual, contemplation and communion." here re-imagined as a passage from "line to stain."

Within the same space, Beshty created a separate work, a mirror and glass floor that runs throughout both levels of the building: Untitled (Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University: Waltham, Massachusetts, February 12 – June 9, 2013). According to Bedford, "While Beshty's floor is not part of the exhibition on the surrounding walls, it does function as a physical armature for the viewing experience, straddling—perhaps even collapsing—the dialectical concept that structures On the matter of abstraction's two parts. But while Beshty's floor may lack an image of its own, it absorbs the world around it through reflection, becoming by virtue of context a highly representational device. Over time and through use, the surface cracks as a result of visitors' movements, subsequently taking apart the images of the objects we see in it, until finally that reflected world is nothing more than a dense matrix of fractured images and jagged lines."

Sam Jury: Coerced Nature is a series of video installations presented in the newly renovated Lee Gallery and on campus. Jury's subjects are as specific as the fraught relationship between human beings and our environments, natural and architectural, and as general as the psychological impact of screen-based technologies on our perception of what is real. She melds staged, fragmented performances with eerily familiar yet unrecognizable

places, creating impossible, emotionally layered scenes. The work hovers outside a specific time, location or even artistic genre while feeling utterly contemporary.

On view are works newly created for the exhibition, such as *The Approach 4* (2012) and *Three Parts Against* (2013), as well as earlier pieces, including *Over for the Day* (2009) and *About Nowhere* (2010), projected onto sculptural forms, walls, windows, and small boxes, with some work intervening on Brandeis' public spaces. In addition to installations proportioned to specific gallery spaces, a large projection appears in a window of the Shapiro Campus Center, and tiny screens surprise in unexpected nooks of the university libraries.

According to curator Dabney Hailey, "While Jury's body of work includes painting, photography, performance and video, *Coerced Nature* focuses on her video installations, which marry elements of all these mediums. The artist refers to her video work as sitting between 'trauma and rapture,' between passive and active gazes, and between isolation and voyeurism. These ambivalences—which in many ways characterize the digital age—cohere in Jury's charged, entrancing works of art."

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Today's News

February 13, 2013

The McNay Art Museum presents Real/Surreal featuring paintings from The Whitney Museum

Sotheby's Contemporary Art Sale brings £74.4m/\$116.4m- 2nd highest total for a February auction in London

Rarotonga pole club leads art of the South Seas Auction at Bonhams in San Francisco

Discovering the Civil War, landmark exhibition from Washington D.C.'s National Archives

Exhibition featuring over seventy-five artists examines works made or exhibited in New York City 20 years ago

Kate Fowle is new Chief Curator for Garage Center for Contemporary Culture in Moscow

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art announces leadership realignment to support strategic plan

Michael Hoppen Contemporary opens exhibition of Michael Eastman's Havana series

Up, up and away: Oscar Wilde's poem 'Les Ballons' for sale at Bonhams in London

The Hyde Collection announces appointment of Charles A. Guerin as new Director

Bonhams appoint Jennifer Gibson Head of Fine Furniture, Decorative Arts and Asian Art in Australia

George Washington's farewell address on exhibit at New York State Museum in Albany

Bonhams New York to offer Mel Ramos' iconic 1960s super-villain The Trickster

Cincinnati Art Museum Chief Curator James Crump resigns

Moody Foundation awards \$20 million to Rice University for new Center for the Arts

Mixed Greens opens installation by Stacey Watson viewable through a peephole

Renaud Proch announced as Independent Curators International Executive Director

Smithsonian Books releases graphic novel-style biography of Charles Darwin

The Rose Art Museum opens exhibitions by Walead Beshty and Sam Jury

Talking sex in Vancouver: Museum of Vancouver tackles taboo subject by exploring its cultural history

Most Popular Last Seven Days

1.- Archaeological dig finds that ancient groups incinerated and buried their departed in pots

2.- Antique shop painting could be worth \$53 million; Art expert solves mystery of Gustave Courbet painting

3.- Bob Dylan the painter on show in Milan's former city hall, the Palazzo Reale

4.- Little Black Gallery introduces the work of emerging photographer Tyler Udall

5.- 'Unbalanced' woman vandalises famed Eugene Delacroix painting at the Louvre in Lens

6.- King Richard III's skeleton found under carpark, DNA matches 17th generation descendant

7.- Japan town demands pants for replica of Michelangelo's Renaissance sculpture David

8.- French government charges international art dealer Guy Wildenstein with tax evasion

9.- Lucian Freud leaves painting to the National Gallery as a thank you to the nation

10.- Major Edward Hopper retrospective outstrips Pablo Picasso on Paris home turf

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