

Richmond, VA - artspace is pleased to present five new gallery shows, featuring paintings and ceramics by **Clive & Virginia Pates**, printmaking, installation and architecture by **Michael Benedetti & Conor McGrann**, paintings by **Janly Jaggard**, watercolor paintings by **Amy Smith**, and a group show by local artists, **As Cool as That** – Images and indications to turn the heat down. Exhibition dates are July 28 through August 20, 2017. An Opening Reception for the Artists will take place on Fourth Friday, July 28, 2017, from 7:00-10:00 pm and will be Free and Open to the Public. A closing artist talk will take place Sunday, August 20, 2017 at 2:00pm. This event will also be Free and Open to the Public.

The *Main* Gallery exhibition will present **Oil and Dirt**, new paintings and ceramics by **Clive & Virginia Pates**. The Pates create paintings and ceramics that relate on many levels, such as the source material of a common landscape and a richness of color and abstract form. Clive's paintings are a plein-air record of the couple's life and travels, and Virginia's ceramics are constructed of the materials that created these landscapes. As a painter, Clive describes himself as a "gesturalist", representing his subject with brush and knife work, sculpturally describing the picture surface with a broad and open mark making process. Clive's paintings are exhibited internationally, and he has been recognized throughout his career. His work is represented in many private and public collections. Virginia is a contemporary American ceramic artist who creates wheel-thrown and altered forms in a wide variety of clay bodies, often including collected materials from the local environment. She also exhibits her work internationally, and has won multiple awards in her field. The Cross-Mackenzie Gallery in Washington, D.C. currently represents her.

The *Frable* Gallery will feature **Reflections on Flatland**, printmaking, installation, architecture, by **Michael Benedetti & Conor McGrann**. "The aim of this exhibition is to explore the macro and micro of the space that surrounds us - the objects, rooms, buildings, streets, and cities that govern our daily activity as well as the cognitive and physical dimensions that humanity inhabits," the artists write. Influenced by Edwin A. Abbot's 1884 work **Flatland** and its use of geometric representation, **Reflections on Flatland** focuses on Benedetti and McGrann's geometric interpretation of the world that surrounds them and explores some of the ideals expressed within Abbot's narrative. Their work also promotes the versatility of printmaking through its incorporation in a room-sized installation. The cityscape on the floor will provide walking room for members of the artspace community to wander in between the buildings and view the city as a representation of the spaces, objects, and structures that inspire the artists and inform their work.

In the *Helena Davis* Gallery, **Introspection**, recent paintings by **Janly Jaggard**. Janly Jaggard is British but has lived in Staunton, Virginia since the early 1990s. She originally came to the United States on a Teachers' Exchange program. She has taught art for much of her adult life and continues to do so at Beverley Street Studio School in Staunton. She earned an undergraduate degree for sculptural ceramics at West of England College of Art in Bristol, England in 1971 and returned there to earn an MA in Fine Art in 2015 at Norwich University of Art. She has exhibited all across the United States and in Europe and Japan as well. Her exhibition at artspace focuses on recent paintings in oil or acrylic as well as vitreous enamel on copper as wall pieces.

In *smallspace* Gallery, **Amy Smith** will present **Embrace**, watercolor paintings. "My work speaks about bodies interacting. I paint about different types of touch—violent, tender, abusive, and loving," she says. "My interest lies in the moments of touch that exist between the two extremes of violence and love, and the moments of touch when it may be difficult to discern the difference. Painting and printmaking themselves already speak in many ways about touch, through facture, surface, and pressure." The content informing her works stems from personal experience surrounding touch and abuse. She includes obscured narrative elements, the structure of which mirror the vague and cyclical nature of abuse. "I believe that explicit narration would limit my work," Smith continues. "My focus is on the feelings surrounding the narrative and not on the retelling of a story."

The *Suzanne Foley* Gallery will feature **As Cool as That** – Images and indications to turn the heat down.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 12-4pm. Please contact the gallery administrator at [artspaceorg@gmail.com](mailto:artspaceorg@gmail.com), or phone the gallery at [804-232-6464](tel:804-232-6464) for additional information. The gallery is located at Zero East 4th Street in Richmond, Virginia 23224, and online at [www.artspacegallery.org](http://www.artspacegallery.org).