

Richmond, VA - **artspace** is pleased to present five new gallery shows, featuring print installation works by **Melissa Haviland**, paintings by **Julie Dzikiewicz**, paintings/drawings/prints by **Nicole Santiago**, installation by **Teri Keegan-Castrop**, and works in all media by **artspace artist members**. Exhibition dates are June 22 through July 22, 2018. An Opening Reception for the Artists will take place on Friday, June 22, 2018, from 6:00-9:00pm and will be Free and Open to the Public. A closing artist talk will take place Sunday, July 22, 2018 at 2:00pm. This event will also be Free and Open to the Public.

The *Main Gallery* exhibition will present **White Gold: Blue**, print installations by **Melissa Haviland**. Haviland is an artist and educator whose artwork straddles the boundaries between printmaking and installation-performance. She explores lineage, ritual, and practice within objects that are gendered and classed, like fine china, which have both feminine and upper-class connotations. "I use fine china as a cultural lens to explore relationships: personal and economic," she says. "I view the table as a platform for interaction - from conversation to negotiation." Haviland sets the table strategically to examine desire, etiquette, and the power of objects in our lives as totems and commodities. "Printmaking and the multiple allow me to reference the reiteration of objects and ideas in our culture," she says.

The *Frable Gallery* will feature **The Human Experience**, paintings by **Julie Dzikiewicz**. "I seek to paint the humorous truths of being a member of a family," Dzikiewicz writes. "My work strives to depict how we relate, how it feels, and how one handles the holidays. At heart, my paintings tell a story using characters, color and crystals." Dzikiewicz likes contradictions. The people and creatures in her art are flatly cartoonish and yet three-dimensional details pop out of the work. "We may see balls of glass on the painting surface, but our touch would reveal wax construction," she says. "An angel's hair is painted paper; a roasted Thanksgiving turkey, an encaustic print on top of strip lights." Dzikiewicz aims to create humor by turning the viewer's expectations of story upside down. "A happy holiday may include an angry octopus at our table. Sea monsters can be sweet, and sisters can be sharks. I have painted myself into the work, and yet, as an identical twin, is it really me?" she says. "All of us are born into families," Dzikiewicz continues. "Many of us share similar experiences. With this series of work I hope to connect with my viewers, sharing both the darkness of the human experience and the light."

In the *Helena Davis Gallery*, **Family Narratives**, paintings/drawings/prints by **Nicole Santiago**. Santiago paints the commonplace objects that surround her, loosely suggesting her internal and familial narratives, resulting in domestic scenes with simple yet layered storylines. While narrative is the primary driving force in her work, it always remains subservient to the larger formal concerns of the painting. To this end, she often runs through several narratives in the course of any one painting, finding her subject through the process. "Just as I am not bound to the storylines that initially incite a work," she says, "I am also not bound to any one way of constructing a piece. And while working from direct observation is my preferred method, I do not consider myself a perceptual purist, regularly finding it necessary to employ other methods to construct my works. Most often this includes invention, working from memory, digital studies, painting from multiple set ups, and so on." Santiago's intent is to make images that engage the viewer through the subject matter and the underlying abstraction. "I seek to investigate both the isolated domestic moments that surround me and the formal structures of the picture itself," she says, "creating visual situations that challenge the passivity of the viewer."

In *smallspace Gallery*, **Marci Waiting**, installation by **Teri Keegan-Castrop**. "I create installations with realistic plaster cast figures to explore the interpersonal aspect of existence," Keegan-Castrop says. "**Marci Waiting** is about lost moments from the past, and things that you wish you could have or should have acted upon. It reflects domestic life but in a broader sense how we prioritize daily chores, tasks and projects that eat away at time." Keegan-Castrop's work reflects experiences from the lives of people she knows and loves, as she strives to narrate their life stories. She is intrigued by how life's fragments can define and mold a person's perception of themselves and others. "The concept for each work often comes to me as a full-blown image, and I develop the audio/visual component over time," she says. "By making my adult figures smaller than average, I hope to emphasize the importance of memory and how our childhood experiences constantly inform and shape our adult selves."

The Suzanne Foley Gallery will exhibit **artspace artist members** in: **HOT IN HERE? Palettes for the Season**, work in all media.

artspace is offering extended gallery hours this summer. The gallery will be open from 12-6pm on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through July 22. Regular gallery hours, 12-4pm apply on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and by appointment. Please contact the gallery administrator at 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, with a 2nd door located at 31 E. 3rd Street, and online at www.artspacegallery.org