

5 to Watch

Exceptional Graduates from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

MARCH 20–APRIL 17, 2014

5 to Watch

Exceptional Graduates from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

MARCH 20–APRIL 17, 2014

Avery Galleries is pleased to present our second year of *5 to Watch*, a special exhibition that showcases the artwork of five exceptional graduates from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. In keeping with the show's established theme, the work of these contemporary artists is set in dialogue with Avery Galleries' exceptional collection of historic American art.

When we made our selections for *5 to Watch* this year, we purposely chose a diverse group of artists. Claire Haik's complex plein-air landscapes that speak to the interconnectivity of nature stand in contrast to the stark realism of Ted Walsh's suburban world. Evan Fugazzi uses playful and colorful abstractions to build his visual narratives whereas Joseph Lozano decontextualizes his images to call into question the very meaning his viewers assign to a subject. Doron Langberg challenges his viewers to step outside of their comfort zones with his large-scale figurative paintings that boldly confront issues of identity and sexuality.

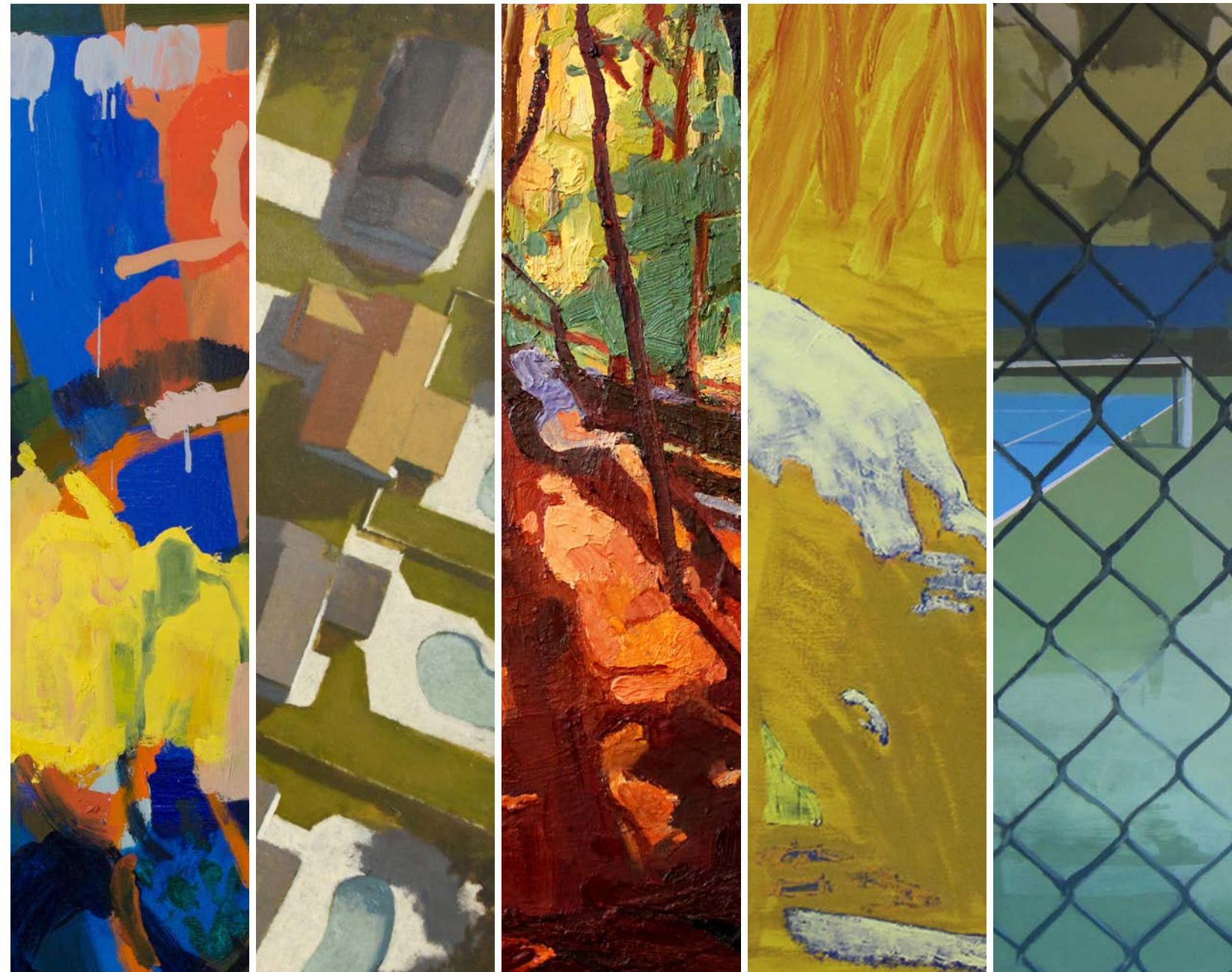
Many of the historic artists in Avery Galleries' collection were extremely innovative and provocative in their own time. They too grappled with formal problems, technical concerns, and their ability to capture the import of their ideas and subject matter. Of course the end results of their artistic ventures look very different from the work of these five contemporary artists, but it is interesting to note how some universal themes transcend the passage of time.

We hope the visitors to *5 to Watch* enjoy the work of this group of young, emerging artists, who both look back to their artistic forebears and ahead to what's before them. We believe they add to PAFA's rich and varied artistic legacy while also standing out on their own.

VERY GALLERIES

100 Chetwynd Drive, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 Phone: (610) 896-0680

WWW.AVERYGALLERIES.COM



VERY GALLERIES

EVAN FUGAZZI (born 1980)

Tell It, 2013

Oil on linen, 46 x 46 inches (116.8 x 116.8 cm)

2012, Master of Fine Arts, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

2008, Certificate in Drawing and Painting, The Florence Academy of Art, Florence, Italy

2004, Bachelor of Architecture, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN

Selected Recent Exhibitions

2013 *Adjust Accordingly* (solo show), Gross McCleaf Gallery, Philadelphia

Sidestep the Rational (solo show), 701 Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC

Evan Fugazzi (solo show), Galeri Hertz, Louisville, KY

Sampler: Small Works by 30 Artists, Cerulean Arts Gallery, Philadelphia

University of South Carolina Faculty Show, Tapp's Arts Center, Columbia, SC

2012 *New Moderns*, Gross McCleaf Gallery, Philadelphia

Generations: Selections from the Woodmere Art Museum, Acorn Club, Philadelphia

Painting the Periphery, Sykes Gallery, Millersville University, Millersville, PA and

Pierre S. du Pont Arts Center Gallery, Wilmington, DE

71st Annual Juried Exhibition, Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia

MFA Thesis Exhibition, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

2011 *Drawn From PAFA: An Exhibition of Drawings by Students of the Pennsylvania*

Academy of the Fine Arts, The Barbara Crawford Gallery, Chestnut Hill

Academy, Philadelphia

2010 *Narcissus in the Studio: Artist Portraits and Self-portraits*, The Pennsylvania Academy of

the Fine Arts

I paint to discover what my paintings will look like as they unfold in the course of their making, and I will gladly sacrifice certainty for possibility. I love the tension between touch and material, the point when several elements combine in unexpected ways to make something greater than their parts. What fascinates me is the way a painting can be many things at once or many things revealed slowly with the passage of time.

So, I build my narratives and, as the painting progresses, craft these unfolding, variable visual stories that strike a personal and poetic truth. They live in the realm of "sort of," simultaneously embracing the qualities of and tension between representation and abstraction.

I hope my work rewards the viewer with something akin to the joy and the exhaustion one feels after a good day of play. I found my playground at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Taking the things I already knew, I was pushed and prodded and questioned. The Academy challenged me, cheered for me, frustrated me. It encouraged my innate curiosity and gave me playmates that I will have for the rest of my life.



CLAIRE HAIK (born 1982)

On the Way, 2013

Oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches (30.5 x 30.5 cm)

2015, Master of Fine Arts, School of Visual Arts, New York

2012, Certificate in Painting, Minor in Printmaking, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Selected Recent Exhibitions

2013 *Holiday Show*, Red Raven Art Company, Lancaster, PA
August Group Show, F.A.N. Gallery, Philadelphia
Twilight Park: 125 Years of Artists, Mountain Top Historical Society, Tannersville, NY
Annual Mountain Art Show, Twilight Park, Haines Falls, NY

2012 *January Group Show*, F.A.N. Gallery, Philadelphia
New Year's Group Show, F.A.N. Gallery, Philadelphia
Emerging Artist Show, Red Raven Art Company, Lancaster, PA
New Talent Group Show, F.A.N. Gallery, Philadelphia
111th Annual Student Exhibition, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
Paintings and Drawings of Kristina Watkins, Blue Streak Gallery, Wilmington, DE
Itsa Small Small World, Family Matters Gallery, Chelsea, New York

2011 *Kristina: Works on Paper of Kristina Watkins*, Oxford Art Alliance, Oxford, PA
Annual Mountain Art Show, Twilight Park, Haines Falls, NY
Charles Carlson Landscape Residency Exhibition (solo show), The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
110th Annual Student Exhibition, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

My work with the landscape focuses on images of dense forest, thickets of underbrush and tangles of vines—subjects that, for me, represent the interconnectivity of nature. Making my paintings outside on location as well as in my studio, I work to distill these intricate scenes into my paintings without compromising their complexity and essential wildness.

The ongoing process of selection and interpretation—the descriptive language an artist chooses—is in my belief a direct reflection of how an artist sees. My teachers at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts gave me this gift of selective sight. There I learned that artists must create their own visual language in order to simplify, divide, and develop the composition of an image. The uniquely dedicated faculty at PAFA blended traditional training, intensive dialogue, and independent study in a way that encouraged disciplined learning while fostering the development of my own artistic vision. In the studio, my peers provided support and the opportunity to engage in critical discussion. I am grateful for my time at PAFA; the seriousness of purpose and family atmosphere I found there provided me with the skills and confidence I need to achieve my goals.



DORON LANGBERG (born 1985)

On All Fours #3, 2013

Oil on linen, 60 x 70 inches (152.4 x 177.8 cm)

2012, Master of Fine Arts, Yale University, New Haven

2010, Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

2010, Certificate in Painting, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Selected Recent Exhibitions

2013 *Corpus Americus*, Driscoll Babcock, New York

Domestic Experiences / Foreign Interiors, Sensei Exchange, New York

Diff'rent Strokes: Small Paintings and Intimate Performances, Louis B. James Gallery,
New York

Andrew Robinson / Doron Langberg / Kyle Coniglio, Anna Kustera Gallery, New York

Deep Cuts, Anna Kustera Gallery, New York

2012 *The Dorian Project*, Second Guest Gallery & Ana Cristea Gallery, New York

Red Herring, FJORD Gallery, Philadelphia

LOST and FOUND: Belief and Doubt in Contemporary Pictures, The Museum of New Art,
Detroit

Eyes Off the Flag, Motus Fort Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

PEEP: A Curious Look Into Painting, Little Berlin, Philadelphia

2011 *It's Hot Inside*, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York

Romantic Agony, Horton Gallery, New York

When confronted with views about queerness, either personally communicated to me, publicly expressed or embedded in institutional policy I often feel that they do not correspond with my own experience of sexuality. In my work I wish to bridge this gap, making my desires and anxieties palpable to the viewer. From video stills and photographs that I take of myself, I paint moments that appear simultaneously pleasurable and violent or intimate and tenuous, communicating the range of emotions that converge in sexuality. By representing queer sexuality as multilayered and personal I want to urge the viewer to empathize with the intimate experiences my work depicts, in turn rendering it beautiful in their eyes. In the space of my work queerness becomes unmarked, and sexuality is presented as a shared human experience.

In *On All Fours #3* I depict myself on my hands and knees with my head lowered. This pose is both vulnerable and sexual, creating a multivalent image that implicates the viewer in its power dynamics. The figure is silhouetted by his surroundings, painted as "negative space." By suspending the subjects in color and atmosphere, I slow down the read of the image, carving out time for the viewer to take pleasure in the painting's form and materiality as the image emerges.



JOSEPH LOZANO (born 1982)

Court, 2013

Oil on linen, 41 x 47 inches (104.1 x 119.4 cm)

2009, Master of Fine Arts, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

2007, Certificate in Painting, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Selected Recent Exhibitions

2014 *Post Paradigm Painting*, Gross McCleaf Gallery, Philadelphia

2013 *February Exhibition* (solo show), Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia

2012 *Trust Us*, Co-curated with PJ Smalley, Trust Gallery, Philadelphia
February Exhibition (solo show), Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
The Figure Considered, MOCA DC, Washington, D.C.

2011 *February Exhibition* (solo show), Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia

2010 *It Is the Mercy* (solo show), International House, Philadelphia
November Exhibition (solo show), Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
The Philadelphia Art Salon on the Main Line, The Philadelphia Salon, Bala Cynwyd, PA
Philadelphia Painters, The Painting Center, New York

In my current body of work I am interested in using silhouette, shadow and erasure as a means to deconstruct and decontextualize the original signification of my subject matter. In these paintings I push the imagery to the front of the picture plane and create a paper-thin depth-of-field, thereby transforming the subject into an object of its own, and removing the rote associations we might otherwise impose on it. By establishing this visual and analytical distance, the viewer is made to ask, "How do I get behind or through this?"

My intention to deconstruct the boundaries I have as an artist began as a student at PAFA. To me, the Academy's greatest asset is its core foundation of tradition and history, which gives its students the tools to grow as artists and the opportunity to make their own decisions.



TED WALSH (born 1984)

Street Scene Outside Philly, 2013

Oil on panel, 14 x 12 inches (35.6 x 30.5 cm)

2011, Master of Fine Arts, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

2008, Bachelor of Arts, Drew University, Madison, NJ

Selected Recent Exhibitions

2013 *Saints and Sinners*, BAU Gallery, Beacon, NY

Ted Walsh Solo Exhibit, Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts, Millville, NJ

Art of the State: 2013, The State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg

Ted Walsh: New Paintings (solo show), Beacon Art Shortwave Gallery, Stone Harbor, NJ

Sampler: Small Works by 30 Artists, Cerulean Arts Gallery, Philadelphia

Encountering Nature, Center for the Arts Gallery, Towson University, Towson, MD

January Exhibition (solo show), Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia

2012 *Honoring the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia

Fragile Boundaries, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington

May Exhibition (solo show), Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia

Masters of the Visual Universe, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington

2011 *Liminality and the Ephemera: To Enter and Exit*, Mark Unmark, Berman Art Museum,
Ursinus College, Collegeville, PA

MFA Thesis Exhibition, The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Fresh Artists Exhibit, MBN Studios, Philadelphia

I use painting as a way of thinking, a way of understanding the world. The paintings explore form and use of paint and, on a semi-narrative/representational level, they explore meaning in our everyday lives. The act of making paintings is both physical and conceptual. It allows me to discover and define the world around me while simultaneously creating places of my own.

My education in the MFA program at PAFA gave me the opportunity to establish relationships with fellow artists whose work I consider a valuable point of reference for the paintings I make. It also helped teach me how to continually push my work in order to better define the things I am aiming for with each piece.

