



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NOVEMBER 13, 2020

The Media Arts Department at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Tufts University
presents

SOLITARY SEGMENTS, a group exhibition of the Video Installation, Fall 2020 class

November 17 and 18, 2020, 8:00 am – 10:00 pm Eastern Time

Mission Hill Gallery, 160 Saint Alphonsus Street, Boston, MA, 02120

SOLITARY SEGMENTS is open to Tufts University faculty and staff and Tufts students coded as “in person”

The Media Arts Department at SMFA Tufts is pleased to present SOLITARY SEGMENTS, featuring Priya Dave, Flor Delgadillo, Emily McDonald, Jess Pouncey, Yagmur Simsek and Ravjot Mehek Singh. This globally diverse group of transdisciplinary artists produced five new video installations while in isolation during the Covid pandemic.



HEXAGONAL STRATEGIES FOR BETTER LIVING by Emily McDonald, 2020,
site specific video projections on farm structures in Locust Grove, Virginia, 8 minute video cycle

Emily McDonald is an interdisciplinary artist working with specific sites and the materials she finds there to tell stories that would otherwise be forgotten.

HEXAGONAL STRATEGIES FOR BETTER LIVING is a story told in three parts using projection mapping, site specific sculpture and installation, and musical elements to give agency to architectural structures and objects. Inspired by the strange history of the architectural structures that exist on the land where the artist lives, the story follows a human actor discovering and interacting with the structures and objects that would otherwise be inert and unused, but are activated with the use of projection and video effects. These structures present themselves as needing to be understood and known after being abandoned and purposeless for many years, tempting the human closer and closer to them. After reaching a close enough proximity the human is consumed by the once empty structures, revealing their true motives. Using humor and including existential themes, HEXAGONAL STRATEGIES FOR BETTER LIVING touches on the subjects of residual spaces, the agency of objects, and the creation of myths.



MORPHOLOGY by Flor Delgadillo, 2020, 3:42 minute cycle,
video projection, flat screen, pink vinyl fabric, two laser-cut sculptures and electric wires.

MORPHOLOGY, Delgadillo's latest installation reflects on her diagnosis of epilepsy at the age of four. The artwork has sourced imagery of Delgadillo's brain waves using an electroencephalogram machine(EEG). These waveform recordings of Delgadillo's brain activity during sleep, are projected onto gallery walls. The artist was subjected to routine tests throughout her life. In the artwork MORPHOLOGY, Delgadillo reclaims her self-care by monitoring and isolating her own Theta, Gamma, and Delta brain wave activity during sleep. Her routine testing was done in Guadalajara which required constant migration between the U.S. and Mexico.



PORTALS by Jess Pouncy, 2020, 2:50 minute cycle on flat screen. Video document of performance by the artist with video projection, miniature sets and sculptures. Music by Guantanamo Baywatch.

Jess Pouncy works across media including drawing, painting, print, sculpture, and moving image. Using repurposed and recycled materials Jess constructs vibrant, miniature sets to host performative interactions with sculptural objects and video projections.

In PORTALS, the artist aims to encourage imaginative play and introspective reactions regarding the body, space, and the environment - both built and natural, urban and earthly, inhabited and barren, domestic and otherworldly. PORTALS provides an opportunity for subconscious associations regarding material history, often items existing in the domestic sphere. Through intentionally selecting materials of vibrant colors and varied textures, positioning them with strikingly contrasting colors, and constructing a world of oversaturated hues and amplified material variance, Jess Pouncy creates unnatural and hyper-stimulative environments. The artist's goal is to make the viewer question whether this is an otherworldly "natural" environment or a futuristic space station, while harassing a nostalgic desire to play.



ACTION POTENTIAL by Priya Dave, 2020, video projection, 5 minute cycle.

Priya Dave is an artist whose work focuses on neurology. She communicates her themes using painting, recycled materials, and moving image.

ACTION POTENTIAL interacts between small sculptures, video projection and the human figure. Through flickering light and sound the artist produces affect. The video projection is located at a corner, invoking the leap between virtuality and reality. The artist's goal is to spread awareness among people about the importance of mental health on a microbiological level through merging neuroscience and art.



NEBULOUS by Yagmur Simsek, 2020, 2:40 minute cycle, video projection on wooden cabinet.

Yagmur Simsek is a multidisciplinary artist born and raised in Turkey. Inspired by the culture she grew up in, the artist challenges societal norms through an exploration of identity and ideology.

NEBULOUS focuses on the interchangeability of nebulous concepts encountered in life, such as assailant and victim, predator and prey, good and bad, and the fuzziness of boundaries. Using a three-dimensional grid that acts as a metaphor and performance, the artist frames her concepts, represents and critiques the restricted thoughts of people.



RADICAL EYES DECOLONIZE by Ravjot Mehek Singh, 2020, 2:50 minute cycle, three flatscreens with sound

Ravjot Mehek Singh is an Indian American award-winning film and television director, who focuses on the stories of minorities such as herself. Ravjot continues to emphasize her South Asian community in American media, creating art that incorporates stories of immigrants.

In her new video installation, RADICAL EYES DECOLONIZE, the artist uses satire to depict negative stereotypical narratives assigned to South Asian immigrants. This intertextual work incorporates animation, live action, and slam poetry. Ravjot Mehek Singh takes inspiration for this piece from her previous experiences working in India as a Bollywood music video director before returning to the US to write and direct 3 television shows for the largest Punjabi television network abroad, Jus Punjabi.