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UPDATED
SCHOOL 33 ART CENTER'S UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS FEATURE EXPERIMENTAL VIDEO SHORTS, EMOJI-INSPIRED COLLAGES & RECLAIMED MATERIAL

The **Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA)** announces that the group exhibition, "**THE MOTHER OF INVENTION**," featuring experimental video shorts by 10 international, national and Baltimore-based artists, opens in School 33 Art Center's Main Gallery on Friday, February 15. The originally scheduled exhibition, "A Temporal Comparison of Apples vs. Oranges and other recent work," by artist Eric Dyer is no longer taking place due to a logistical issue. "**THE MOTHER OF INVENTION**" along with "**Modern Language**" in the Members Gallery and "**soft obstacle**" in the Project Space are on view **Friday, February 15 through Saturday, April 27, 2019**. An opening reception takes place **Friday, February 15 from 6pm to 9pm**. Managed by BOPA, School 33 Art Center is open Wednesday through Saturday from 11am to 4pm, and located at 1427 Light St., Baltimore, MD 21230.

THE MOTHER OF INVENTION (Main Gallery)



Image caption: Marni Ellen Hertzler & Beth Hoeckel, "Green Water."
Click [here](#) for a high-resolution image.

"THE MOTHER OF INVENTION" features artists who incorporate new media in the form of collage, stop motion animation, DIY digital and analog image manipulation, as well as handmade and found objects in their work. Often eschewing linear narrative, and utilizing

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music, noise and homemade sound effects as a priority over dialogue, these works employ a wide range of media in their creation—becoming versatile vehicles for both visual and performance art. The group exhibition shows works by artists Kelley Bell, Albert Birney, Sara Dittrich, Noa Heyne, Marnie Ellen Hertzler & Beth Hoeckel, Chelsea M. Rowe, Aidan Spann, Justin Stafford and Jennie Thwing.

Modern Language (Members Gallery)

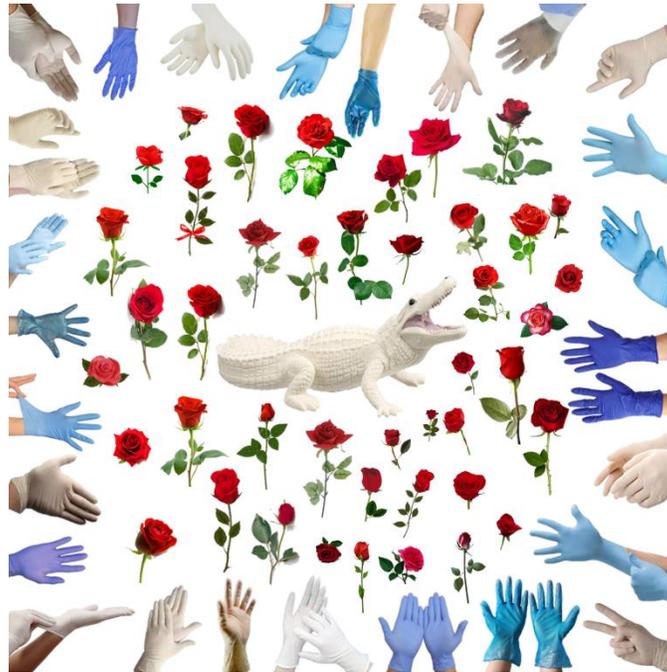


Image caption: Amy Helminiak, "The Rose Garden."
Click [here](#) for a high-resolution image.

"Modern Language" is a solo exhibition of works by Amy Helminiak, a native Baltimore artist, featuring emoji-inspired collages that explore communication in the age of texting and social media. Printed on metal and incorporating symbols collected via Google Images, such as Bernie Sanders heads, haircuts and pink elephants, the featured works focus on the artist's experiences and surroundings. Political observations, humor and personal histories are transmitted collectively, while at the same time embodying a sense of ambiguity that exists within the conversations of today's culture.

Amy Helminiak received a master of art in photography and design from ELISAVA Barcelona School of Design and Engineering, and a bachelor of fine arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Her work has been included in national and international exhibitions

including the TIM Future Centre, Venice, Italy; The Print Center, Philadelphia; Grand Rapids Art Museum, Michigan; Cosmos, Arles, France; Can Framis Museum, Barcelona, Spain.

soft obstacle (Project Space)



Image caption: Ben Piowar, "soft obstacle" (detail).
Click [here](#) for a high-resolution image.

Ben Piowar's studio practice combines drawing, painting and sculptural strategies, deploying an abstract visual vocabulary to evoke states of vulnerability and flux. With "soft obstacle," Piowar populates School 33 Art Center's Project Space with works on paper and a series of cast abstract forms. The dialogue between objects and drawings sets the stage for a new, improvised installation that will undergo subtle mutations over the course of the exhibition. To develop his work, the artist draws on a trove of salvaged material: studio ephemera, cast-offs from construction sites and things found while walking around the city. He repurposes these fragments through paint application, light carpentry and strategic placement—taking care to preserve, and often underscore, their quirks and subtle irregularities. Piowar explores the ways that modest interventions can activate and realign a viewer's experience of a space. Here, the gallery becomes a provisional ecosystem where displaced organisms learn to stand alone, then together, through a made-up logic.

School 33 Art Center is dedicated to providing opportunities for contemporary visual artists through solo and group exhibitions, art classes, hands-on workshops, a Studio Artist Program and special events. A facility of the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA), School 33 Art Center is supported in part by the City of Baltimore, Maryland State Arts Council and through private contributions.

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization which serves as Baltimore City's arts council, events center and film office. By producing large-scale events such as Artscape, Baltimore Book Festival and Light City, and providing funding and support to artists, arts programs and organizations across the city, BOPA's goal is to make Baltimore a more vibrant and creative city.

For more information on School 33 Art Center's events and exhibitions, call 443-263-4350 or visit www.school33.org.

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