## MCLA ARTS & CULTURE

### **Upcoming Events**

Collage Workshop with Todd Bartel & Niki Haynes
March 25th 11:00 - 1:00 pm
Arts Lab (49 Main Street)

Boston Symphony Chamber Concert March 26th 3:00 pm Church St Center, MCLA Campus

Urinetown: The Musical!
April 21 & 22 2023 - 8pm
April 28 & 29 2023 - 8pm
April 30, 2023 - 2pm
Venable Theatre, MCLA Campus

Liminal Spaces: the Overlooked and Otherworldly
Senior Exhibition at Gallery 51
April 20 - May 12
Opening Reception April 20 5:00 - 7:00 pm

For more information and additional upcoming events, please visit mcla.edu/mac



presents

# Layer / Build Collage Explored

TODD BARTEL - BRANDON BREWER
NIKI HAYNES - JUAN HINOJOSA
HEATHER POLK - EVITA TEZENO

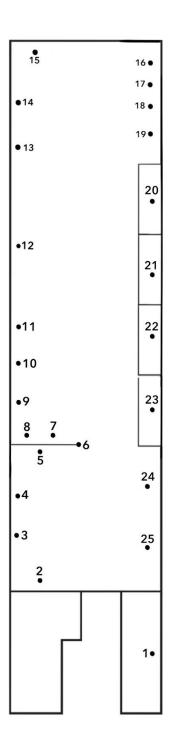
FEBRUARY 21 - APRIL 7





**MCLA** 

### **List of Works**



1) Niki Haynes & Steve Rein Big Bang (1 min 5 sec), Flocked (1 min 32 sec) Animation 2019

2) Juan Hinojosa Mississippi Queen 2022 17" × 6" × 6"

3) Juan Hinojosa Blue Candy 2021 17" × 14" × 2"

4) Juan Hinojosa Purple Candy 2021 15" × 13" x 2"

5) Juan Hinojosa Grandmother 2020 61" × 40" × 4"

6) Juan Hinojosa White Candy 2021 17" × 14" × 2"

7) Brandon Brewer Heart Aflutter 2021 11" x 11"

8) Brandon Brewer Me for Who? 2021 11" x 11"

9) Brandon Brewer Self-Portrait 2020 11" x 11"

10) Brandon Brewer Self-Portrait II 2020 11" x 11" 11) Brandon Brewer Brothers 2021 11" x 11"

12) Todd Bartel Garden Study (Letterbox View) 1999-2000 7.25" x 5.75"

13) Niki Haynes Consumption 2018 60" x 60"

14) Niki Haynes Target Audience 2013 60" x 60"

15) Niki Haynes Controlled Substance 2019 60" x 60"

16) Todd Bartel Promise & Threat (Terror Comes After Territory) 2016 14.5" x 25.125"

17) Todd Bartel Glorious Mutualism, Asymmetrical Yet Reciprocal – Twenty-first Century Commensalism (A Call for A Massive Transfusion for Major Arboreal Trauma)

2020 8.75 x 17.125 inches

18) Todd Bartel Witness 15 a & b 2021 2.875" x 6.5" and 10" x 8.75"

19) Todd Bartel Witness 11 a & b 2018 10.625" x 7.875" and 6.75" x 9.75"

20) Heather Polk Royalty Inside My DNA 16" × 20" 21) Heather Polk

22) Heather Polk Freedom Now 16" × 20"

23) Heather Polk Gather Your Own Bouquet 16" × 20"

24) Evita Tezeno
Only courageous hearts can
endure the bitterness of truth
2022
48" × 36" x 1.5"

25) Evita Tezeno Walk through life like you have something new to learn 2022 48" × 36" x 1.5"

#### **Artist Bios**

Todd Bartel Bartel's work assumes the forms of painting, drawing, and sculpture in a collage and assemblage format. His work investigates the interconnected histories of collage and landscape and the roles of nature and natural resources in Western culture. His work has been exhibited nationally in venues that include Palo Alto Art Center (Palo Alto, CA), Katonah Museum (Katonah, NY), Brockton Art Museum (Brockton, MA), The Rhode Island Foundation (Providence, RI), Zieher Smith (New York, NY), Mills Gallery (Boston, MA), Iona College (New Rochelle, NY). He is the founder and Gallery Director at the Cambridge School of Weston's Thompson Gallery, a gallery dedicated to thematic inquiry, including such exhibition series as Sublime Climate, Collage at 100, Kiss the Ground, Nowhere Everywhere, With Eyes Open, and About Vulnerability. A seasoned teacher since 1986, Bartel currently teaches drawing, painting, collage, assemblage, conceptual art, and installation art at The Cambridge School of Weston, Weston, MA.

**Evita Tezeno** (b. 1960) is a Port Arthur, Texas native and graduate of Lamar University. She lives and works in Dallas. Tezeno's collage paintings employ richly patterned hand-painted papers and found objects in a contemporary folk-art style. Her work depicts a cast of characters in harmonious everyday scenes inspired by her family and friends, childhood memories in South Texas, personal dreams, and moments from her adult life—and influenced by the great 20th century modernists Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, and William H. Johnson—scenes of joy animate her vision of a Black America filled with humanity.

Heather Polk is a collage artist based in Chicago, Illinois. She has been featured in top publications such as New York Magazine, The Washington Post, and Cosmopolitan. Her collages are a creative space for love and connection. Her work creates new melodies out of images we have seen before, transforming fashionable figures and objects into moments of harmony. Each piece allows us to see past what life is and towards what life could be if the pieces of the puzzle were just subtly rearranged.

**Brandon Brewer** was born in Germany and raised in southern Arizona. He began his college career with a major in Media Arts and minor in Studio Art focusing on digital media and figure drawing. Language acquisition, however, soon eclipsed his artistic aspirations, leading to graduate studies in both Spanish and Communication Disorders, and, finally, a career as a speech-language pathologist in Los Angeles, California.

**Niki Haynes** is an artist residing in Troy, NY. Her artwork is a commentary on consumer culture and an exploration of social mores. Her early exposure to a community of artists encouraged Haynes to develop her own visual vocabulary. She was raised between two divergent worlds: the Lower East Side of Manhattan in the 1960s & 70s with her mother, contrasted against her years with her father on a commune in the mountains of Colorado, without running water or electricity. This dichotomy has fueled her art; the radical, mind-expanding culture of artists juxtaposed with the realities of poverty and the basic needs of everyday living.

Juan Hinojos is a mixed-media artist who currently lives and works in New York. Constructed from found objects, his complex collage-drawings intimately challenge greed, obsessive consumption, and the social stratification of American culture. Hinojosa received his BFA from Parsons School of Design and was awarded residencies at Material for the Arts (New York), the Vermont Studio Center (Vermont), and LMCC (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Governors Island COVID-19 Response Residency program). His work has been featured in The New York Times, the Woodside Herald, and Open House New York. Hinojosa's solo exhibitions include "Blonde Ambition" at Materials for the Arts (New York), "Ready for Their Stones" at the Allegra LaViola Gallery (New York), "All Mine", Union College, Schenectady, New York and he was part of the Biennial at El Museo del Barrio (New York).

#### **Discussion Questions**

Have any of the artworks made you self-conscious of your spending habits?

What do you think the artists were trying to convey with their pieces, and what clues did they use to communicate their message?

How does the use of color, texture, and composition contribute to the overall effect of the work in this exhibition?

Select a work of art that speaks to you - what emotions or feelings does this piece evoke in you, and why do you think that is?

How does this artwork relate to the historical or cultural context in which it was created, and what can we learn from it about that time period or society?