



New Waves 2013

**The Nexus:
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1/25/13-4/28/13



VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

IDEAS FOR ENJOYING THE GALLERIES

Try this looking guide for the young, and young-at-heart, museum visitor.

START WITH LOOKING

Most works of art do not reveal themselves in just a glance. Try “reading” the work. Find a point that captures your eye and then move your gaze across and around the work. Try looking from different places (near or far, standing vs. sitting). You’ll be surprised by what you can learn just by looking.

Parents: You can help model looking by verbalizing where your eyes are moving to and why.

ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Whether visiting with a youngster, friend, or by yourself, it’s important to recognize the questions that surface. What are some types of questions you might consider? Try these as you look:

- Is there a story? What is it?
- Is there a message or symbolism?
- What feeling does this work project?
- Do you get a sense of time or place?

Parents: You can incorporate counting, word choice, and the 5 senses into your discussion. Try asking:

- How many ___ do you see?
- How would this color taste?
- What 3 words describe what’s happening?
- What might this feel like if you could touch it?

MAKING LOOKING ACTIVE

Imagine you are inside the work of art. Where would you explore? Try standing like something or someone in the piece. You can also make a tiny telescope with your hand (make a circle with your thumb and fingers and look through it). This will help you find details and focus your looking.

Parents: This is a great way to make looking fun. Play “I Spy.” Choose an artwork with lots of details and describe a section to your child. Have them guess where it is. Reverse roles and enjoy!



WHEN YOU’VE TRIED IT ALL, THEN READ

Resist the urge to start with the wall label, and trust your looking. After you’ve shared your questions and interpretations, compare your ideas to the wall label. Often, there is additional information you may not have gained just by looking - but you’ll be surprised how much learned on your own.

Parents: This is a great opportunity to impart lifelong skills, such as reading and writing. Look for new words, and read together!

NEW WAVES 2013

The Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) is pleased to present its annual juried exhibition, *New Waves 2013*. Over 185 artists from across Virginia submitted work and proved, yet again, that the Commonwealth contains a rich and vast array of artistic talent. This exciting exhibition demonstrates the diversity of materials and approaches that are used in contemporary art today.



Jeff James, *Float*, Harrisonburg, VA, 2010
Archival inkjet print

Carla Hanzal served as the juror for the exhibition this year. She is the curator of the nationally-recognized exhibition, *Romare Bearden: Southern Recollections*, which exhibited at the Mint Museum, the Tampa Art Museum and the Newark Museum. Hanzal was the Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Mint from 2002 to 2012, where she organized 40 exhibitions, including initiating the *VantagePoint* contemporary art series. Prior to working at the Mint, Hanzal was curator of the Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, now MOCA (1997-2002), where she originated 37 exhibitions featuring the work of national, international and regional artists.

Hanzal contributes feature articles to art publications including *Sculpture* magazine, and essays to the nationally distributed books, including, *Romare Bearden: Southern Recollections* (D. Giles, London: 2011), *James Croak* (Abrams: 1998) and *Whitfield Lovell: Whispers through the Walls* (Pomegranate: 2003). She has written and published several articles on arts policy and public art. In 2005 she guest curated a touring exhibition of contemporary sculpture entitled, *Material Terrain: A Sculptural Exploration of Landscape and Place*, which was presented at 12 museums in the United States through 2008.

MOCA would like to thank Carla Hanzal and all of the artists who submitted entries to *New Waves 2013*. Continued support from regional artists and art professionals allows MOCA to uphold its commitment to support contemporary artists who work in all media. MOCA is proud of the lasting *New Waves* tradition and we hope you will be pleased with this year's selection.

– Heather Hakimzadeh, Associate Curator

• Jonathan Aumen	• Ed Dolinger	• Jeff James	• Tom Siegmund	• Scott Whipkey
• Christopher Bavaria	• Knox Garvin	• Helen Jones	• Kristin Skees	• Shaun Whiteside
• Crystal Bowers	• Daniel Goodwin	• Lorie McCown	• Jerome Sturm	• Sandy Willcox
• Diana Caramat	• Natalie Guerrieri	• Christine Navin	• Robert Sulkin	• Megan Wynne
• Robert Carlson	• Zoya Gutina	• Howard Rodman	• Akiko Tanaka	• Blade Wynne
• Christiana Caro	• Christi Harris	• John Rudel	• Susan Tolbert	
• Thomas Condon	• Sarah Irvin	• Matthew Rutherford	• Roberto Westbrook	

THE NEXUS:

Selections from the Chrysler Museum

NEXUS: *a connection or series of connections linking two or more things / a connected group or series / a nexus of ideas*

This exhibition explores the unique relationship between two Hampton Roads museums, the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) and the Chrysler Museum of Art. As part of MOCA's mission to stimulate critical thinking and dialogue throughout the community, we are presenting a sample of works from artists that MOCA has exhibited in the past and the Chrysler currently has in its collection. The result is a visual representation of the two museums' common ground – *the Nexus*.

Over the years, both museums have had the opportunity to work with each other and many of the same artists. This exhibition brings together 19 artworks that provide a unique view of the evolution of contemporary art over the past five decades, as well as its enduring themes. *The Nexus* includes acclaimed contemporary artists such as Red Grooms, Cindy Sherman, Robert Motherwell and John Chamberlain, among others. They have altered the direction of art over the past fifty years, and in some cases defied our basic artistic ideals through paintings, sculpture, photography and works in glass.

The Nexus emphasizes relationships not only between two museums, but also among the works of art through connecting themes and ideas. For example, Andres Serrano and Cindy Sherman explore individual or cultural identity and the politics of the body. Whitfield Lovell, Christian Boltanski and Carrie Mae Weems address the significance of personal and collective histories and memory. Whether provocative or whimsical, subtle or dynamic, these works provide an opportunity to explore interesting connections and influential contemporary art-making.

We are proud to retrace the exhibition history that brought MOCA to the place where it is today. By doing so, we have found new connections between MOCA and the Chrysler Museum of Art and the featured artists and works of art.

– Alison Byrne, Director of Exhibitions and Education

This exhibition is organized by The Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA). MOCA would like to thank the Chrysler Museum of Art for their help in realizing this exhibition.

OUT OF THE BOX:

Trends in Contemporary Jewelry



Rachel Rader, **Her Majesty's Necklace**, 2011. Courtesy of the artist.



Joe Churchman, **Untitled**, 2010. Courtesy of the artist.

This exhibition invites you to explore jewelry as an original art form. For many of us, jewelry serves as a way to complete an outfit. We wear it simply because we like the way it looks. However, when we choose to wear a necklace, pin, or bracelet, we are connecting to the history of human civilization. Scholars are discovering that jewelry played a role in cultured society throughout human history.

In contemporary society, jewelry serves as a socially important art form. There are countless examples in which jewelry marks momentous life events and holds strong symbolic meaning. Examples include the exchange of rings in a wedding ceremony, the tassels worn on graduates' academic caps and rosary beads. Our history, our moments, our humanity can be examined by the way we have adorned our bodies.

It was in the early 20th Century that fashion jewelry became popular with advent of plastics and mass production. People could now afford to buy and wear a pin or necklace for no other reason than it matched a particular outfit. This trend continues today. Although jewelry made from precious metals and gems still connotes status and wealth, affordable fashion jewelry is a universal presence in Western society.

As the 21st century unfolds, artists who work with jewelry are taking the opportunity to explore its limits. Within this era of heightened individuality, contemporary jewelry mirrors the desire for unique expression. Ever a portable art form, artists are creating pieces that blur the lines between jewelry, sculpture and installation. The Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) invited eight artists who are on the forefront of challenging and reinterpreting the creation of contemporary art jewelry. These artists are exploring different facets of this ancient art form and the direction in which it is evolving.

As scientific knowledge progresses, new techniques and materials are incorporated in jewelry design. Artists like Arthur Hash use advancements in electronics, laser technology and chemistry to their full advantage. Lasers cut the brooches for Hash's

Silhouette installation and three-dimensional printers fashioned some of the bracelets shown in the exhibition. A few years ago, this approach would seem like something from a science fiction movie. Today, manufacturing techniques remove any limitations on Hash's spare yet lyrical designs.

Artists like Margaux Lange and Emiko Oye investigate new materials through the use of found or recycled objects. Their exquisite pieces created from commonly found items question what makes something valuable or worthy. Margaux Lange's jewelry begins with a toy, the Barbie™ doll. Barbie™ is a celebrated feminine icon that many children know from a very young age. Lange uses Barbie's™ small, oddly proportioned body to embellish full-size ones. Even though each piece reveals only small parts of the dolls, they are still instantly recognizable. Through the humor of using a body to adorn the body, our history, attitudes and relationship to the Barbie™ doll and all gender specific toys come into play.

Emiko Oye's necklaces reference many of these historical masterpieces originally made from fabulous gems, but hers are fashioned from a commonly found toy, the Lego®. Do we value the necklaces less because of their origin? Or, do the translucent, shiny toy parts coupled with master craftsmanship and design result in works that hold an allure all their own?

Joe Churchman makes historical references with dark and mysterious ruffs and cuffs created from neoprene, the same material used in wet suits. Ruffs were prevalent during Shakespeare's lifetime and could be very large and complicated. Churchman's ruffs exceed the size worn by fashionistas like Queen Elizabeth I. However, they are still a witty and sartorial approach to exploring the limits of personal space.

Other artists regard the body itself as a source of inspiration. Jennifer Crupi works primarily in metals, focusing on the unconscious communication of body language in her work. Her pieces mimic typical gestures found in everyday conversation and bring attention to what we are saying without even realizing it. Lauren Kalman's work also focuses on the body and communication, but in a much different way. Her series, *Blooms*, *Efflorescence*, and *Other Dermatological Embellishments* reference disease, most often those contracted through physical intimacy. The jewelry looks painful and incites feelings of unease, but that may be the point. Society often judges people with these diseases as dirty or immoral. Is that the best response to a suffering human being?

Rachel Rader takes a more fanciful approach to her work as she explores relevant social issues through a fictitious narrative. Rader, who works with glass, created relics from an underwater kingdom plagued by a tyrannical monarch, Queen Scarlatine. In this story, the queen preferred beautiful and elaborate displays of wealth to the detriment of her people and ultimately, herself. This is a moral repeated throughout history and has yet to stick with us. Rader's sumptuous royal ornaments provide a gentle reminder.

There is a rich variety of work shown in this exhibition at MOCA. Yet these artists represent a sampling of the innovations and exploration occurring throughout this art form. They insist on deep focus and contemplation of our bodies and identities. To wear any of the works is not embellishment, but an event in and of itself. Although the pieces here are not necessarily practical for daily wear, they invite consideration of our own jewelry collections. Who we are, who we want to be and whom we want others to see are revealed in the final moments of getting dressed in the morning.

– Heather Hakimzadeh, Associate Curator

This exhibition is organized by The Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA). MOCA would like to thank the artists for their help in realizing this exhibition.

ARTLAB

Explore our interactive gallery, complete with hands-on activities, reading materials, and videos for connecting with art. Learn more about artists featured in our current exhibitions or become an artist yourself!

VANS CUSTOM CULTURE ART SHOW

Since 2011, Coastal Edge and the Virginia Longboard Federation have presented the Vans Custom Culture Art Show at the Steel Pier Classic and Surf Art Expo. Custom Culture is a national high school shoe customization contest where schools from all over the United States compete for a chance to win money for their art programs. Locally, the program has reached thousands of students within Virginia Beach City Public Schools and awarded the top students for their inspiring designs. This art competition inspires high school students to embrace their creativity and draw attention to the importance of art as an integral part of our schools' focus in the face of shrinking budgets. This exhibition at MOCA showcases a collection of past designs created by students in Virginia Beach City Public Schools. MOCA would like to thank D. Nachani and Coastal Edge, Ernie Sawyer, Morgan Knight and Anne Wolcott for their assistance in realizing this exhibition.



Winning VANS shoe design
2012 by Alex Venezia.
Ocean Lakes High School.

ARTS AND THE MIND

ARTS & THE MIND
WITH LISA KUDROW

Loops daily in Price Auditorium during exhibition hours

Alzheimer's researchers call it a powerful tool to ward off dementia. At-risk teens use it to find meaning in the world around them—and in themselves. It offers healing to both chronically ill toddlers and veterans battling PTSD.

What is this magical elixir? Art. **Arts & the Mind** explores the vital role the arts play in human development during both youth and older age, and shares stories and cutting edge scientific research on how music, dance, painting, poetry and theater markedly improve well-being for all ages.

Hosted and narrated by Lisa Kudrow, *Arts & the Mind* makes the point that art is not a “luxury,” but central to the development of the human brain in youth and keeping our minds sharp as we get older. “At a time in our history when arts education is being diminished in our schools, these films document how the arts positively shape young minds, and keep our minds agile as we age,” host Lisa Kudrow said. “I am pleased and proud to help share this message with viewers of all ages.”

MOCA would like to thank the writer, producer and director Leo Eaton and executive producer Gerry Richman for their assistance in bringing these films to the museum. For more information visit www.pbs.org/programs/arts-mind/

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS IN THE ARTS:

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VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

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