

MFA invitational Exhibition

January 26th - March 3rd, 2024



HOLDING HANDS,
HOLDING SPACE

Studio Art Department, MFA
American University
Katzen Art Center
4400 Massachusetts Avenue
NW Washington, DC 20016-8031

EXHIBITION STATEMENT

“Holding Hands, Holding Space” brings together 16 artists; 8 MFA candidates from American University's Studio Art program and 8 MFA candidates from local university MFA programs, including: University of Maryland, Maryland Institute College of Art and George Washington University.

Through this joint exhibition, we aim to generate artistic dialogue and foster long-term fruitful relationships between artists across programs. The exhibition is shedding light on the necessity for emerging artists to create more opportunities for one another, to acknowledge interconnectedness and to nurture curiosity towards one other's practices. We asked the artists to work in pairs, engaging in conversations through in-person and virtual meetings ahead of the exhibition. Looking at the works on the walls, the connection is not evident at first glance. Artists may mine similar ideas but use different media. They may deploy identical strategies but exhibit different sensibilities. Pairs were hung closer to one another to allow for connection. In each pair, the first work of art by an MFA studio art American University Candidate introduces the work of art of the outside MFA candidate.

It has been a privilege to lead this project. We hope that this exhibition can serve as a draft for many other joint exhibition across programs and in art spaces.

Taylor Sizemore and Marie B Gauthiez, co-curators

GUIDING FORCE

We are indebted to the work of adrienne maree brown whose thoughts on change provided us a framework at various phases of the project.

Octavia Butler
All successful life is
Adaptable,
Opportunistic,
Tenacious,
Interconnected, and
Fecund.
Understand this.
Use it.
Shape God

(amb)
(Fractal)
(Adaptive)
(Nonlinear/iterative)
(Resilient/Transformative Justice)
(interdependent/Decentralized)
(Creates More Possibilities)
(Scholarship, Reflection)
(Practice/Experiment)
(intention)

Artists in the exhibition

Trisha Gupta invited by **Phaedra Askarinam**
Jeffery Hampshire invited by **Julia Zhang**
Julia Reising invited by **Patricia Edwine-Poku**
Margaret Cannon Walker invited by **Connor Gagne**
Maren Casana invited by **Marie B Gauthiez**
Sarah Brown-Bowers invited by **Taylor Sizemore**
Jill Stauffer invited by **Lindsay Mueller**
Jeehee Yoo invited by **Pooja Campbell**

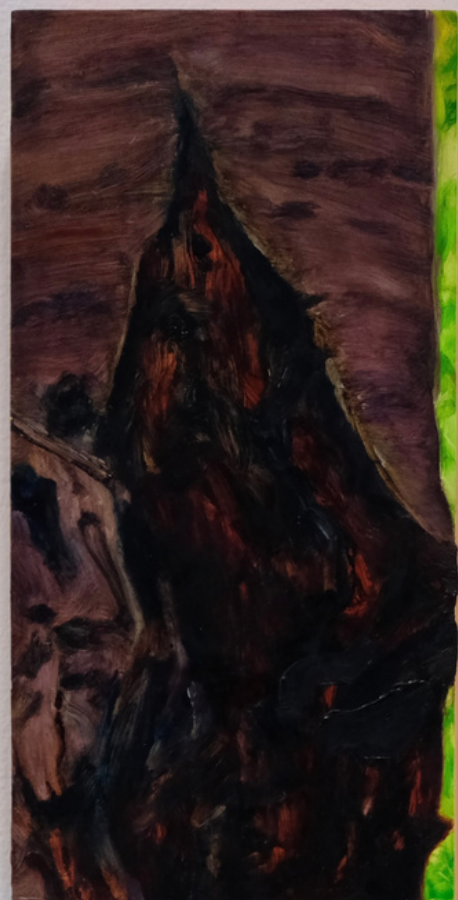




Installation view

LINDSAY MUELLER

AMERICAN UNIVERISTY



Split/tear/gulf
12 inches x 6 inches
Oil on panel
2023



Light Projections
9 inches x 12 inches
Oil on panel
2023



Installation view

JILL STAUFFER

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



Digital Erosion of Seaweed
Acrylic, ink, plastic
24" x 7.25" x 8.25
2023



Models from a Lost Coast
Acrylic, fabric, plastic
0" x 9" x 3.25"
2023

JULIA ZHANG

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



Galaxy Impression II
Watercolor
45 inches x 24 inches
2023

JEFFERY HAMPSHIRE

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



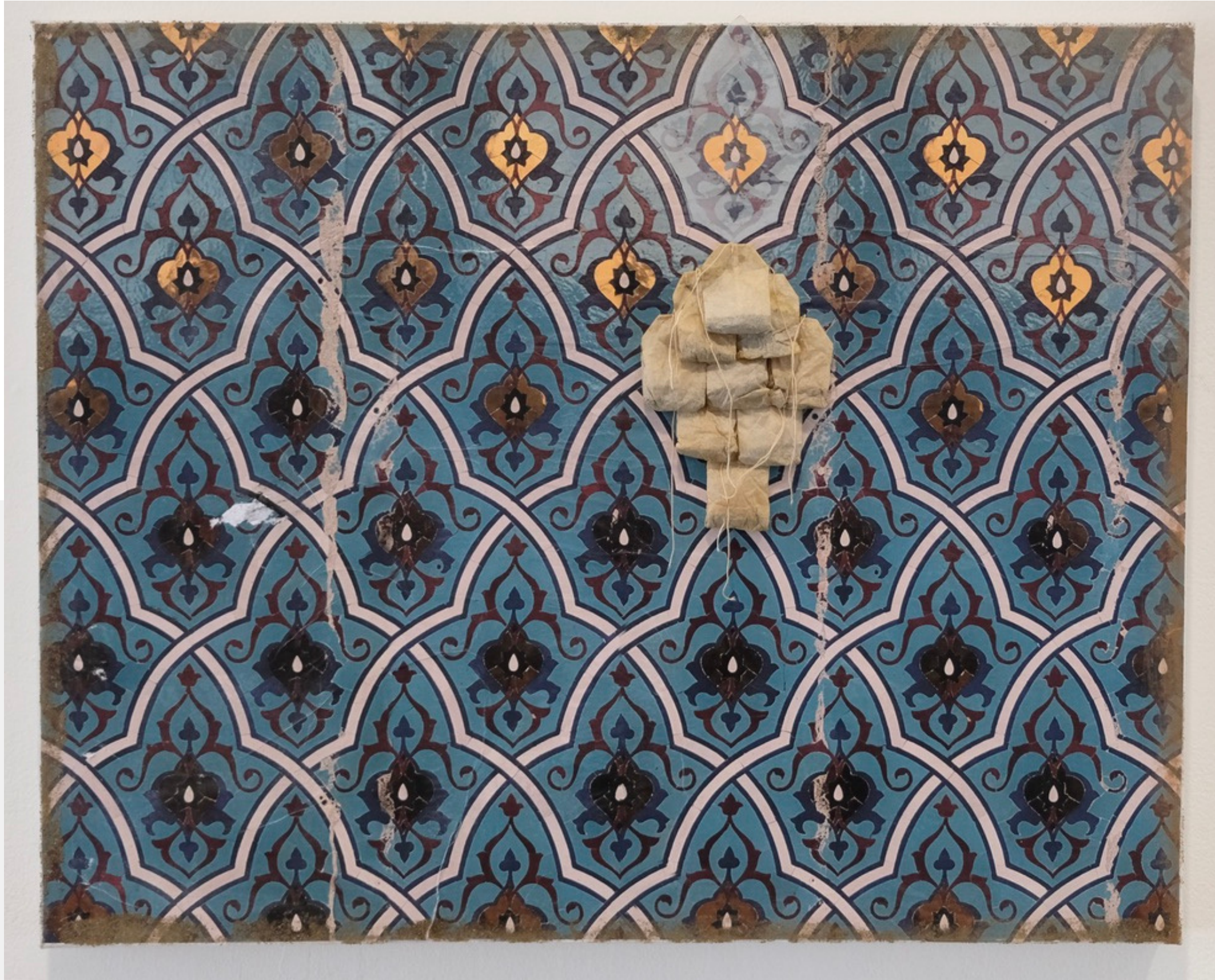
Downstairs
Digital print
30 inches x 22 inches
2023



Installation view

PHAEDRA ASKARINAM

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



Tuesday
Mixed media
65 inches x 44 inches
2023

TRISHA GUPTA

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



Depressed Brain

Embroidery on cotton shell

14 inches x 10 inches x 10 inches

2023



Installation view

TAYLOR SIZEMORE

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



Mother Teresa
Oil on canvas
40 inches x 30 inches
2023

SANAHI BROWN-BOWERS

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



Covered in prayers
65 inches x 52 inches x 5 inches
Mixed media
2023



Installation view

PATRICIA EDWINE-POKU

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



Existing in two worlds, the conscious and the subconscious
28 inches in diameter
Polythene
2022

JULIA REISING

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



Asphalt quilt

Asphalt roofing shingles, spray paint, chain link

10 inches x 9 inches

And full piece print 26 inches x 20 inches

2020



Installation view

MARIE B GAUTHIEZ

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



I will buy you all the pink Chanel lipstick in the store

Mixed media on wood

16 inches x 16 inches

2023

MAREN CASANA

MOUNT ROYAL SCHOOL OF ART (MULTIDISCIPLINARY MFA)



Untitled

Cyanotype on paper
20 inches x 18 inches
2023



Installation view

CONNOR GAGNE

AMERICAN UNIVERISTY



What I have become
Archival photo print
16 inches x 20 inches
2024

MARGARET CANNON WALKER

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



The weight of our world

Layered Photographic Prints on Paper and silk;

65 inches x 44 inches

2023



Installation view

POOJA CAMPBELL

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



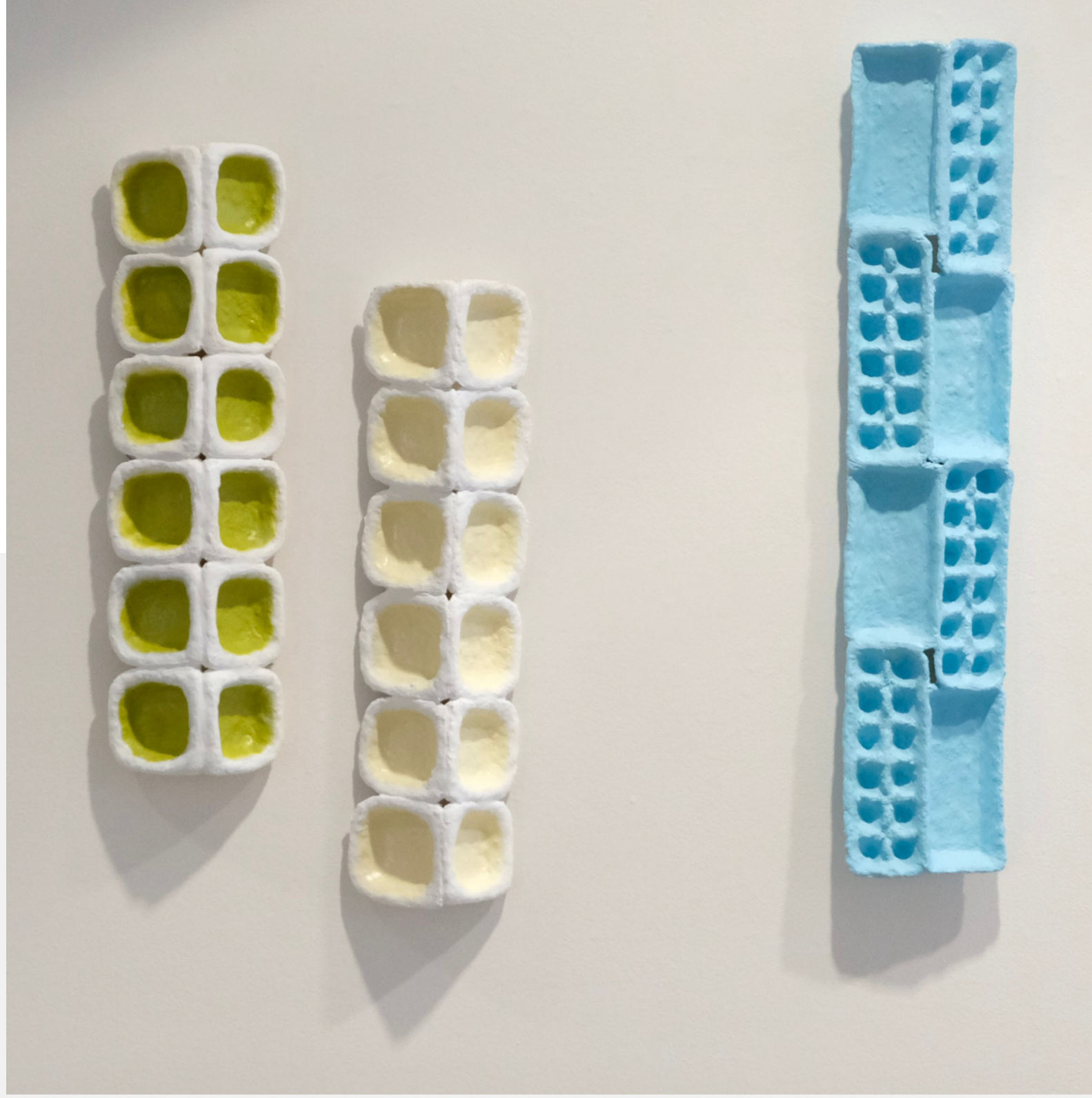
Rewritten
Mixed media
2023



All the Stars
Gouache on paper
2023

JEEHEE YOO

MOUNT ROYAL SCHOOL OF ART (MULTIDISCIPLINARY MFA)



Silent fences: conversation in space
paper pulp, paper clay, acrylic
2023



Installation view

STAY

in touch

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