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Kingston Gallery
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The Main Gallery
Unraveling
Susan Greer Emmerson

The Center Gallery
15,000 Days
Krystle Brown

The Project Space Gallery
Efflorescence
Stacey Cushner

March 3 to March 28, 2021
Opening Reception March 5, 2021, 5:00 - 8:00 pm

SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (January 12, 2020) – March 2021 marks one year since American life has been entirely upended, normalcy replaced by uncertainty. From the pandemic to the ever-present climate crisis, it feels as though our species is bent towards turmoil. Three Boston-area artists consider their unique perspectives on the pandemic to posit questions and offer alternative possibilities. In the Main Gallery, **Susan Greer Emmerson** creates sculptures and paintings that capture the emotional and physical devastation of the loss of home in ***Unraveling***. Emerging Artist **Krystle Brown's** three-channel video installation in the Center Gallery, ***15,000 Days***, distorts time and bends death rituals to connect to collective grief. And in the Project Space Gallery, **Stacey Cushner's *Efflorescence***, meticulously glazed oil paintings of lush flowers result from tender observation and continual patience against the chaotic backdrop of 2020.

Kingston Gallery will participate in First Fridays on March 5, 2021, with social distancing guidelines in place (we will accept 6 visitors at a time). The public is welcome to visit the gallery from noon to 5 pm starting March 3, the opening day.

Kingston Conversations: TBD

Main Gallery

The home, as a physical and metaphorical space, seemingly exists as a constant. It is a place of return, respite, and stability even when the outside world is in chaotic flux. **Susan Greer Emmerson**, however, sees the safety of home as an illusion. In her solo exhibition, *Unraveling*, paintings on paper of brightly colored houses are violently crushed together in torrential waves, evoking the physical destruction of man-made climate disasters. Other structures are in piles of debris, still retaining their original form, but gone from their foundation and neighborhoods. The piece *What Have We Lost*, utilizes materials found in the creation of houses: Tyvek paper and electrical wire make abstracted, looming towers either in the process of becoming a ruin or perhaps being rebuilt after a storm.

Says Emmerson, “This past year has changed the relationship many have with home. For some, it has been a site of confinement, of forced isolation and loneliness. It has been a place to grieve normalcy and human lives.” It has also been a space that has been stable one month and gone the next, either by destruction or mass evictions. Emmerson’s work evokes the Welsh word “hiraeth,” the profound homesickness and nostalgia for a home you cannot return to, or one that may never have existed.

Susan Greer Emmerson has exhibited extensively throughout the Boston area and the Midwest. She also has performed duties as a juror and a co-curator. Emmerson has four times been awarded residencies at the Vermont Studio Center and residencies at the Torpedo Factory in Virginia and Virginia Center for Creative Arts. Originally from the Midwest where she practiced for nearly two decades as an ear, nose, and throat surgeon, she received her BFA in Painting from Illinois State University and her MFA from Lesley University College of Art and Design in Boston. Her work is found in the Grove Hall Public Library’s permanent collections in Boston and the Bloomington-Normal Transportation Center and City Hall in Illinois. She is a member of the Kingston Gallery in Boston.

The Center Gallery

In *15,000 Days*, 2019-2021 Emerging Artist **Krystle Brown** contemplates climate change through the context of suspended time and death as a question rather than a finality. In this three-channel video installation, filmed November 2020 at Peaks Island, Maine, Brown utilizes conceptual motifs such as grave digging and specific costuming to speak to working-class labor, mostly the unseen work. Sound is an equally important component to the visuals of shoveled earth and a churning sea. The original poem, written by Brown, also titled *15,000 Days*, is performed by local Boston artist Kimberly Barnes. Experimental sound artist Adam Giangregorio provides minimalist drone music, recorded on-site at Battery Steele at Peaks Island. Through the lens of hauntology, Brown both pushes back against and concedes to an undetermined future.

Brown’s installation and her ritual-like use of repetition evoke the passage of time, both the numbered days as she watched her father die and the also numbered days until climate change is irreversible. Brown states, “I thought about this elastic time and how complacency develops when years are set into distant futures. I have always found it strange that we can almost manipulate time by describing it. Many days seem attainable; a set of years can feel like an eternity. After

writing this poem, I thought about my father in his hospital bed, the last time I saw him alive. It felt like I could have all the time in the world with him, but I only had a series of days. Fifteen thousand days is a little over 40 years.”

Visit [here](#) for a bio of Krystle Brown.

Kingston Project Space

Stacey Cushner's newest body of work in ***Efflorescence*** was created as a means to provide daily certainty amidst global suffering. Turning to an almost scientific process of glazing with oil paint, Cushner used the pandemic lockdown to learn glazing techniques and keenly observe the natural world. Her study of plantlife grew out the fundamental aspect of being wholly present at the moment, a realization found only once the pandemic changed everything. Using flowers, particularly tulips, to symbolize love and rebirth, Cushner seeks to remind viewers of spring's endless possibilities.

Visit [here](#) for a bio of Stacey Cushner.

About Kingston Gallery

An artist-run gallery incorporated in 1982, Kingston Gallery is Boston's second oldest such institution presently in operation. The gallery exhibits the work of Boston-area contemporary artists, and features a diverse range of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, and installation. Located in the SoWa district in the South End, the exhibitions are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Wednesday–Sunday 12–5 pm, and by appointment. Our Covid-19 safety guidelines for visitors can be viewed [here](#).

For more information about Kingston Gallery, visit: www.kingstongallery.com

A selection of high-resolution images is available [here](#).

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