

# GROWTH

March 1 - May 31, 2021  
Rhombus Space

Samanta Batra Mehta  
MaDora Frey  
Petra Gupta Valentova  
Rhia Hurt  
Damien Olsen  
Mel Prest  
K. Tauches  
Ward Yoshimoto

## **GROWTH - Rhombus Space - Exhibition Dates: March 1 - May 31, 2021**

Rhombus Space is pleased to present our first online exhibition entitled *GROWTH*, featuring work by Ward Yoshimoto, K. Tauches, Mel Prest, Damien Olsen, Rhia Hurt, Petra Gupta Valentova, MaDora Frey, and Samanta Batra Mehta. In response to our current world constrained by the realities of the pandemic, Rhombus Space will be celebrating art and the exchange of ideas through a series of online art exhibitions. In *GROWTH*, the first of the series, four artists whose work seems to evoke notions of growth were asked to participate and to invite another artist whose work could also be in dialogue with the exhibition's theme. Each artist is exhibiting two artworks. In contrast to the restrictions that the virus has enacted in our society, *GROWTH*, sets out to champion the nurturing and expansive aspects of life. All of the artists in this exhibition engage in creative processes that resonate with generative design.

**Ward Yoshimoto** and **Damien Olsen** are both sculptors who make work through an additive process. They share a maximal aesthetic that comes together through the assembling of smaller building blocks. Yoshimoto works between assemblage and wire sculpture. He employs humor and social critique that is implied in the narrative content of the work as well as the material metaphor of the objects he selects. Olsen is invested in the assembling of wood and mixed media. His elaborate approach amplifies form and structure through the deliberate formal unifying technique of limiting his color palette.

**K. Tauches** and **MaDora Frey** are interested in how we relate to the natural landscape. Tauches presents works from two series; *Disappeared Houses*, and *MTN Top Removals*. These works of artistic intervention are an imagining of nature's return to the environment. Frey's interest lies in the mysterious, ineffable, and sublime experience found in nature. After hiking onto location, Frey creates ephemeral sculptures in response to the terra firma and flora and

the atmospheric qualities of changing light. On view are photographs made of these temporary works.

**Mel Prest** and **Rhia Hurt** explore additive abstraction in their paintings. Both artists work in a visual language of non-objective abstraction with deliberate mark-making. Prest's all-over geometric compositions focus on linear patterns that create an energetic optical vibration. Hurt's paintings are also precise in their selective approach to mark-making, and her forms are ovular and organic. Hurt's paintings capture unique composite forms that look like unknown flowers and plants. Hurt allows the organic qualities of water and paint pigment to set as the moisture evaporates to create forms and unexpected patterns - finished off with collaged mixed media elements.

**Petra Gupta Valentova** and **Samanta Batra Mehta** investigate ideas of femininity and identity in their work. Gupta Valentova uses embroidery as a drawing tool in her recent cyanotype works. Embroidery is a slow drawing process that links to the craft and labor of women. At times nearly invisible, embroidery emerges over time and connects the line and shape elements in the artist's work. Batra Mehta's work explores ideas of identity and the interconnectedness of the feminine and nature. Her elaborate garden drawings echo the tradition of detailed miniature painting and botanical illustrations.

Curated by: Katerina Lanfranco

[www.rhombusspace.com](http://www.rhombusspace.com)

<http://www.samantabatramehta.com>

<https://madorafrey.com>

<https://petravaletova.wordpress.com>

<http://rhia-hurt.com>

<http://www.damienolsenarts.com>

<https://www.melprest.com>

[www.ktauches.com](http://www.ktauches.com)

<http://www.wardyoshimoto.com>

PRICE LIST:

Samanta Batra Mehta, *Light from another Sun #5*, 2020. Print on archival paper, 13.5 x 18 inches, edition 5, \$750

Samanta Batra Mehta, *Light from another Sun #3*, 2020. Print on archival paper, 13.5 x 18 inches, edition 5, \$750

MaDora Frey, *Pink Green Portal*, 2020, Archival Ink on Paper, 14" x 20", edition of 25, \$350 (unframed)

MaDora Frey, *Form Unseen*, 2020, Archival Ink on Paper, 14" x 20", edition of 25, \$350 (unframed)

Rhia Hurt, *Composition in Orange*, 2020. Acrylic and mixed media on watercolor paper and photo film, 12 x 9 in, \$550

Rhia Hurt, *Composition in Violet*, 2020. Acrylic and mixed media on watercolor paper and photo film, 12 x 9 in, \$550

Damien Olsen, *Ostrogoth*, 2016. Wood construction, cement, and various paints, 51 1/5 x 15 x 15 inches. \$4,500

Damien Olsen, *Creature VI*, 2015. Wood, metal, plastic, and various paints 22 x 13 x 5 inches, \$800

Mel Prest, *Listening For Owls*, 2020. Acrylic on wood panel, 14 x 11 x 2 in, \$1,500

Mel Prest, *Doesn't Exist Anymore*, 2020. Acrylic and micaceous acrylic on wood panel, 14 x 11 x 2 in, \$1,500

K. Tauches, *Disappeared Package Store, Kirkwood*, 2007. Acrylic paint on digital print. 6 3/4" x 9", \$300

K. Tauches, *Monuments for MTN-top removal*, YEAR, Acrylic paint on digital print. 6 3/4" x 9", POR

Petra Gupta Valentova, *Memory Map / Invisible*, 2020-2021. Resist print (blue print) and hand stitched embroidery thread on canvas, 28 x 63 inches, unframed, \$900

Petra Gupta Valentova, *Herbarium and Krajinarium* (Herbs and Landscape) series of 18 pieces (1 of 18), 2019. Hand stitched embroidery thread over cyanotype on paper, 11 1/2 x 8 inches, unframed, \$300

Ward Yoshimoto, *Growth Spurt 2021*, Mixed Media Assemblage, \$2,250

Ward Yoshimoto, *ICOBA Power*, 2013, Mixed Media Assemblage, \$4,000