Welcome to the BCA Center galleries

February 22 - June 9, 2019

Use this guide to explore the exhibitions on two floors of the BCA Center. You will **SEE** many different works of art, **THINK** about how the exhibition themes and ideas connect to our contemporary lives, and **DO** your own recording and sketching of your ideas.

Exhibiting artists featured in this guide:

Alm@ Perez (Tina Escaja), Rebecca Weisman, Barbara Zucker

**Rebecca Weisman** *Skin Ego* features a large-scale sculpture of a beached whale that visitors can enter and explore. The surreal environment inside the sculpture combines video and sound. Weisman tells a story about the nature of the body—from its physical messiness to its role in shaping our experiences and identity.

**Barbara Zucker’s** new work, *Adorned: Hairstyles of an Ancient Dynasty* presents black-and-white paintings and abstract acrylic forms inspired by the stylized hairstyles of Tang dynasty tomb figures. Zucker is fascinated by the complex ways in which hair is used to convey class, status, ethnicity, gender, and power in different cultures.

**Robopoems: Quadruped@s** is a project created by Alm@ Pérez (Tina Escaja) that combines poetry, photography, sound, and technology. Pérez creates interactive robotic sculptures that resemble insects or spiders engraved with poetry written from the robot’s point of view. Through her robotic sculptures, large-scale photographs, and poetry, the artist explores the relationship between robots and humans.

All three exhibiting artists are based in Vermont.
Rebecca Weisman's art installation *Skin Ego* takes us on a journey inside the artist's recreation of a beached whale. Rebecca was inspired after watching an online video of scientists examining a finback whale that washed ashore in Ireland. She wondered what had happened to the whale?

Rebecca has recreated the whale using sculpture, sound and video to re-tell the whale's story from her point of view. The artist made the whale's body and skin using a wooden frame layered with cardboard, foam pieces, and latex. She made the whale intestines using nylon material filled with soft polyester fil that she formed and painted. The skin and whale's messy body parts remind us of how we experience the world through our own human bodies.

What do you see, hear, and feel inside the whale? How is it different from outside the whale?

Describe what it would feel like to touch a real whale.

What story does Rebecca tell about the whale and the fisherman?

How is your body like the whale's body?
Barbara Zucker’s art explores issues that affect women such as equality, power, and identity. She has been exploring the subject of hair in her sculpture for many years – how it is shaped, removed, or styled. *Adorned: Hairstyles of an Ancient Dynasty* was inspired by hairstyles of ancient China as seen in Tang Dynasty tomb figures. Barbara transforms the hairstyles into simple, abstract shapes to make her paintings and cut acrylic sculptures. She is interested in how hair represents identity, and how hair can be used by different cultures to show a person’s place or importance in society. Barbara Zucker believes it’s important to support women in the arts. Early in her career, women did not have the same artistic opportunities as men, so Barbara helped to start a gallery for women-only artists in New York City in 1972.

What different hairstyles do you see in Barbara's paintings and sculptures?
Describe the different types of lines and shapes that Barbara uses in her work.
How do her acrylic sculptures explore positive and negative space?
What is present and what is missing?
What does your hairstyle express about you?

If you could have any hairstyle that you could imagine, what would it look like? Make a drawing of your hairstyle. Include any adornments and accessories that express your personality.
Alm@ Perez (Tina Escaja) is an artist, writer, and poet. Her exhibit *Robopoems: Quadruped@s* combines photography, sculpture, and technology to create a new way to experience poetry. Alm@’s robot ‘creatures’ have sensors that enable them to move, talk, and recite poetry. She engraved the wooden legs of the insect-like robots with her poems, written in Spanish (her first language) and translated to English. Her arachnid bots also explore our uneasy relationship with technology—and how technology is changing the future of what it means to be human. She says ‘humans are cyborgs with our digital devices always on us’. In this exhibit, you can use your phone or the gallery Ipad to explore Alm@’s creatures and learn more about their origins.

**How do we use technology in our daily life?**

**How are robots like humans? How are we becoming more like robots?**

**How do Alm@’s robots make you feel?**

Design and draw a robot that could help you in your everyday life. What does your robot do? What does your robot communicate?
How do you express your identity? Is it through your appearance or a special skill or interest that you have? Make a drawing of something that makes you unique.

BCA FAMILY ART SATURDAY
GET CREATIVE AND MAKE ART TOGETHER!

Families are invited to drop-in to the BCA Center on each scheduled Saturday of the month to make their own artworks inspired by our current exhibitions.

Each Family Art Saturday offers a different art making project that will ignite the imaginations of your family members!

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

JULY 27
AUGUST 24
SEPTEMBER 28
11 - 1 PM

135 CHURCH STREET, DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON
BURLINGTONCITYARTS.ORG

√ √ @BTVCITYARTS
See.Think.Do! invites youth and adults to the BCA Center for an interactive arts experience. Visits last approximately 1-2 hours and begin in the gallery with inquiry-based exploration, lively discussion and active multi-disciplinary learning. Programs conclude in the studio classroom where students create works of art inspired by exhibition themes, materials, and artistic processes.

Youth and adults may also arrange for a guided gallery tour led by the BCA Center curator and gallery staff.

To schedule your visit please contact:
Melinda Johns, Gallery Education and Programs Coordinator, at mjohns@burlingtoncityarts.org, or call 802-865-7551.

Visit burlingtoncityarts.org/gallery-education for more information.