

Richmond, VA - **artspace** is pleased to present five new gallery exhibitions, featuring artists **Julie Comnick, Margaret Buchanan, Tom Monsees, Shannon Gilbert**, and a group exhibition of work by **artspace Artist Members**. Exhibition dates are June 28 through July 21, 2019. An Opening Reception for the Artists will take place on Friday, June 28, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This event will be Free and Open to the Public. A closing artist talk will take place on Sunday, July 21, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. This event will also be Free and Open to the Public.

In the Main Gallery, **Julie Comnick** presents *Arrangement for a Silent Orchestra*, a painting and video project that explores the gradual dissolution of culture in contemporary society through the symbolic ruin of a personal and cultural icon, the violin. Using the violin as a metaphor, Comnick raises questions about the relationship between advancing technology and diminishing cultural heritage. Julie lives in Flagstaff, Arizona, where she is a member of the School of Art Faculty at Northern Arizona University. Her work has been supported by grants from the Arizona Commission on the Arts. Recently, *The Phoenix New Times* named her project *Arrangement for a Silent Orchestra* as one of the top ten Phoenix art exhibits.



Julie Comnick's painting, "Allegro"

On view in the Helena Davis Gallery: *INT/EXT. DAY/NIGHT -THE WOODS* by **Tom Monsees**. Monsees' sculptural work combines dead fragments or discarded objects with cast bronze or silver and plaster. Some of the found objects are natural, such as rotten tree stumps, while other found objects are man made, like an old ceramic birdbath. In order to incorporate the element of time into the series, he's made both day and night sculptures. The day sculptures are matte white with bronze insects and/or vegetal life while their nighttime counterparts are black with cool silver

living parts. Based in New York, NY, Tom has participated in several of **artspace's** biennial miniature invitational exhibitions. This series of sculptures is his first solo exhibition at **artspace**.



"Wasps Nest (Day)" (detail), sculpture by Tom Monsees

Subterranean, abstract photography by Richmond artist **Margaret Buchanan**, will be featured in the Frable Gallery. For Buchanan there is a certain wonder in the unnoticed. She has an "irresistible urge to collect images: manhole covers, doorways, abandoned billboards, dilapidated train cars, the palimpsest in old hand-painted wall signage, or simply the remnants of a spent moment." As an artist, Margaret has toggled between a number of disciplines, including design, painting, photography, book art, and collage. She was graduated *cum laude* with a bachelor of fine arts in Communication Arts and Graphic Design from Virginia Commonwealth University where she has also taught.



"P5 Section A," Abstract Photography by Margaret Buchanan

smallspace Gallery features *Unprotected*, collapsible art for an uncertain future, by **Shannon Gilbert**. This is Gilbert's debut solo exhibition, featuring new paintings and mixed media work. Shannon creates composite landscapes from her experiences, focusing on natural resources, energy and water. Gilbert says, "My work allows me to explore the environment at a particular moment and to freeze the forms that represent that moment in time." Each work is collapsible and can be folded or rolled into a portable size in the event of an uncertain future. Shannon Gilbert lives in Richmond, Virginia. She earned her BFA from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2018.



Collapsible paintings by Shannon Gilbert

The Suzanne Foley Gallery will show *Points of Interest*, works in all media by **artspace Artist Members**.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 12-4 p.m. Please contact the gallery administrator at artspaceorg@gmail.com, or phone the gallery at [804-232-6464](tel:804-232-6464) for additional information. The gallery is located at Zero East 4th Street in Richmond, Virginia 23224, with a second door at 31 E. 3rd St., and online at www.artspacegallery.org.