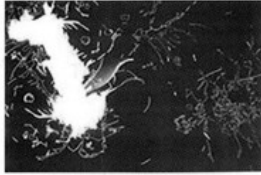


Do512 - What to do in Austin



ShapeShifting: New Methods of Drawing by: Bethany Johnson and Ann Tarantino

Tue. 12/18 | 2:00PM - Sun. 02/17 @ [AMOA-Arthouse Laguna Gloria \(map\)](#)

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ShapeShifting: New Methods of Drawing by Bethany Johnson and Ann Tarantino highlights the work of two contemporary artists who have created site-responsive installations inspired by the time period of the Villa as well as the flora and fauna of Laguna Gloria's grounds. Both artists utilize novel techniques of drawing and elements of chance to explore natural phenomena and intricate, labor-intensive systems of recording and representing complex information.

In the ballroom and dining room of the Driscoll Villa, Austin-based artist Bethany Johnson displays two alternative forms of drawing inspired by various fields including meteorology, cartography, philosophy, poetry, and visual art. Created using nineteenth-century scientific practices of measuring rainfall, a suspended grid of glass sheets--each plate having captured one minute's accumulation of raindrops--presents a wall of amoebic marks resembling the universe. Through this piece and a second work that "fossilizes" rain in flour, Johnson strives to make permanent what is fleeting, blurring the rational and concrete with the emotional and aesthetic.

Elsewhere in the Villa, Pennsylvania-based artist Tarantino transforms architecture and atmosphere through site-specific works weaving labyrinthine, organic lines into the very fabric of the historic building. Laser-cut panels veil the tea room windows, filtering the ephemeral sunlight like stained glass and offering a peek through to the outside greenery. Additional imagery--drawn directly on the walls via pouring, dripping, and blowing ink--hovers between representation and abstraction, a delicate balance reminiscent of the unique natural forces inherent in Laguna Gloria's picturesque landscape.

ShapeShifting: New Methods of Drawing by Bethany Johnson and Ann Tarantino is organized by AMOA-Arthouse and curated by Associate Curator Rachel Adams. "ShapeShifting investigates how we define drawing today," Adams explains. "By moving away from the hand-drawn and looking into new approaches involving machinery, science, and happenstance, both Johnson and Tarantino continue to work with ideas of gesture in inventive ways."