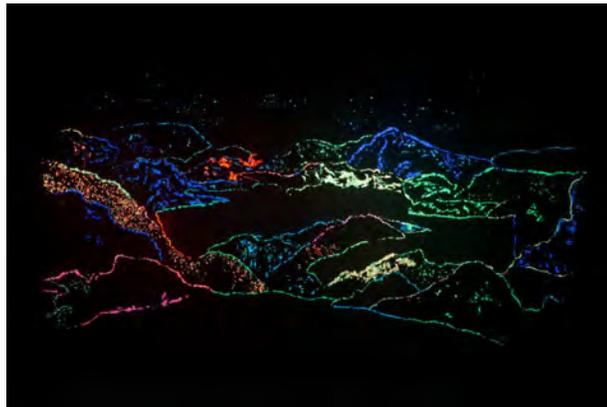




Tracey Snelling, *Clusterf\*ck 7* (installation detail), 2017. Mixed media, Courtesy of the Artist.

## The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) opens two new exhibitions on June 22.



### **Tracey Snelling: *Clusterf\*ck 9***

Focus Gallery

June 22 – September 15, 2019

Kate Shaw, *Shadowplay*, 2018. Hand embellished banner and video animation, edition of 3, 78.75 x 141.75" Courtesy of the Artist and Mirus Gallery, San Francisco, CA

### ***Surreal Sublime***

Main Gallery, Off Center Gallery, and Cardinale Project  
Room

June 22 – September 15, 2019

The Opening Reception for both exhibitions is **Sunday, June 23, 2-4PM.**

For Immediate Release - April 2019

Contact: Marielle Mervau  
Curatorial Department  
marielle@sjica.org



**SAN JOSE, CA – April 2019** – The San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) opens two new exhibitions in June: a group exhibition featuring artists who create abstract and dreamlike interpretations of natural landscapes and a site-specific exhibition by artist Tracey Snelling. ***Surreal Sublime*** celebrates the wonder of nature and suggests scenes from an apocalyptic and synthetic future. Artists include Attaboy, Elliott Green, Liz Hickok, Seonna Hong, Justin Lovato, Mary Anne Kluth, Terri Loewenthal, Vanessa Marsh, Brooks Salzwedel, Kate Shaw, Cheyenne Woodward, and Karla Wozniak. ***Tracey Snelling: Clusterf\*ck 9*** will be an installation combining sculptures, video projections, lights, rugs, images, and odd accessories.

---



Terri Loewenthal, *Psychscape 90 (Whale Peak, CA)*, 2018. Pigment print, 42 x 56" Courtesy of the Artist and CULT Gallery, San Francisco, CA

### ***Surreal Sublime***

Main Gallery, Off Center Gallery,  
and Cardinale Project Room  
June 22 – September 15, 2019

Landscape Art as a historical genre is rooted in the capture of nature through representation, imagination, and emotion. Introduced in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the "sublime" was a category of landscape painting described as leaving one with a feeling of both pleasure and fear of the overpowering qualities of nature.

The artists in *Surreal Sublime* continue the tradition of the sublime landscape with abstracted, exaggerated, and dreamlike interpretations of nature. Working in a variety of media, from painting and photography to sculpture and installation art, the works capture a range of emotions, teetering between the natural and synthetic, seductive and dangerous, calm and chaotic. While the vast beauty of nature draws the viewer in, themes of darkness and turbulence run throughout the work in this exhibition.

For Immediate Release - April 2019

Contact: Marielle Mervau  
Curatorial Department  
marielle@sjica.org

ICA

Dark emotions are evident in East Bay artist **Mary Anne Kluth's** installation, which presents a foreboding depiction of nature as a metaphor for the turbulence of our current political climate. With narratives referencing helplessness, loneliness, hopefulness, and friendship, nature acts as a conduit to escape overwhelming feelings of stress in painter **Seonna Hong's** landscapes. **Cheyenne Woodward's** haunting tableaux explore memory, solitude, and serenity within decay.



Seonna Hong, *Under the Stars*, 2016. Acrylic on paint chip, 4 x 7.5"  
Courtesy of the Artist and Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco, CA

**Elliott Green's** abstracted landscapes are bold, expressive depictions of panoramic vistas. The vivid and colorful layers of thick paint in **Karla Wozniak's** work explore nature through the lens of the electric, overabundant, and hallucinatory. **Justin Lovato** also transforms landscapes into optic vibrations in his intricate drawings and paintings. **Vanessa Marsh's** monochromatic works layer natural and manmade landscapes with starry skies to create eerily still compositions.

Works from **Terri Loewenthal's** *Psychescape* series, including a site-specific wallpaper installation, meld together psyche and landscape. **Liz Hickok's** photographs and videos capture the miniature landscapes she creates with overgrown crystal formations, appearing as a chemically toxic environment. **Brooks Salzwedel's** crystalized miniature landscapes and his works on mylar reveal a haunted, otherworldly nature.

Visitors can sit on a throne made of decomposing and overgrown nightmarish plant life by **Attaboy**. *Surreal Sublime* culminates with an installation of glow-in-the-dark paintings along with a projection and audio piece by **Kate Shaw**.

*Surreal Sublime* is supported in part by the Members of the ICA.

---

## Tracey Snelling: *Clusterf\*ck 9*

Focus Gallery

June 22 – September 15, 2019

Berlin-based artist Tracey Snelling's *Clusterf\*ck* series consists of immersive installations that combine sculpture, video projections, lights, rugs, kitsch, and odd accessories, creating the illusion of being transported to a foreign world. A cacophony of symbols and sounds places the viewer

at the conjunction of different, sometimes opposing cultures – all simultaneously animated in Snelling's world. *Tracey Snelling: Clusterf\*ck 9* will be Snelling's largest iteration in the series.

Snelling's work is derived from voyeurism, film noir, and location. Snelling explains "I am not trying to replicate a place; rather I give my impression of a place, its people and their experience, and allow the viewer to extrapolate their own meaning."

Situated in the center of *Clusterf\*ck 9* will be an installation of a living room where a performance will take place after a talk by the artist on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1-2pm, and again during the opening reception from 3-4pm. The performance will focus on the experience of loneliness amidst the constant chatter of life, the overwhelming bustle of people in a metropolis, and themes of privacy.

Tracey Snelling is an American artist based in Berlin. Snelling has had solo exhibitions throughout the United States as well as in China, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, the UK, and Italy. She received the Joan Mitchell Painters and Sculptors Grant, was awarded a fellowship at the Institute for the Humanities at the University of Michigan, and completed permanent sculptural commissions at the Historisches Museum Frankfurt and Facebook offices in California. Her work is held in numerous public and private collections, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Baltimore Museum of Art; the Margulies Collection, Miami, FL; the West Collection, Oaks, PA; and 21c Museum, Louisville, KY. Snelling will take part in the Havana and Venice Biennales this year.



Tracey Snelling, *Clusterf\*ck 4* (installation detail), 2016. Mixed media. Courtesy of the Artist.

**For Immediate Release - April 2019**

**Contact: Marielle Mervau**  
Curatorial Department  
marielle@sjica.org



*Tracey Snelling: Clusterf\*ck 9* is part of the ongoing series of ICA Sandbox Projects. The distinctive Sandbox Projects support artists to experiment, take risks, and create immersive, site-specific installations that would not otherwise be realized. *Tracey Snelling: Clusterf\*ck 9* is ICA Sandbox Project 8.

***Tracey Snelling: Clusterf\*ck 9* is supported in part by a grant from the Knight Foundation**

## Opening Reception

**Sunday, June 23; 2-4PM**

The reception is open and free to the public from 2-4PM. Prior to the reception, there is a Members Preview and Talking Art: *Tracey Snelling Artist Talk & Performance* from 1-2PM.

## Talking Art

Conversations, workshops, panel discussions and artist professional development programs. Open to the public. Free admission for ICA Members.

**ICA Members:** Free admission to select Talking Art events

**Non Members:** \$10

**Students:** Free

**Sunday, June 23:** *Tracey Snelling Artist Talk & Performance* 1-2PM

Berlin-based artist Tracey Snelling's installation at the ICA is an amalgam of sculptures, video projections, lights, and odd accessories that come together to create an immersive experience. Snelling will discuss her inspirations, influences, and process. A performance within Snelling's installation will take place after the artist talk.

**Sunday, August 11:** *Portfolio Review* 10-3PM

In this annual artist professional development program, leading curators, art dealers, and educators provide expert advice and insights in a portfolio critique. Each artist participant will have the opportunity to meet with two reviewers for 20 minutes each. Check ICA's website for more details.

**Sunday, September 15:** *Psychedelic Medicine* 3-4PM

With the recent interest in microdosing, psychedelics are a trending topic to improve mood disorders, focus, and creativity. Panelists will discuss the history, research and resurgence of psychedelics as medicine. Zach Leary, host of "It's All Happening with Zach Leary" and "The MAPS Podcast," will moderate the panel. This talk is in conjunction with the closing

**For Immediate Release - April 2019**

**Contact: Marielle Mervau**  
Curatorial Department  
marielle@sjica.org



reception of *Surreal Sublime*, which features artists who reference psychedelic visuals in their artwork.

### ICA Live!

Presented during South First Fridays, ICA Live! events are thought provoking experimental art performances and opportunities that invite you to engage with the Bay Area contemporary art community.

Come out to Camp ICA First Fridays in August and September! Explore the wonders of nature in *Surreal Sublime* and participate in camping and summer camp themed activities, including artist performances, snacks, hands-on projects, and educational stations.

**Friday, August 2: *Camp ICA* 7-10PM**

**Friday, September 6: *Camp ICA* 7-10PM**

### Art Hangs

**Friday, June 21: *Landscapes 'n Libations at Forager* 6-8PM**

Address: Forager, 420 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, San Jose

In conjunction with the ICA exhibition *Surreal Sublime*, join us for an informal, drop-in, mini-landscape painting workshop with artist Seonna Hong at Forager. Bring your friends and family to enjoy this sip-and-paint event. Open to all ages.