



Exhibition Checklist

Reception: Saturday, April 15th, 2023
On view from 3pm - 9pm

Phillippy Crest Community Club
2421 Burlington Lane
Sarasota, FL 34231



Ren Anan

Komusō

Wood (Pecky Bolivian Walnut, Brazilian Cherry, and Brazilian Ipe)

68" X 21" X 30"

2023

This torso depicts a Komusō figure who are Zen-Buddhist Japanese monks, or “monks of emptiness”. The Komusō wore woven basket-like headgear (*tengai*), that obscured their faces completely and hid their identities, to manifest the absence of ego. They appeared when the government forced warlords to cut back the size of their personal armies, putting large numbers of samurai out of work. These unemployed samurai (*ronin*) decided to become Komusō, to start a new anonymous life and retreat from their past identities in the temples.

This sculpture represents that, despite these monks were once distinguished and honorable samurai, they were pressured to feel ashamed of their past and conform with the new ways of society, where there was no place for such brutality anymore. They had to give up their identity and ego completely to become faceless, anonymous monks destined to vagabond aimlessly and survive out of the mercifulness of others.



Nevtar Azkadinya

Out Of Reach

Oil Paint, Canvas

24" x 48"

2023

In the past humans have been out of reach with themselves due to how they are reaching to find them. When one awakens to the dormant realms within self, to the Universe they are guppies within the sea of consciousness. As spiritual beings in this physical experience one must allow oneself to detach from the imbalance of physical over spiritual, and get back to harmonizing between both too follow the primordial technology of spirit to guide one within the Universe, and with a conscious awareness of one's experiences they will become the connector and activator of their higher selves.



Pao Chutijirawong

Breath

Ink on Polyester

3' 24" x 3' 34" (Floor, 3' x 3')

2021

Two scenes of branches in the forest and the sun gaps between leaves.



Audrey Elk

Requiem

Found objects/Oil on canvas/Time Based
2023

Requiem is made using collected objects in various states of decay. The artist has a fascination with the details of these objects and the different stages of their appearance as they become more petrified. These objects emphasize life that can be lived after being transformed by death. Audrey Elk is a multi-media artist who is currently working to combine her preferred mediums such as painting, 2-D animation, installation, and object collecting. The work looks at natural processes such as time, death, and the subconscious in order to reconcile these inevitable conditions.



Ping Ho

A Leaf

Metal and leaves
50" x 40" x 20"
2023

A leaf is a principal appendage of the stem of a vascular plant. If I were a plant, I think about leaves as an extension of my physical body— the fluidity, the freedom, the particle of thoughts that follow the breeze and my memories.

They live on the tree since they were born; they sing with birds; they harmonize with the breeze; they play hide and seek with the flowers.

Once they left the tree, you didn't notice because they are quiet yet powerful as they symbolize the passage of time when they turned into different colors; and return to the nature.



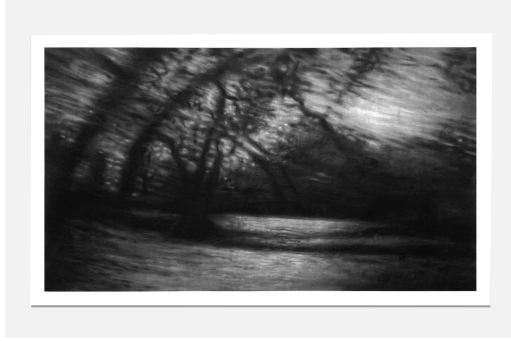
Ping Ho
Womanhood
Wood and dirt
5 x 7.5 x 9 in
2023

Representing the abstractness of a female, myself; using an organism, specifically a vagina, to celebrate the beauty of fertility and be thankful for nature giving us this ability to create the cycle of humans. Everything needs to be rounded and organic because that is how I see nature to be. I sometimes feel females are closer to nature because we plant seeds as we are part of the biological system. Referencing the look of the seed for the overall shape and emphasizing the idea of womanhood by putting dirt into the slice to connect these ideas.



Lauren Lesley
Gilly's Ring
Charcoal drawing on paper
24" x 18"
2023

Young, broken, and hundreds of miles from home for the first time, I decided to care for a fish. Exactly one year after bringing him home, I had healed, and he passed. Exactly one year after that, I photographed the tree under which he was buried to immortalize the outermost ring just beneath its bark, fertilized by the nutrients from his tiny body throughout the year. This drawing ties together life cycles, the passing of time, a greater sense of purpose, and the importance of appreciating natural fleeting moments.



Lauren Lesley

Peace River

Charcoal drawing on paper

42" x 72"

2023

Often, life moves too fast for us to comfortably stop and appreciate our surroundings. My personal place of solitude, and the home of many Arcadian residents along the Peace River, was rendered unrecognizable with a rewritten landscape which restricted human access for months after hurricane Ian last fall. This drawing loosely depicts a freshly cleared pathway to the river unearthed six months after the event and highlights the resilience and contrasting lack of permanence associated with nature and our surrounding environment.



Chaewook Lim

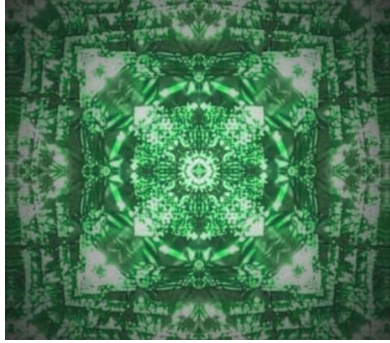
Laid-back

Metal wires, sheet, used chair

35" X 20" X 19"

2023

The sculpture features broken pieces of a used chair that are supported by wires, creating empty spaces that showcase the beauty of nature, and make it seem as if the artwork is a natural part of its surroundings, enhancing its overall impact. It is also painted in all black to give an effect that seems camouflaged with that color in nature. Chairs are familiar to everyone because we live very closely with our chairs. We also spend a lot of time sitting in one, so oftentimes the chairs can resemble the state of our mind. Sitting in a chair can represent a rest-like state of the natural landscape.



Chaewook Lim

Puzzle

Projection on mylar films

22" x 29"

2022 - 2023

The video piece showcases a unique editing technique involving the projection of images onto a paper box using mylar films. At the first, the visuals may appear faint and fragmented, but as the footage progresses, the pieces come together like a puzzle, revealing a beautiful story. The piece came from my personal experience with panic disorder, which initially left me afraid to venture outdoors. However, I discovered the beauty of light and nature. Overall, the video is a testament to the transformative power of overcoming personal fears and finding beauty in unexpected places.



Tako Pharsenadze and Ping Ho

Rán

Duration - 32 seconds

2023

The motion video offers a contextual glimpse of the exhibition, and serves as an invitation to viewers to come and explore the interconnected world of nature through a variety of artistic lenses. Through the delicate lines of flowers and leaves in "Rán", the video seeks to highlight this intricate web of life. All living things are connected, and every organism plays a vital role in the larger ecosystem. Just as a spider's web is made up of interdependent strands, the natural world is made up of countless interwoven relationships and dependencies.



Pretty Ram

Utkeern

Laser engraving on plywood

16" X 14"

2022

Utkeern means carve in my mother tongue. Whenever I miss home I usually doodle Fijian Masi designs or go and sit outside and enjoy the beauty of nature. I sketched some of the core designs of this piece while I was zoned out thinking about home. Then later the piece was transferred and transformed into a digital file and laser engraved using the laser cutter on plywood.



Pretty Ram

A place to wander

MDF, monitor, time-based video

14.5" X 20.5" X 5"

2023

The work is about spacing out while staring into our surroundings. It is made of MDF and has a time-based video playing on a screen. The box has a silhouette of a pond with trees and grass around it. A Place to Wander, was inspired by the concept of how nature has many mysteries. I find nature soothing especially when I look at the clouds and water. The way different things are reflected in the water makes it look otherworldly, this is what I'm trying to show in most of my artworks. I also use traditional Fijian Masi designs in my work, these patterns can be seen in the pond of the time-base video which is installed inside the shadow-light box. The Wacom pen can be used to explore the 360-degree video and see how it responds to the silhouette box.



Pretty Ram

Ghar?

3 minutes

2023

Ghar? - Home. The reference pictures & video used for this piece are from my home. The video clip of the water and cloud was recorded behind the Bayou Apartments, the place which has been my home for the past few years. I combined this with the picture of the sunset that I had taken at my home in Qila, Taveuni. I always have a difficult time figuring out what or where home is for me because the place I live in keeps on changing all the time. However, the only stable thing in my life is the beautiful nature that surrounds me. In this piece, I'm trying to connect the two different places through the common thing between them - Nature. The meaning of home is distorted for me, this is the reason I have distorted some sections of the video. To emphasize the idea further the video is projected on the tree trunk and fence to create more distortions.



Arcell Salunga

Good Morning

Acrylic on canvas

40" x 30"

2023

Good morning is the sincere realization of a new day; a new opportunity to be someone better than your yesterday-self. Just as the sun rises so does my soul that yearns to feel joy, love, and peace. Today may my heart be full and open, may my mental be gentle and my eyes be compassionate.



Arcell Salunga
Good Night
Acrylic on canvas
40" x 30"
2023

Good Night is the winding down of the mind, to make peace with all the troubles that occurred in the day and to feel light and free before laying in bed. May I be where my feet are and may my mind yield to the absolute reality of the universe: where all is well and all will be well.



Arcell Salunga
The Observation of Thoughts and Emotions
Acrylic on canvas
72" x 60.5"
2023

The liberating truth that we are not our thoughts or emotions but just the awareness of them. When attached to the level of thinking, a lot of noise occurs; often self/external judgements, living yesterday's mental/emotional conditioning and other random thoughts that aren't serviceful to the self or others. But once these thoughts are given space to be realized—will open the door to clarity and harmony to the ever happening "Now." Know yourself and be yourself.



Bailing Shi

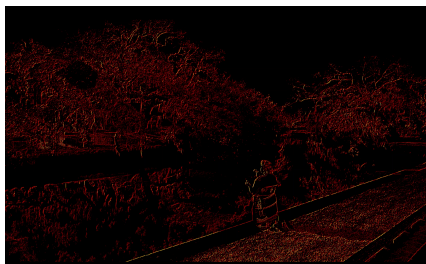
Ran Calligraphy I

ink, Chinese calligraphy paper

150cm x 50cm / 59inch x 19.68inch

2023

The word Rán has many meanings. It do the auxiliary words when meaning burning. Jia Yi's book "Chen Jiu Shi Shu" wrote, the fire is not burning, then the man thought it's safe. The world Rán as a pronoun means something like this/that. In this way, Lao Tzu said that "*For I am abstracted from the world, the world from nature, nature from the way, and the way from that is beneath abstraction.*" It is also the original meaning of Rán in ancient Chinese: to follow the trend and seek its natural nature. With the introduction of Western learning, it has a new definition: English word "nature". This exhibition also aims to take interpretation as its theme, helping visitors to review nature from a different perspective, understand nature, and experience the connection between Chinese and English.



Nosipho Vilakazi

UBUWENA

00:01:33:00

2023

"UBUWENA" (pronounced "oo-boo-we-na") is a Nguni word meaning "your state of being" or simply just "being yourself". The stop motion depicts the African woman utilizing nature to connect with those that protect her from beyond what the eyes can see. The goal of "ubuwena" is to explore the relationship between nature, sonic vibrations, and physical movement within the scope of Southern African spirituality. In particular, my goal is to highlight dance as a physical movement and how it has cemented itself in Southern African spirituality through the practice of "ukugida". Ukugida, often accompanied by drum sounds, is a traditional form of Nguni dancing used as a means to open up a portal that serves to help the living communicate with their ancestors. For ancestral communication to occur, one must be within nature, and sometimes the water in particular which is featured in the piece.



Rin Yokoi

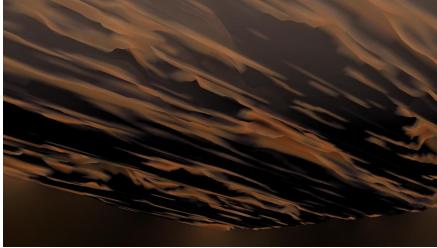
A Quiet Place

Analog photograph prints

8.5" x 11"

2023

"A quiet place" is a series of photography that explores our relationship with nature. How we connect, and we are a part of them. nature may be quiet, unnoticeable; but it whispers and thrives, softly yet powerfully. Through this series, I hope the audience will feel the sounds, smells, and sensations that link us to the earth.



Rin Yokoi, Pao Chutijirawong

Day(s)

Audio Visual Projection

2023

Opening Performance by Rick Lee; Sound composed by Rin Yokoi

Exhibitor Playlist composed by Rin Yokoi

Exhibition Poster by Tako Pharsenadze

For artwork acquisition, please reach out to llesly@c.ringling.edu.

然 [Rán] Exhibition

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