

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**What:** February 2019 Exhibitions Featuring solo exhibitions by Lindsay Hall and Michael West, and the group exhibition "RISE 2019: Hillyer Newly Selected Artists"

**When:** February 1 – 24, 2019

Where: IA&A at Hillyer, 9 Hillyer Court NW, Washington, DC 20008

**Opening Reception:** Friday February 1, 2019, 6-9pm

(During Dupont Circle's First Friday; Free, \$8 Suggested Donation)

More Info: http://athillyer.org

**Description:** Hillyer presents three new exhibitions opening on February's First Friday, featuring Lindsay Hall, Michael West, and *RISE 2019: Hillyer Newly Selected Artists.* Hall's *Luscious and Pluscious* uses sculptural forms and environments that are suggestive of doughy flesh and fluffy confections stuffed into fiber casings to address pleasure, desire and intimacy in relation to fantasy playscapes of the body and beyond. West's installation, *Conversation Piece*, combines the 18<sup>th</sup> century notion of a "conversation piece," usually a family portrait within a staged a domestic setting, along with the modern interpretation of unique object which arouses discussion, to initiate a new dialogue through his humorous and psychological influence. RISE 2019 is a group exhibition featuring Hillyer's rising artists who were selected through our most recent open call for proposals. Guests can meet the artists at the opening reception on Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm, during Dupont Circle's First Friday Gallery Walk.

(Washington, DC) IA&A at Hillyer (formerly Hillyer Art Space) kicks-off 2019 with three new solo exhibitions opening on February's First Friday, featuring Lindsay Hall and Michael West, and a group exhibition, *RISE 2019: Hillyer Newly Selected Artists*. The exhibitions will **open on Friday, February 1, 2019 and will run through Sunday, February 24, 2019**. The artists will be present to talk about their work with visitors at the **opening reception on Friday, February 1, 2019 from 6-9pm**.

## Luscious and Pluscious | Lindsay Hall (Las Vegas, NV)

Luscious and Pluscious addresses pleasure, desire and intimacy in relation to fantasy playscapes of the body and beyond. The alluring components and scenes are amalgamations of both the foreign and the familiar and can be interpreted as both micro and macro, internal and external. The forms and environments are suggestive of doughy flesh and fluffy confections stuffed into fiber casings and depicted in glitter-crusted paintings. Palpable memories of things innocent and erotic, tasty and visceral, are regurgitated and playfully reinterpreted through an intuitive process that results in each candy colored morsel. Similar to the individual experience, each piece can be considered unique yet part of the collective whole, coalescing in a sensuous wonderland of imaginative forms provocatively positioned in lavish arrangements. The juicy delicacies comprising this indulgent fantasyscape brim with curiosity and titillation while offering a sensory overload ripe with seductive colors, textures and materials.

A West Coast native, Lindsay Hall is an interdisciplinary artist currently based in Las Vegas, Nevada. She received an MFA in Painting from Indiana University in 2016, as well as a BA in Painting and Drawing (2012) and a BA in Journalism and Media Studies (2010) from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her work has been exhibited nationally at venues such as the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the Janet Kurnatowski Gallery (New York), the New Hampshire Institute of Arts, Kent State University (Ohio), Indiana University, the Target Gallery (Virginia), Fort Works Art (Texas) and Ventolin Art Space (Australia), and is featured in Volume 38 of *Studio Visit* magazine and Issue 2 of *Hiss Mag*. She has co-curated group exhibitions in Indiana and New York. Lindsay received the Ilknur P. Ralston Memorial Award in Visual Arts in 2016. She was awarded the Post-Graduate Residency Program at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria, Virginia in 2017. Lindsay is currently preparing for a solo exhibition in Florence, Italy as a selected artist for the XII Florence Biennale in 2019.

# Conversation Piece | Michael West (Potomac, MD)

A conversation piece is an 18th century term referring to portraits of family or society engaged in genteel conversation, usually staged in a domestic setting. More recently, the term refers to a unique object which arouses discussion. Michael West's exhibition, *Conversation Piece* is a modern version of these concepts. The artist as examiner and confronter desires to initiate a new dialogue through his humorous and psychological influence. Although this gathering emphasizes the artist, his role could pertain to anyone who wishes to bring new things to the table. This leads to transformative discussions and experiences for those in the group who wish to participate.

Michael West was born in Rockville, CT. He received his BFA from The Corcoran College of Art and Design. For over 15 years, he and his wife, Tracey, have co-owned Studio West, a decorative painting and design company. While maintaining a successful small business, he continued to keep his eye on the art world. Through his trade, Michael has painted on multiple surfaces including walls, floors, ceilings, and furniture. Working in three dimensional environments has influenced his fine art by employing the use of common building and household materials such as boards, string, glass, plaster, and Styrofoam, and leave them in their raw or muted states, or completely transform them. Michael's work explores movement and location ... combinations of fixed and fluid elements activate experiences within each work. His sculptures are places to mentally land upon, get caught within, or to take off from.

### RISE 2019: Hillyer Newly Selected Artists

Hillyer is proud to present our newly selected artists for the 2019/2020 exhibition calendar. *RISE 2019* will include work from Hillyer's rising artists who were selected from our most recent annual open call for proposals, and who will be exhibiting solo presentations starting this April 2019 through March 2020.

#### **Selected artists include:**

Marcel Artes Deolazo (May 2019) Emily Campbell (March 2020) Clara Campo (February 2020) Tessa Click (January 2020) Clay Dunklin (October 2019) Neil Forrest (January 2020) Emily Fussner (August 2019) Stephanie Garmey (Match 2020) Noel Kassewitz (January 2020) Zofie King (September 2019) Christopher Kojzar (August 2019) Suzy Kopf (February 2020) Jubee Lee (October 2019) Bryanna Millis (April 2019) Tyra Mitchell (June 2019) Bundith Phunsombatlert (October 2019) Nancy Sausser (July 2019) Madeline Stratton (July 2019) Eric Uhlir (May 2019) Heidi Zenisek (April 2019)

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#### **Gallery Information**

IA&A at Hillyer (formerly Hillyer Art Space) is a program of International Arts & Artists (IA&A), a nonprofit arts service organization dedicated to promoting cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally. IA&A fulfills its mission by providing programs and services to artists, arts institutions, cultural organizations, and the public. Hillyer supports IA&A's mission through a series of exhibitions and public programs that feature local, regional, and international artists. Hillyer's exhibition series focuses on under-represented artists, both emerging and established, that have not had a major solo exhibition within the last three years We are located in Dupont Circle, next to the Phillips Collection, in Washington, DC., two blocks from the Red Line Metro, Dupont Circle Q Street Exit. The gallery is open seven days a week, Saturday-Monday 12-5pm, Tuesday-Friday 12-6pm, and by appointment.

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High-resolution images available upon request