

THE HARTFORD COURANT WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015 D3

LIVING

Sculpture

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4-foot steel propane tank... 4-foot steel propane tank head laying on the floor. Viewers look down to see a nude woman (Martha herself) crouching, squaring in pain, her back to the viewer as if in 3D-printed statures of herself are shown at her, so hard they shatter on impact. As the broken statures stack up around her and Martha's back becomes more and more braided, the viewer feels like an abusive voyeur, standing over her as she slivers on the floor, helpless against the horror.

Martha's piece is created by the de Crouwels Gallery in Lincoln, Mass., where the show's visiting curator, George Fiffard, once worked. Fiffard is the founder and director of the nonprofit Boston Cyberarts Inc., which produces the Boston Cyberarts Festival. The show at University of Hartford is the first in the Hartford Art Schools new John Joseph Gallery Curator Series.

A hapless, if not weird, experience is offered by Jonathan Monaghan's "Medievality." The animated 18-minute video is a surreal vision, mixing religious and morphing from one bizarre scene to another. It combines medieval forms with slight reminiscent of "Star Wars." "Super Mario Bros." product logos, German romantic landscape painting, James Dean and other recognizable pop-culture elements, as well as a medievalist's interest in such as an urban shoddy city built on the back of a huge rock, and a round, doming building that is reminiscent of a pyramid, organic-looking mass.



DAN COLLINS' "Weather" is a CNC-cut statue of himself, partially twisted.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOSEPH GALLERY

SOPHIE KAHN'S "Torus of a Woman" is a CNC-cut sculpture of a woman's torso with a hand holding a pencil. The QR code turns into something that isn't actually there. QR codes also are used more liberally than for the new factor, in two pieces by Michael Rice, "Visions Transcendent (Mountain)" and "Subject Weather." The pieces both were created from a CNC machine, a robotic wrist with a cutting tip.

Technology Meets Art

Michael Mizushima's three pieces speak to viewers from the gallery. They were created as Mizushima's response to those who complain that machine-assisted constructions remove all traces of the artist's hand. Mizushima literally carved images of his hand into the 3D-printed acrylic panels, which are etched into rectangular constructions and in from below.

Den Collins made both the exhibit's largest piece and its smallest piece. The larger-than-life "Weather" is a sort of 21st-century self-portrait, a CNC-cut, ivory-colored statue of Collins himself. The top half is twisted, not resembling a human, and the bottom half is recognizable as a man.

He created it by scanning an image of himself while operating on a table for half the scene, and standing still for the other half. A small, 3D-printed form is primarily a teaching tool on how to create 3D printing art.

Katie Decker and Peter Wheeler created "Wells," a small sculpture designed by transferring astrophysical data — charged particles emanating from the neutron star Vela — into a 3D shape. It looks like an elaborately and elegantly shaped piece of ivory marriage.

Sophie Kahn's abstract sculpture "Torus of a Woman" is the result of a man of woman's face. It's a hand holding a pencil, a hand which Kahn didn't attach to the sculpture.

The exhibit closes with Sophie Kahn's four-piece "Widowhood" collection. They were inspired by an old M.C. Escher print, "Widowhood: The Tower of Babel," and the turned piece with a CNC machine.

Fiffard has a message reflecting the other of the exhibit. She's a former software designer at Google and co-founder of the Rhode Island School of Design. This combination of technology and art, and an example of the place where technology and art meet, and in the Jewish, the results are fascinating.

Divorce

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Es... what is going on here? This isn't at all the type of dialogue we expect around divorce, particularly since we've been taught that marriage is the only viable type of adult relationship or family structure. But in the era of plastic printing and conscious uncaring, those sorts of family even transpire.

"How is this a personal moment, actually I'm curious," one woman commented on Instagram.

"We were together for 13 yrs," she wrote back. "Our time thriving together was fading and now we are able to stay home and separate safely."

This is, incidentally, a common theme of divorcés: no matter who you are, and celebratory about the past. (A frequent, recurring caption: "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.")

Other, the message is a long-lingering reference to co-parenting or to children, a sort of nostalgic nod to the past.

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ASK AMY

Parents Disagree On Messy Rooms

DEAR AMY: My husband and I disagree and I am hoping you can be the tie-breaker.

We have two teenagers, ages 14 and 17. I have always felt that they should tidy their rooms and make their beds. My husband disagrees and thinks they should do what they want in their own rooms, and only ask that they pick things up off the floor every two weeks or so I can vacuum.

After 20 years of this, their rooms are filled with trash and food wrappers, clothes that no longer fit, old books and various things they are keeping, the occasional dirty dish, etc.

I ask them to clean out closets. They make a half-hearted attempt and then ignore me. My husband says just let it be, and so I do. The more school year is upon us and they wear more things, more clothes, more school supplies, etc. It's a bit of a mess, but I will go in and do it for them. My husband says they should live in the mess if they want to and if I clean

out their rooms, I am invading their privacy. Do you agree? —FRUSTRATED AND TIRED

DEAR TIDY: I can't quite be a tie-breaker because, although I agree with him in a basic sense, I also believe that he should be empowered to do so. Because this is obviously very important to you, but your own dear dear dear their room — you will! That is not a deadline. That's a vacation for them.

If you want to clean out their rooms when they get to the first, second, and third, and your husband should back you up on this. The day before your kids are scheduled to go somewhere they want to go is a great day to do so in this — space or at their most convenient time, and you have some leverage.

If your kids want new clothes, gadgets and supplies for school, they should empty out their closets of old, unused ones. The more washed and folded clothes they have (they should do the washing and folding), the more pieces they get toward new ones. This is the kind of trash every kid comprehends.

Curating their own collections will acquire them with the incredible beauty of their lives. When it comes to their daily mess, you should know to let it go.

Ask Amy is written by Amy Dickinson. You can send questions to askamy@tribune.com or by mail to: Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, 77500, 430 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It's a bit of a casual (though it's a business meeting, but avoid overlooking it and keep things professional).

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can make significant progress by making sure everyone is working toward the same goal rather than squabbling over details.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may have a tendency to daydream about a significant offer or future plans, but responsibilities come first.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't take foolish action based on an increased load of information unless you've done some research.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Mixing words when trying to avoid a particular issue could create friction or confusion. Say exactly what you mean or nothing at all.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Keep your boat afloat by staying in close touch with those whose enthusiasm and optimism inspire you to achieve greatness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Choose your words carefully, especially when among those you don't really get along with, as an inadvertent slip of the tongue could make you look like the bairn.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Someone may offer to pay you well, but expect instead there will be a price tag in the end.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Use your wit and charm to your advantage and you'll have no trouble selling your wares to the world.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You need to find a way to juggle your time between business, family and friends.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): When it comes to making important decisions, you should be aggressive and follow your first instincts rather than second-guessing.

TAUROS (Apr. 20-May 20): Find something or someone that ticks your fancy to give you the emotional boost to create something wonderful.

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Watch this: Wednesday



"Home Free" (9:00 p.m., FOX): For much of the summer, couples have been working on creating the best reality series possible for couples — and the winning duo is declared in the season finale, "Dream Homes." The "Home Free" in question is series host Mike Holmes, who has tried to guide the contestants with his expertise — leading to his own "reality series" or who evidently listened the most, then cried with what they learned.

"Shark Tank" (9 p.m., ABC): Does the idea of a concrete offer that provides built-in weight training grab you? A Georgia man hopes so... and also hopes a dose of the same for the Sharks as he presents his unique clothing line in this episode. A Spokane man with a view toward maintaining well-tailored local fair also is featured, as are New Yorkers whose karaoke machine led to seven seasons of small moments. The Sharks include Mark Cuban, Lori Loughner and Kevin O'Leary.

"The Carmichael Show" (9 p.m., NBC): The title of the new episode "Prayer" defines the story's subject, as Michael (Andre Braugher) fails to observe grace at the dinner table in the traditional way, leading to a major disaster... to the extent that her relationship with Jerrod (Arnold Cameron) is on the line. As he tries to reach a resolution, Jerrod makes a shocking discovery about his parents Lorenza Devine, David Alan Grier). The show's season finale follows.

"Extant" (9:00 p.m., CBS): The sci-fi drama ends its second season by combining two episodes into a two-hour presentation. "Double Vision" finds Molly revealing what she knows about Shepherd's fate, while Lucy goes head-on against both the humans and the hybrids. Then, in "The Greater Good," the entire human race could face catastrophe unless Molly and either can intervene in time.

"Suddenly Single" (10:00 p.m., TLC): It may sound like the premise of a fish-out-of-water movie comedy, but this new series depicts unscripted scenes following the real-life experiences of blue-collar auto repair adviser David Drew Howe, who researched his ancestry online and discovered he was an heir to the throne of the British Isle of Man.

"Imposter" (10:30 p.m., TBS): Buddy (Michael Rosenbaum) gets a reminder that he can't let down his guard for a moment when the arrival of an unexpected delivery threatens to expose him as a fraud in a new episode called "Rings & Arrows." The voice, a brief session showing up in Ladder getting for the bogus presser man Sam Buro and Mike Koenig is also one.

TALK SHOWS "Comed" (11 p.m., 12:30 a.m., TBS): The stars of "Game of Thrones" and the stars of "The Walking Dead." "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (11:34 p.m., NBC): Artist Justin Timberlake, TV host Ellen DeGeneres, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis perform. "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" (11:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy clips.

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