

# Small Gestures Of Repair

April 21 - May 30, 2021

Curator Helen Molesworth, in a recent online talk, described the work of Zoe Leonard as evidence of “art’s small gestures of repair.” During times of conflict and challenge, art and artists can play a particular role in facilitating conversations and healing.

Small Gestures of Repair, a juried exhibition featuring the work of twenty-three artists from across the United States (and one from Austria), reflects the challenges of Year 2020— a time of global pandemic, ecological disaster, racial unrest, economic crisis, and political contention. The statements of the artists themselves bear witness to the times as they record the living hardships of what it is to be human in a time of dis-ease and frayed edges.

Juror, Joyce Harlow, referenced the very real tension she found evident in the varied pieces in this show--the tension between loneliness, isolation, despair, and fragility on one hand, balanced against the need for expressions of beauty, hope, connection, and “control of the broken pieces” on the other. The works in Small Gestures of Repair explore many layers of obscured reality, find beauty in imperfections, combine the grotesque with the whimsical, utilize old materials in new ways, take deliberate refuge in meditative practices,

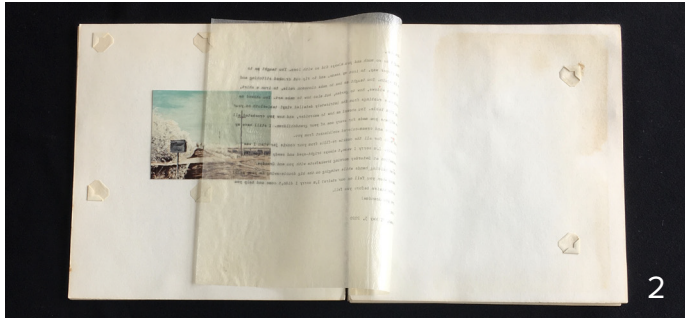
and find reparation in, as exhibition artist, Dale Hartley states, “go[ing] forward instead of stumbling to a stop.”

“We always carry with us our storage or travel bags,” notes artist, Becky Hyberger. What the viewer of this exhibit finds at the end of 2020’s long journey is a sense of catharsis and more than one gesture of repair embedded in this honest and unfiltered art.



## ARTIST LIST —

Kayla Borell (Lindsborg KS), Connie Burket (Salina KS), Norman Carr (Wichita KS), Sandra Jean Ceas (Littleton CO), Hannah Crickman (Salina KS), Joey Embers (Topeka KS), Kitty Fapp (Manhattan KS), Linda Foster (Miltonvale KS), Nina Gospodin (Vienna, Austria), Michaela Groeblacher (Lindsborg KS), Sarah Gross (Lawrence KS), Dale Hartley (Emporia KS), Becky Hyberger (Salina KS), Gesine Janzen (Bozeman MT), Alex Moore (Wichita KS), Andre Ramos-Woodard (Albuquerque NM), Cooper Siegel (Jefferson MD), Amanda Smith (Springfield MO), Jade Solch (Charlotte NC), Debbie Wagner (Bennington KS), Liz Walker (Eudora KS), Casey Whittier (Kansas City KS), Morgan Ford Willingham (Emporia KS).



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1. Joey Embers, *A Fly on the wall*, 2020
2. Gesine Janzen, *Letters to the Women in My Life*, 2020
3. Morgan Ford Willingham, *but it made her heart bleed*, 2020

## JUROR —

Juror, Joyce Harlow, has served as the Director of Lincoln Art Center, Lincoln KS for 23 years. She is a photographer and owner of Harlow Studio, as well as a watercolor and pastel artist. A member of the Kansas Photographers Association, the Kansas Pastel Society, and the Kansas Small Oil Painters Association, Joyce has shown her work widely—among other venues, at the Smoky Hill Art Exhibition, Salina Art Center, and KWU Gallery.