

For immediate release:

Where we dwell art and the interior world

**Michelle Peterson Albandoz
Arlene Byster
Michael McGuire**

Curated by Karen Echt
and Caleb John Smith



June 20 - Aug 2

Reception : June 20, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Michelle Peterson Albandoz
Mixed media, wood

Tuesday, May 27, 2025.

The Art Center Highland Park is partnering with Echt Gallery to unveil a unique group show entitled *Where we dwell*. This exhibition is inspired by the history and importance of interior design, exploring the interplay between the outside and inside world. The artists featured are represented by Echt Gallery, namely: Michelle Peterson Albandoz, Arlene Byster, and Michael McGuire.

Curated by Echt Gallery owner Karen Echt alongside The Art Center Highland Park's Gallery Manager Caleb John Smith, the exhibition will feature multiple elements that reflect on the interplay between fine art and design. Featuring three unique mixed media artists, *Where we dwell* is a meditation on the human impulse to decorate interiors and integrate exteriors with our personal spaces.



The Art Center Highland Park
1957 Sheridan Rd, Highland Park, IL 60035

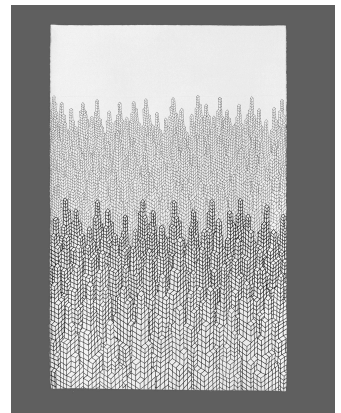
About the artists:

Michelle Peterson-Albandoz grew up surrounded by forests in both Connecticut and Puerto Rico, and found a connection to them that has lasted throughout her creative career. Experiencing first-hand the pristine quality and balance of these ecosystems made her hyper aware of the effect humans have on the environment outside of those woods. Now, having lived in Chicago for nearly twenty years, Peterson-Albandoz has been surrounded by a constantly changing urban landscape, full of both destruction and construction; Her artwork benefited from a visceral response to this waste. She began collecting heaps of the discarded wood and turning them into the basis of her artistic process today.

Arlene Byster has worked as a private photographer for nearly two decades, distinguishing herself by encouraging clients to allow her to create one-of-a-kind artworks using their portraits and materials such as metal, acrylic, and wood. Her work reflects a desire to deconstruct imagery and reinterpret it through the lens of each selected medium. Currently, she is experimenting with layering nontraditional materials like acrylic and metal to bring elements of the outdoors inside.



Michael McGuire's foray into architectural school in the 1980s did not dissuade him from a career as an artist. In fact, he still finds himself engaged with many of the concepts and practices of architecture and urban planning. His work is a reflection of these interests, and his drawings derive primarily from the processes and old-school tools of architectural drawing, melded with a love of contemporary art.



Where we dwell will open with a free public reception on June 20, 2025, and will be on view at The Art Center through August 2. The Art Center's gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. All work shown will be for sale. Purchasing art through The Art Center Highland Park, a not-for-profit organization, benefits the creative community and helps support the classes, exhibitions, workshops, and camps held by TAC year-round.

For press inquiries and images, please contact csmith@theartcenterhp.org
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