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Mallory Shotwell, Director, Cultivate
hello@cultivategrandrapids.org

CULTIVATE EXHIBITION
Embodied Homescapes

Grand Rapids, MI, June 9- Cultivate is proud to present, *Embodied Homescapes*, an exhibition featuring artists Hagudeza Rullán-Fantauzzi, Jaclyn Jacunski, Leila Ghasempor, and Crystal Ann Brown. The selected work will showcase site-specific installation, hanging installation, a short film, and photography. It will run from June 9 through July 28, 2023 with an opening reception on June 9, from 5pm - 9pm.

Embodied Homescapes is a contemporary art exhibition that seeks to engage viewers in an exploration of how individuals and communities embody, experience, and negotiate their relationship with home within intricate socio-cultural contexts. This exhibition delves into the profound ways in which home intersects with broader social, cultural, and political forces, inviting critical reflections on the affective and symbolic power of home.

The term "Embodied Homescapes" encapsulates the notion that home extends beyond a mere physical space or abstract concept. Instead, it emphasizes the intimate and visceral nature of the relationship between home and the body, emphasizing how home is experienced, embodied, and expressed in diverse ways. It recognizes that home is deeply intertwined with larger issues of identity, belonging, and social justice.

Within the exhibition, artists offer unique perspectives on the multifaceted nature of home. Hagudeza Rullán-Fantauzzi's short film *Despues de las Cenizas*, influenced by their dance background, intricately explores the visceral and intimate relationship between home and self. Through wild and expressive movements in the home environment, the film captures the negotiation of emotions and experiences, contrasting with the more formal and restrained behavior in the outside world.

Jaclyn Jacunski's site-specific installation *From Here* provides a critical examination of the gentrification of home spaces. By exposing the embodied dynamics of place-making and displacement, Jacunski brings attention to the socio-political implications that transform communities and reshape their homes. Her work invites viewers to question the power dynamics at play and the implications of these changes.



Leila Ghasempor's public engagement photography series *Because* offers a deeply personal and nuanced exploration of home. By foregrounding the diverse ways in which individuals and communities negotiate their relationship to home within complex socio-cultural contexts, Ghasempor's photography invites viewers to consider the multifaceted nature of home experiences. Her images create a space for contemplation, shedding light on the intricate interplay between personal narratives and larger social structures.

Crystal Ann Brown's cyanotype quilt from her *Interior Space* series presents viewers with an opportunity to reconsider the familiar and discover the extraordinary within the ordinary. Through the utilization of alternative photography styles on textiles, Brown meticulously transforms everyday objects into thought-provoking symbols. Her work encourages contemplation of the meanings we attach to the spaces we inhabit and offers a fresh perspective on the aesthetics of home.

Viewers are encouraged to reflect upon the narrative and ever-changing nature of home. This exhibition serves as a reminder of the impermanence and fluidity of our sense of belonging, urging us to critically examine the complex and intimate relationship between home and identity. It fosters an appreciation for the ways in which place shapes the self and the body, promoting a nuanced and intersectional understanding of the multifaceted dynamics at play within the concept of home.

Beyond Cultivate's exhibition, the artist's works have been exhibited in the BOLT artist-in-residence, Portland Institutes of Contemporary Art, National Liberty Museum, Baltimore Institutes of Contemporary Art, Tiger Strikes Asteroid Chicago, SOO Visual Arts Center, Triennial Biennial, McDonough Museum of Art, Carlow University Art Gallery, and Da Vinci Art Alliance.

Cultivate is an art organization located in Grand Rapids, MI, that offers a contemporary art gallery, studio-based arts education for ages 3 - adult, and an artist resource center. Their team is composed of 40+ professional artists, established curators, certified and trained teachers, and industry experts.

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If you would like more information about Cultivate or this exhibition, please contact Mallory Shotwell at hello@cultivategrandrapids.org