



A Necessary Departure





Our global society is accustomed to moving through each day with underlying assumptions of the way things work. We rely on and put trust in the systems that bring structure to our lives and our communities. The coronavirus pandemic led to a period of these systems being forced to address a new reality. This caused many to re-examine their relationship to self, family, work, governance, culture, and social responsibility.

A Necessary Departure presents a collection of seventeen artists and organizations whose work create a dialogue around the personal transformations and societal reckonings that have been necessary to find a starting

place to again live and connect with the world around us. Each piece holds a unique part in the conversation. They range in topics that mirror the complexities of the pandemic. This collection aims to explore boundaries, self-care, and finding a sense of individual agency to make a difference.

These works are a translation of each artists' personal experience. By their creation, they recognize the influence that creatives had by using their natural problem-solving abilities to be a catalyst to help us through a very challenging juncture of our lives. They also share an innovative outcome that can continue to serve us as we navigate the current times and those ahead.

Featured Exhibitors

1. ALVARO ALVAREZ
2. CLOUD CLUB COLLECTIVE
3. CRYSTAL DAIGLE
4. JAMIE FRANKS
5. KAORI FUKUYAMA
6. LORI HEPNER
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17. MATTHEW WILSON



ALVARO ALVAREZ

Alvarez was born in San Diego, raised in Tijuana, and has woven a life completely intertwined on both sides of the US-Mexico border. His binational art practice is informed by his studies of architecture and neuroscience in design. This series responds to the duality of liberty and restraint, the internal negotiation to balance them, and the necessity of developing boundaries intensified for many by the pandemic. The dense ink creates activity and depth and its absence creates breath and light. The edges of the shapes imply an invisible line that the ink is forbidden from crossing. It represents an ambition to grasp and yield to the big picture, only to promptly, and often desperately, institute a sense of control upon it.

 [@art_alvaroalvarez](https://www.instagram.com/art_alvaroalvarez)

Terminal 2 West | Post-Security | Be Relax Lounge

CLOUD CLUB COLLECTIVE

Cloud Club Collective is a multidisciplinary team of educators, artists, engineers, therapists, scientists, and business professionals who create transdisciplinary products and techniques that transform research from the learning and cognitive sciences into practical tools. Each digital artwork, enhanced by physical artifacts crafted by local artists, offers the ability to interact visually and aurally by finding and using the hidden QR code. Inspired by a sense of urgency created during the pandemic around how we envision a future together, *Purposeful Daydreaming* aims to accelerate a collective shift in the way humans learn, work, and solve problems by encouraging active cultivation of imagination and each person's unique creative ability for the good of all.

 [@cloud_club_collective](https://www.instagram.com/cloud_club_collective)

Terminal 2 East | Post-Security | Gate 28





CRYSTAL DAIGLE

Originally from New York, Daigle is a San Diego-based artist whose installations often reflect the connection, comfort, and transformation for which she moved west. The pandemic introduced accessible ways for her to accommodate her disability and sensory challenges, and to interact with others, including an online cancer patient's arts group. As a participant, Daigle collected rocks on life-saving and rejuvenating walks through Lake Murray and Presidio Park. Each rock that she painted and added to her small village felt like two people meeting for the first time saying, "Enchanté" (the French word for "It's nice to meet you"). As she invites you to discover new arrangements, shapes and colors, Daigle's work becomes a sort of game while asking, "What do I risk when I reveal more of myself?" And "Can I listen and relate with people once they reveal traits I don't agree with or understand?"

 @crystal_daigle

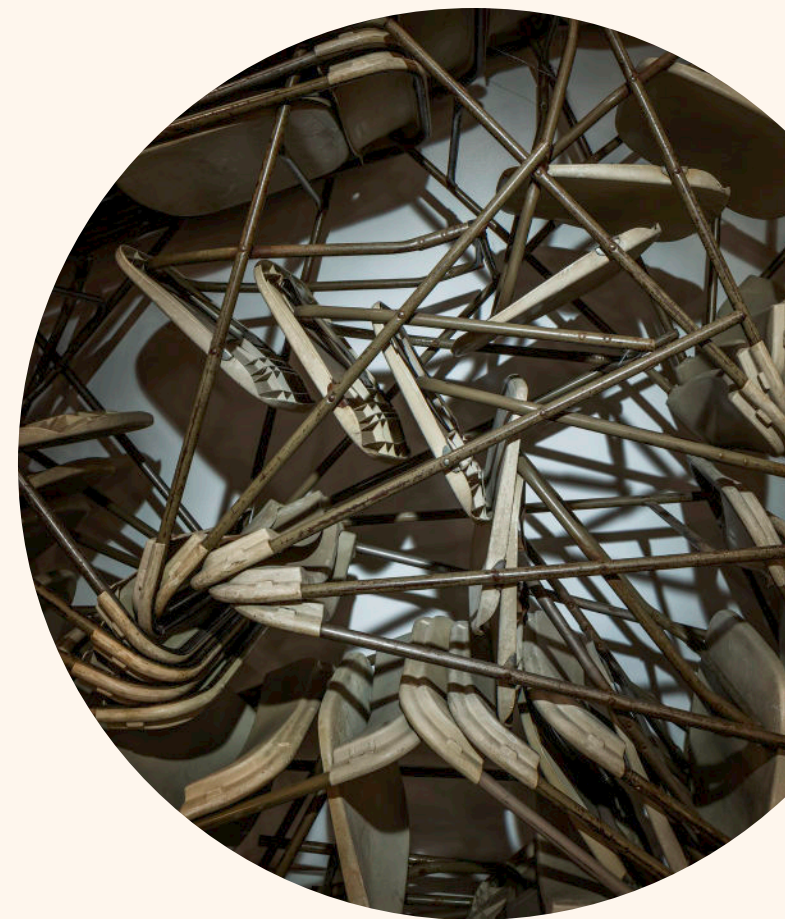
Terminal 2 West | Post-Security | Gate 48

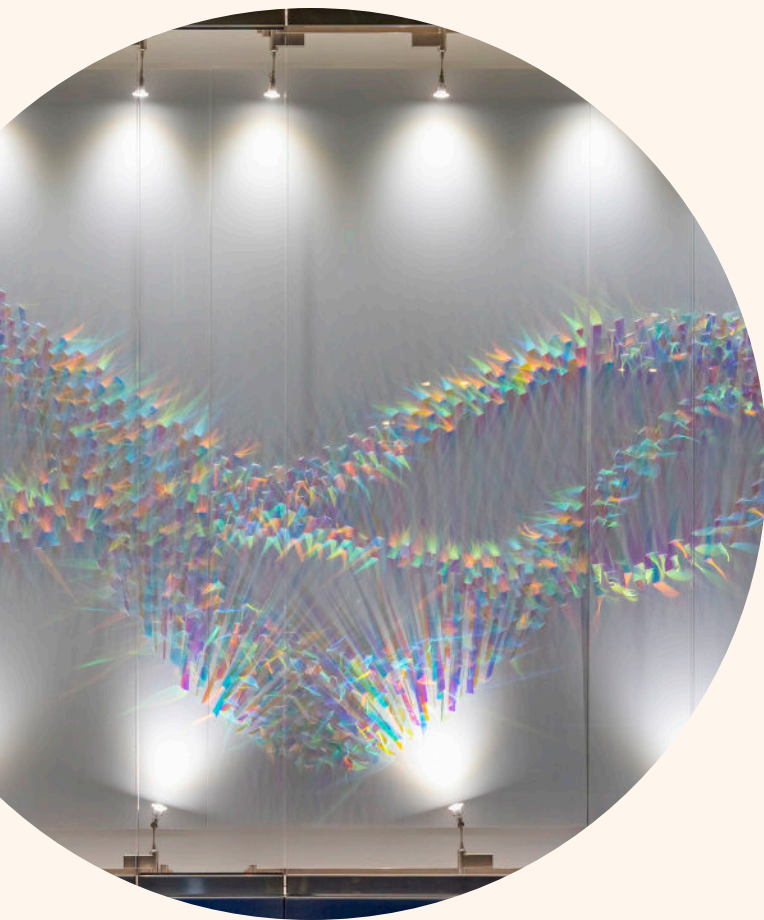
JAMIE FRANKS

Franks is an interdisciplinary artist born and raised in San Diego. They're interested in the practical application of critical theory as a means of art making and art making as a means to connect the individual to the collective. During Franks' pandemic-era residency at Bread & Salt in Logan Heights, they created installations with plastic folding chairs, responding to the uselessness of a space and objects that had under other circumstances been useful for gathering and connecting. Using this work as a foundation, Franks developed *Postponed* as a commentary on how we navigate new realities when a usual purpose is flipped on its head.

 @jamiefrankx

Terminal 2 East | Pre-Security | Alcove





KAORI FUKUYAMA

Fukuyama is a multi-disciplinary artist from Kumamoto, Japan, who lives and works in San Diego. Her practice spans many media and explores the interactions of color, light and shadow in pursuit of a deeper understanding of our visual perception. During the seemingly insurmountable troubles of the pandemic – social justice movements, gun violence and economic inequality – she found relief in the study of starlings. These small blackbirds collectively, in large flocks, transform fluidly from one shape to another as they fly, and do so by coordinating with only the closest seven neighbors. Fukuyama creates a visual representation of individuality, community, and society in infinite loops, each small piece influencing the color and shape of the whole, and revealing how the seemingly impossible becomes possible by taking responsibility for the “closest seven.”

 @kaori_fukuyama

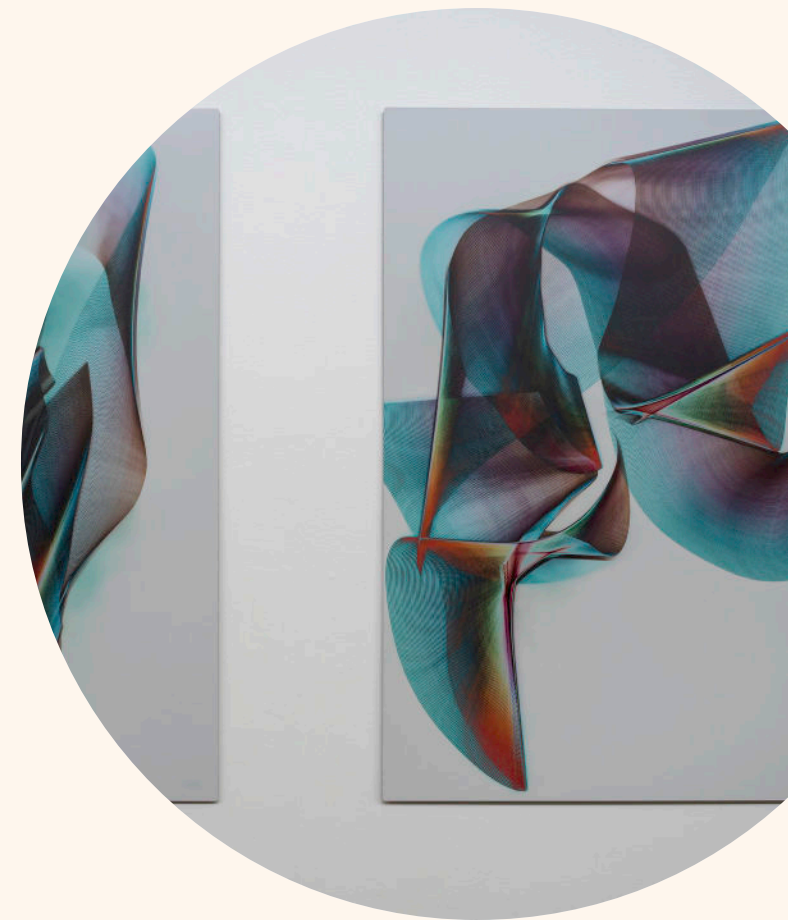
Terminal 2 East | Pre-Security | Checkpoint 6

LORI HEPNER

Hepner is a Pittsburgh-based artist who has been actively connected to the San Diego art scene. She has an ongoing interest in exploring how digital technology impacts society and individuals, utilizing participatory public art projects, real-time performance, and photography. Hepner incorporates performative processes to re-situate her residual bodily knowledge of things she has experienced into pieces of performed light painting. This series was created as she danced with LEDs in front of a camera shortly after the pandemic lockdown period was lifted in June 2020. Each work is a performance as landscape photos of the sunset that glowed on her last flight before COVID-19 play back one column of pixels at a time. It becomes a symbol of the journey, including transformations and hard shifts, that we endured the pandemic, having arrived somewhere different without leaving home.

 @lori.hepner

Terminal 2 West | Post-Security | North Concourse





MARK HEWKO

Raised in New York City by World War 2 Ukrainian immigrants, Hewko is a contemporary mural artist now based in San Diego. His work is an experimentation with Roman and Cyrillic alphabets which began during his involvement in the height of the subway art movement. *Resonance* pays homage to the incredible life of his Indian mother-in-law, an immigrant doctor whose career was spent treating American Veteran patients, and the closure he experienced at her casting ceremony in the Ganges River after her passing. It pays tribute to the function of the instrument it adorns by providing an impetus that can strike an unanticipated chord with its audience, becoming a hope for similar release and healing in a post-pandemic future.

 @markhewko

Terminal 2 West | Pre-Security | Public Piano

TERRI HUGHES-OELRICH

Hughes-Oelrich is an artist residing in San Diego and a Professor of Art at San Diego City College. Her artwork has often commented on the environment and works in tandem with her courses where she teaches sustainable art and design. A visual wave encapsulating its audience, this installation speaks to the environmental impacts of the pandemic. Air became cleaner as fuel consumption dropped. Yet single-use plastic consumption soared with increased production, overuse and waste. Hughes-Oelrich's work imagines what role plastic would have in our lives ten years into the future, forecasting a more positive vision of the future to create motivation towards accomplishing change. While the project celebrates the invention of some of these amazing plastic devices, it also questions their necessity and asks how we can reduce our consumption, especially of single-use plastic.

 @hughesoelrich

Terminal 2 East | Post-Security | Gate 24





NARA LEE

Lee is a design professional and artist in downtown San Diego. She spent 100 consecutive days, from April 7th to July 15th, 2020, drawing tiny slices of life that illustrated our collective experience of living in a global pandemic. These 2 x 2-inch sketches of black lines with pen ascribe the same visual weight to each event. Some capture movements that were big, important, and broadcast all around the world; other moments were mundane, private, and seemingly unimportant. Each activates our memories to create a sense of shared reality, encouraging us to remember how we yearned for the ordinary again, and to be grateful for it, so that these unsettling times will have served a purpose.

 @naraleestudio

Terminal 2 East | Pre-Security | Access Control Office

BRANDIE MADDALENA

Taking a decidedly introspective turn in her work during isolation, Maddalena, a San Diegan sculptural artist, was brought face-to-face with what she felt compelled to relieve the world of through her art: alienation, pain, sorrow, isolation, and of course, loss. *One and Many* explores the visual poetics of material relationships developed through labor-intensive sculptural processes. Ritually, each day Maddalena tenderly venerated sticks by charring them in fire, marking them with chalk, and sealing the ends and openings with wax. Her visual metaphor grasps and honors the humanity of each individual who died from COVID-19, and offers the opportunity to recognize the life cycle as the ultimate common denominator between all people. Maddalena signifies that the 321 sticks represent the average number of COVID-19 deaths per day since the beginning of the pandemic as of April 2021.

 @brandie.maddalena

Terminal 2 East | Pre-Security | Alcove Cases





CARRIE MINIKEL

Minikel is an Oceanside-based interdisciplinary artist specializing in sculptural objects that recombine found and handcrafted elements. She incorporates aspects of scientific instruments, weapons, tools, and toys to encourage new ways of connecting to facets of the inner and outer world. Her collections resemble the renewed interest in basic human skills and a material resourcefulness that came about during the pandemic. As an antidote to the many uncertainties of the era, Minikel's work uses themes of curiosity and observation to reveal an interconnected web of existence between things that may appear separated at first glance.

 @carrieminikel

Terminal 2 West | Pre-Security | Display Cases

ISMAIL ODETOLA

A Nigerian-based multidisciplinary artist, Odetola's practice focuses on socioeconomic, political, and ecological justice issues. He has garnered awards from around the world, including from UNESCO. Odetola moved back to a small remote town on the outskirts of Lagos during the pandemic. Bracing for what felt like the end of the world, he gradually discovered a sense of wholeness by watching locals immerse themselves in the magic of an ordinary day. These images create highly saturated scenes intended to portray hope, happiness, work, family and love, hygiene, ecological knowledge, and feelings in an abstract and aesthetical form. They serve as a commentary on our responsibility to reevaluate our overlooked values.

 @zanni_aba

Terminal 2 East | Post-Security | Transition Corridor





ROSEMARY RAE

A graphic designer, art director, educator, and collage artist in San Diego, Rae uses doodling to help her navigate stress. In the midst of disruption and life upheaval caused by the pandemic, Rae turned to sharpies, acrylic crayon, paint, marker, and collage to develop playful, bright, and original landscapes from recycled book board. These bright wonderlands from Rae's imagination become a place to experience relief from anxiety. They draw a parallel to the meditative nature of creation. Her work presents a pathway to set one's mind free, heralding the truth that sometimes space and distance are the best way to address reality.

 @rosemarydesign

Terminal 2 West | Post-Security | Gate 34 Display Cases

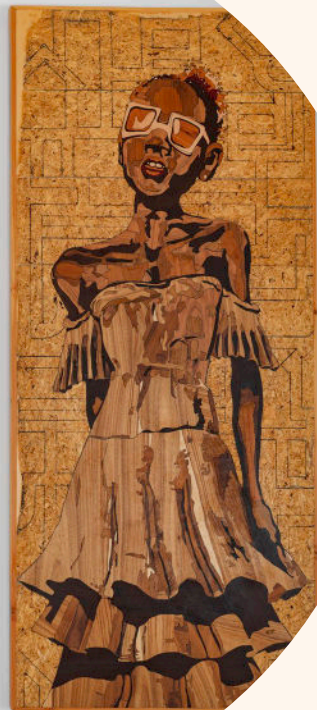
SAN DIEGO MTO SCHOOL

Kerry Soori McEachern is a visual artist and graphic designer residing in San Diego County. She has partnered extensively with the MTO Shahmaghsoudi School of Sufism to develop community-based art projects. *Oneness* is an immersive, multi-sensory, and interactive experience designed to be a step towards love and inclusivity. It frames the pandemic as a call to action to leave behind environments inflicted by the pandemic and other long endured forms of racism, prejudice, injustice, poverty and oppression. It connects its audience through participation and elevates the narrative that we are all members of one human family. Through its intentional use of color, imagery, sound, and creation, guests are encouraged to reflect on what kindnesses they can share with others and build a representation of the future together.

 @sooridesigns

Terminal 2 East | Pre-Security | East End Gallery





CHRISTOPHER LLOYD TUCKER

Tucker is a San Diego-based multimedia artist specializing in woodwork, metalwork, and digital art. He uses computer drawings to create digital imagery that is then cut into exotic hardwoods to make portraits that somehow are two dimensional and sculptural, digital in origin, yet tactile pieces. The uniquely interlaced shapes lift from the artwork a sense of isolation, intimacy, and joy. This depiction of his subjects in solo is further layered by an ambiguity of gesture, pose, and movement. Tucker's work situates each character's experience so they could be interpreted as nearly opposites: being restored by rest, or violently crushed. Dancing with joy, or running in fear. A reflection of the incredible patience required of black and brown people who struggle for meaningful change, he highlights the duality of feelings throughout the pandemic and having to reconcile living at the intense ends of the emotional spectrum.

 [@christopher_lloyd_tucker](https://www.instagram.com/christopher_lloyd_tucker)

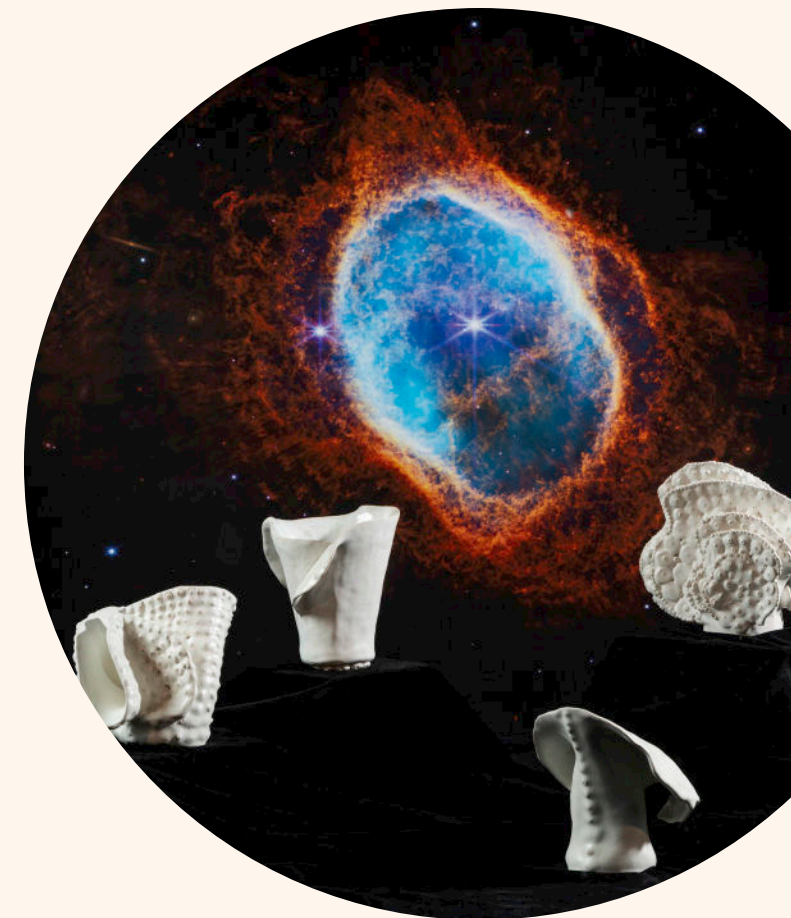
Terminal 2 East | Pre-Security | Entry Corridor

REBECCA WEBB

Known for her photo-based work rooted in desert landscapes, Earth Art, theater, and typologies, Webb is a San Diego artist and curator. She expanded her artistic practice to sculpture as a reprieve from exhaustion she experienced after continual computer meetings and screen work throughout the pandemic. These three-dimensional dynamic biomorphic forms are permeated by themes of transition, transformation, and interdependence that reflect Webb's personal journey into a new art form. Building on Walt Whitman's poem *Song of Myself*, this series explores time over generations and through the millennia. It examines the relationships between mother and son, self and humanity, and how everything is made from the same particles, even the stars.

 [@rebeccawebbstudio](https://www.instagram.com/rebeccawebbstudio)

Terminal 2 West | Post-Security | Gate 33 Display Cases





MATTHEW WILSON

With roots in La Jolla and based in North Carolina, Wilson is a professional artist in the film and animation industry specializing in volumetric clouds and cloudscape for studios such as Pixar and Bluesky. Wilson's love of travel and the way it forces one to be "in the moment" while eliciting a feeling of destiny and adventure inspired this collection comprised of 12 surreal cloudscape wherein the clouds are more than background, they are the travelers. They are the sentinels, or guardians, of the memories each piece is created to represent. His work serves as a metaphoric departure from how one routinely perceives the sky above by triggering memories of travel, a sensation of presence, and deep sense of wonder that otherwise often became inaccessible during the pandemic. It offers a reminder to go outside, look up, and explore.

 @bunnylever

Terminal 2 West | Post-Security | Gate 51

San Diego International Airport Arts Program

The Arts Program at SAN infuses the airport with light, levity, comfort, and memorable experiences. The program surprises and delights travelers with arts of the highest caliber, and showcases the region's rich cultural community. Bringing texture and depth to the airport environment, the program involves artists in the planning and design of the airport.

Whether you're making your way to your gate or collecting your luggage, take a moment to notice the art around you – it was designed with you in mind.

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