

PRESS RELEASE

Karyn Olivier

Horger Artist-in-Residence for Art | Architecture | Design

LUAG Main Gallery

January 24 – May 25, 2018

Opening Reception: Spring 2018 Exhibitions

LUAG Main Gallery, Zoellner Arts Center

February 8, 2018 6 PM – 8 PM

Karyn Olivier: Artist Talk

Black Box Theatre, Zoellner Arts Center

April 12, 2018 6 – 9 PM



Karyn Olivier, *Wall*, 2017

Karyn Olivier did not start out as an artist. It wasn't until the age of 30, after a career as a retail manager at Urban Outfitters and Bloomingdale's, that while working for artist J. Morgan Puett, she had her 'aha' moment. According to Olivier: "I watched this designer who really was the quintessential artist — living art at every moment. It was incredible to witness. I realized through watching her every day that life didn't have to be compartmentalized — all of it can be imbued with art. A month later I quit my job, started a little business and began taking ceramics classes with the purpose of getting enough credits to go to graduate school".

Ceramics classes led to graduate school at Cranbrook Academy of Art, where Olivier explored and experimented with large scale installations. Olivier is now known as a large-scale installation artist whose work manipulates ordinary spaces and ordinary objects. In the exhibition, **Karyn Olivier** at Lehigh University Art Galleries / Teaching Museum, her work dominates the LUAG Main Gallery in the form of a brick wall imbedded with scraps of clothing, and a car cover stuffed with shoes. Olivier: " I use everyday objects, spaces, locations and images to shift our experience of the familiar. I want to reimagine knowns, which are assumed to be concrete and set. My manipulation of familiar objects and spaces points to their malleability – they are fluid and never fixed".

Karyn Olivier is the Department of Art | Architecture | Design's Horger Artist-in-Residence for the Spring 2018 semester. The Horger Artist-in-Residence is a semester long rotating residency that brings a noteworthy talent to Lehigh University. Olivier is the inaugural artist for AAD's Horger Artist-in-Residence and LUAG is pleased to present this exhibition in conjunction with her residency. In addition, she will teach a studio class, and install a permanent sculpture on campus in collaboration with Lehigh students.

For more information visit our website www.luag.org
Or contact Alexandria Wismer at 610-758-3615 or alw414@lehigh.edu
420 E Packer Ave, Bethlehem PA 18015



LUAG is the Teaching Museum at Lehigh University. LUAG inspires, develops, and promotes visual literacy and cultural understanding through cross-disciplinary educational opportunities that supplement formal classroom study. LUAG's core educational resource is its world-class art collection, which it uses, along with traveling exhibitions from outside the university, to create settings for experiential learning.

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Karyn Olivier continues until May 25, 2018 in the LUAG Main Gallery, Zoellner Arts Center. Hours are Wednesday – Saturday 11 AM – 5 PM and Sunday 1 PM – 5 PM. This project was funded in part by a Tyler Dean’s Grant from Temple University. Please join us for a reception celebrating all of this semester’s exhibitions at the LUAG Main Gallery on February 8, 2018 from 6 – 8 PM. Karyn Olivier’s Artist Talk will be held on April 12, 2018 from 6 – 9 PM at the Black Box Theatre, Zoellner Arts Center.

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