

CHRISTY NELSON: 2021 EMERGING ARTIST GRANT RECIPIENT



Christy Nelson lives and works in Laporte, Colorado, and received her MFA in painting from Colorado State University. She has been awarded several prestigious scholarships and Juror's awards, and was selected as artist-in-residence with Half Crown Creative in 2020. She maintains an independent studio practice while also working with the Museum of Art | Fort Collins to make the art of Northern Colorado more navigable and accessible to the public.

Christy writes: *"My artistic practice expresses conflicting but related concepts, such as safety and vulnerability or woundedness and healing."* She is pursuing a new body of work that will be composed of large areas of poured encaustic in specific shapes and colors. These works will break away from traditional panel shapes to incorporate "live edges" (defined by the imagery), creating an energy that contrasts with the poured tranquility of the encaustic.

She prepares image files in software such as Photoshop and uses a computer numerical control (CNC) machine to create substrates specific to each composition. These substrates will have edges with hair-thin walls for boundaries to contain the encaustic pours.

Christy plans on using the grant to enable her to create this next chapter of work by covering the cost of the fiberboard and the newer technology of CNC machinery. This grant will allow her to continue to explore what interdisciplinary contemporary encaustic use can be.

*L-R: "Uncovered", "Unzipped", "Undone"
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