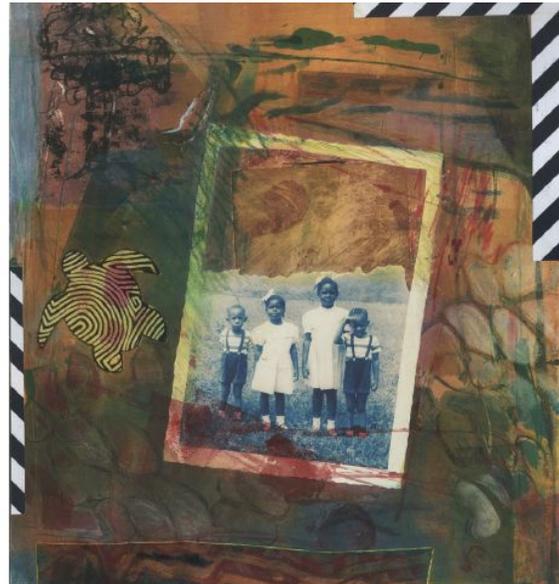


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Phyllis Thompson, *Making Memories* and Paloma Barhaugh-Bordas, *Understory*
September 27-November 2, 2019
Opening reception from 5-8pm on Friday, September 27, 2019.
Part of M&T Fourth Fridays at Tri-Main Center



BUFFALO, NY - Buffalo Arts Studio is thrilled to announce our next exhibitions featuring a solo exhibition of BAS Studio Artist Phyllis Thompson (Buffalo, NY) and a solo exhibition of Paloma Barhaugh-Bordas (Ithaca, NY). Phyllis Thompson, *Making Memories*, and Paloma Barhaugh-Bordas, *Understory*, will both be on view at Buffalo Arts Studio from September 27-November 2, 2019. Both exhibitions will have an opening reception on M&T Fourth Friday, September 27, 2019 from 5:00-8:00pm, with artist remarks at 6:00pm.

Phyllis Thompson's solo exhibition, *Making Memories*, uses monotype printmaking to construct images rooted in childhood memories that focus on experiences both real and imagined with family and friends. She uses a monotype process akin to the direct process of collaging, because, like memory, it is an imperfect system that often brings forth surprising results. Her process includes visual elements such as patterned fabric, textured papers, and faded photographs to construct portraits of ancestors she has never met. These ancestors, whose solemn, reserved eyes stare



forward into time, envision a moment where they may be both physically and systematically unshackled.

Thompson achieves this unshackling through the physical manipulation of the figures, removing them from the picture. This bodily removal leaves an echo of whiteness in the composition, and fading more still, until their silhouettes are akin to wallpaper. In this space, in the removal of physical form, Thompson's spiritually present predecessors are abstracted; falling back and melding into wallpaper that is replete with vines, curlicue and blocks of color, all of which recall the artist's earliest explorations in monotypes. The work presented therein becomes meditations on individuals, feelings, memories, and experiences, which are replayed through visual representation and allusion.

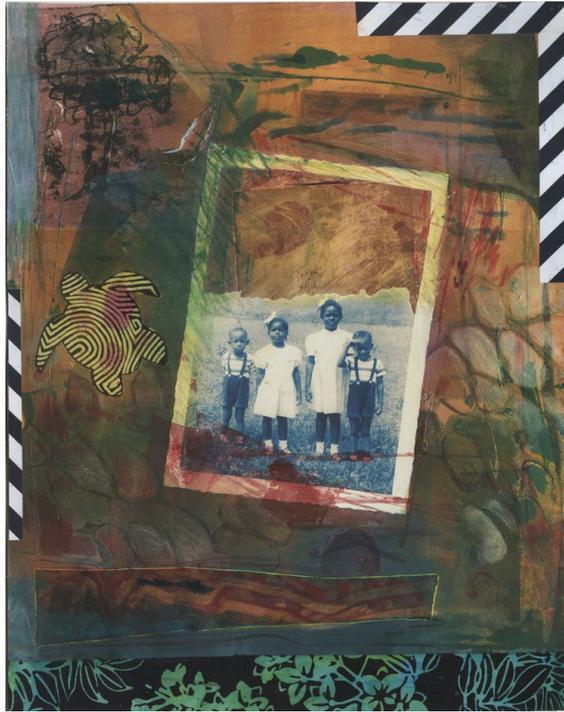
Paloma Barhaugh-Bordas's solo exhibition, *Understory*, is also comprised of multimedia monotype and collage to construct historical narratives. Where Thompson focuses on a largely domestic past, Barhaugh-Bordas' work looks more to place than time. Her work adapts and appropriates the vernacular of the many regions she's called home and traces the self-conscious search for cultural roots as a first-generation American. Her work is at once both familiar and unsettling.

Barhaugh-Bordas's work, spanning print media, begins with photographs and drawings, often of plants, which have grown twisted and gnarled, recording in their own way the geographies they have occupied. Houseplants provide a link to nature in one's intimate space, but are at the same time a sort of ecological colonialism.

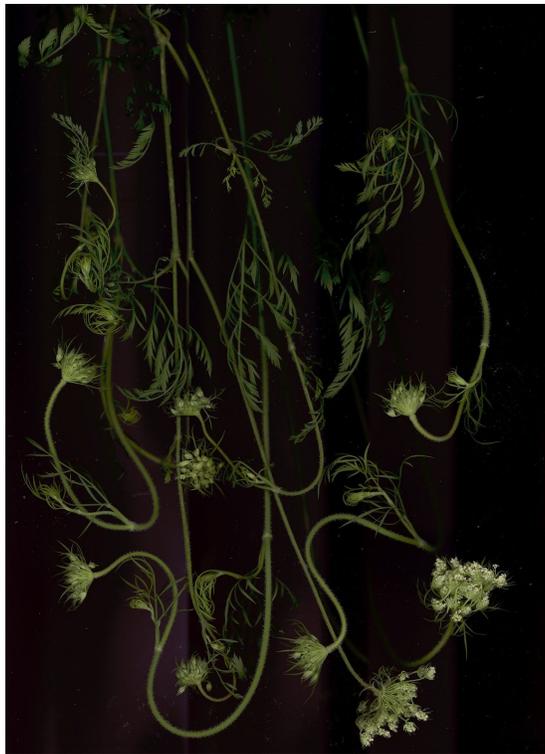
Barhaugh-Bordas hold a deep belief in process, and uses print media to investigate and inform the meaning and purpose of serial works, which are full of repeated symbols, definitively graphic marks, and a flip-flop of translations from paper to press and back. Rather than creating multiples from a single image, Barhaugh-Bordas works in series and reproduce imagery and symbols across multiple prints.



Buffalo Arts Studio



Phyllis Thompson, *Retreat from the City*, mixed media monotype, 2018



Paloma Barhaugh-Bordas, *Neck Piece*, digital image, 2019.



High-resolution images are available upon request

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Buffalo Arts Studio is a not-for-profit arts organization whose mission is to provide affordable studio space and regular public exposure for regional, national, and international artists through exhibitions, and to enrich the community with art classes, mural programs, and public art. Buffalo Arts Studio is located at 2495 Main Street, Suite 500, Buffalo, NY 14214. The gallery is open Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

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