

Figure
June 1 – July 31, 2021

Chase Gallery | City Hall
808 W Spokane Falls Blvd. | Spokane, WA 99201
www.spokanearts.org/programs/chase-gallery/



Description

Spokane Arts is excited to present *Figure*, an exhibit of figurative photographs, paintings, and drawings by regional artists. *Figure* features work in a range of styles and mediums exploring the human form in contemporary, regional artwork. The group show includes Spokane-based artists Hannah Charlton, Janelle Cordero, Sally Jablonski, Posie Kalin, Kayleigh Lang, and Egor Shokoladov, as well as work from Idaho-based artists Lindsey Johnson and Meagan Marsh Pine. *Figure*, which includes the work of several queer artists, is one of six exhibitions featured in the 2021 Spokane Queer Art Walk, a city-wide event spotlighting LGBTQ+ artists on First Friday, June 4 2021.

Discussion Questions

1. Reflecting on her introduction to illuminated manuscripts, Hannah Charlton stated, “I had only learned about the Middle Ages as the Dark Ages, before Italian Renaissance artists discovered perspective and anatomy and made art worth looking at again. But the vibrant colors, complicated patterns, and fields of gold leaf were fascinating.” Does Charlton’s modern take on illuminated manuscripts spark your interest in learning more about art from the Middle Ages? Can you think of a time that artwork has made you rethink your ideas about something?
2. Kayleigh Lang’s practice of intentionally reflecting on vulnerable moments through art making is therapeutic for them. Reflect on a difficult experience in your life. Can you imagine how you might process that experience through making art? When you look at Lang’s charcoal drawings, do you find yourself inspired to learn about Lang or do they move you to examine your own vulnerable moments?
3. According to their artist statement, Meagan Marsh Pine, in collaboration with their wife Elizabeth Hickman Pine, uses photography to “create a space in which [they] are among the divinity of the stars, creating a pathway to [their] own world.” How do you see Pine using visual elements (such as imagery, the figure’s pose, symbolism, and color) to accomplish their creation of a new space?
4. Janelle Cordero’s fragmented watercolor paintings were created as an act of contemplation and prayer. Cordero stated, “I’m utterly in the moment, giving myself entirely to whatever piece I’m working on. And I hope the viewer of my paintings will experience that same kind of transportation into a meditative mindset.” Spend some time sitting with her artwork. Is it successful in transporting you, the viewer, into a meditative mindset? If not, how might it be accomplished? Has artmaking and/or viewing art ever transported you into a meditative mindset before?
5. Each artist is creating figurative artwork with different mediums and intentions. Which pieces do you respond to the most? Is it because of the medium? The aesthetics? The meaning? For you, which is more interesting, creating something beautiful or creating something meaningful?