

ARC SUMMMER 2021



A.P.E. Ltd. Gallery
126 Main Street
Northampton, MA 10160

Jil Crary-Ross, Jo Hesse, Michelle Falcón Fontánez

Photography by Isabelle Hettlinger
and Sarah Müllejans

Airdrop:

Dreamscapes of 21st Century Americana

Jil Crary-Ross

June 6th - June 19th



Airdrop

Jil Crary-Ross

Airdrop: Dreamscapes of 21st century Americana is a series of narrative portrait paintings that capture individuals and their encounters between interior, exterior, and digital spaces.

Composed from imagery originally shot or collected on a phone camera, *Airdrop* makes reference to the cinematic luster, and simultaneous fragility, of the small screen.

As a whole, the work portrays dreamscapes through which we understand our current time, emphasizing the pulpy synthesis between memory, technology, current events, notions of self-image, and human interaction.

June 6th - June 19th



Airdrop

Jil Crary-Ross

Airdrop expands upon a traditional show, complimenting the paintings with an interactive virtual element and extending a collaborative role to the audience. Throughout the exhibition, visitors will be invited to participate in the ongoing series by completing a short mixed-media poll on-site.

In sharing information and imagery, both the audience and artist act as documentarians. The collection of source material over the course of the show illustrates the overlapping and accumulative patterns of digital and physical connection and highlights the nuanced framework of interaction between the virtual, physical, and each other.

June 6th - June 19th

SOURCE MATERIAL SURVEY

Airdrop will conclude with a weekend of open hours during which Crary-Ross will make additional compositions using source material collected from the audience throughout the show.

To participate, please respond to any three of the following prompts. You may respond in writing or by emailing images to jil.crary.ross@gmail.com. All source material will remain anonymous and will only be used for this exercise.

The following prompts are structured to pair specific states of being with specific imagery:

1. Submit an image of or describe a daily infrastructural feature you appreciate.
2. Submit an image of or describe an object of daily use.
3. Submit an image of or describe something that captures leisure.
4. Submit an image of or describe something that captures privacy.
5. Submit an image of or describe a typical public encounter.
6. Submit an image of or describe how you see yourself in relation to your community.
7. What are your objectives when documenting your daily experience?



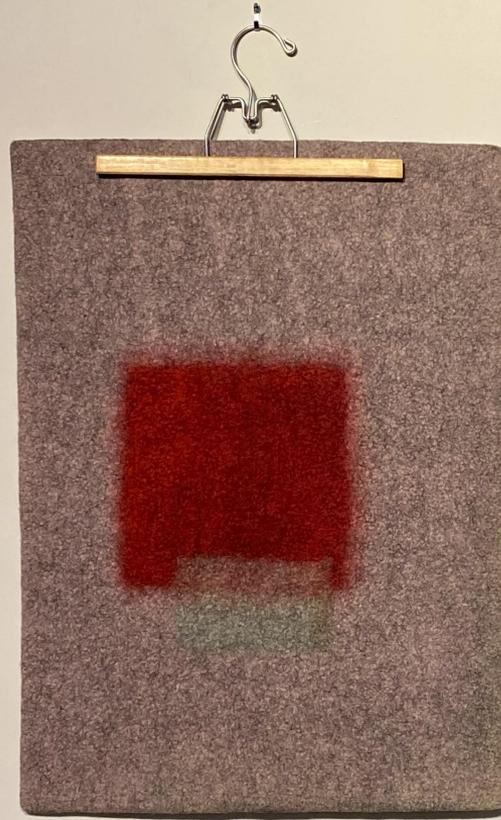
Paintings featured in
Airdrop,
by Jil Crary-Ross.



Social Fabric: *A Community Rugmaking Project*

Jo Hesse

June 20th - July 10th



Social Fabric

Jo Hesse

Jo Hesse makes felt rugs and wall art using traditional pre-industrial feltmaking techniques that she learned in Turkey from UNESCO honored master feltmaker Mehmet Girgic.

This project will use the Main Street exhibition space at A.P.E. to create a large rug that the community could bring into existence. The felt rugmaking process is so uncommon and so dynamic that the artist is confident passersby will be drawn in to watch and, in some cases, to participate.

June 20th - July 10th



Social Fabric

Jo Hesse

Since A.P.E. was designed to be not only an exhibition space and performance venue, but a place for artists to work, and a place for community to exist, it is the perfect place for this project, which is partially exhibition, partially collaborative art and partially an ongoing and interactive performance of hand fabrication and ancient technology.

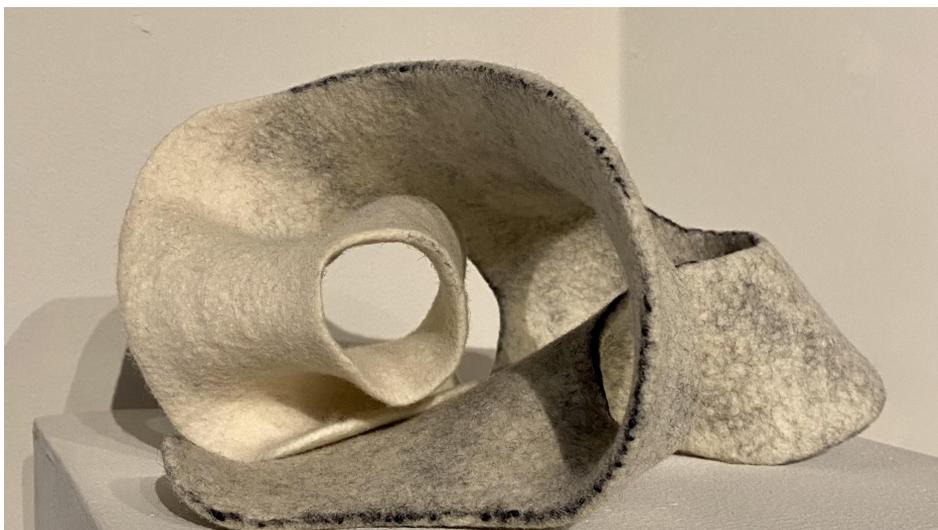
The artist's rugs will also be exhibited during the project.

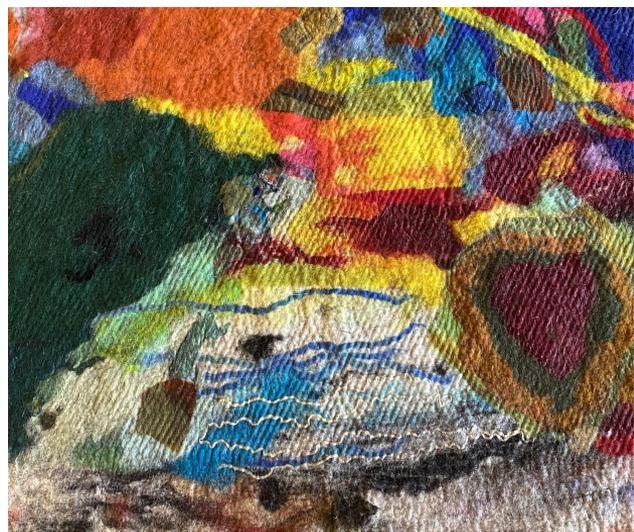
June 20th - July 10th





Wool rugs and a sculptural piece featured in *Social Fabric*, by Jo Hesse.



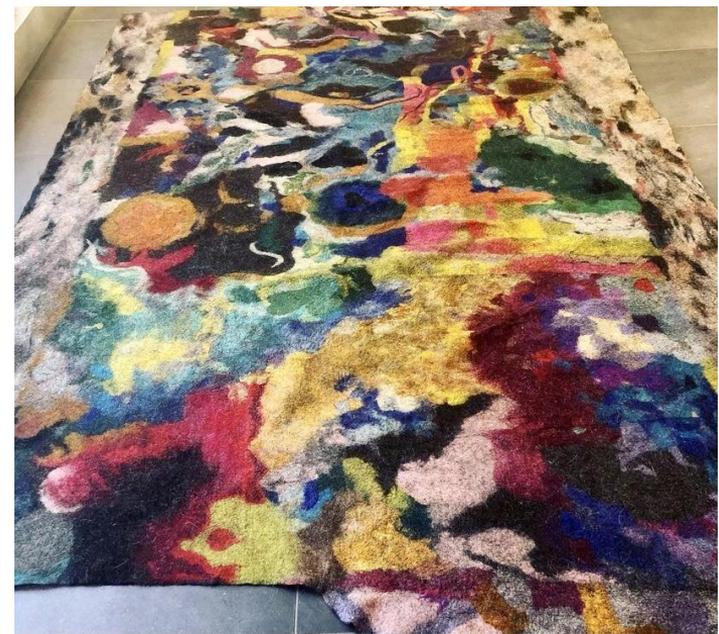


Jo Hesse, second from the right, and friends design the community rug.



Left: Jo Hesse and her father, Kent Hesse, examine the community rug.

Right: Jo, far right, teaches visitors how to felt beat.



The community rug was auctioned off during the reception for *Social Fabric*.

All of the proceeds from the rug were donated to the Northampton Survival Center and the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts.

La casa de abuela

Michelle Falcón Fontánez
Alvilda Sophia Anaya-Alegria
Laura M. Pantoja

July 11th - July 18th



La casa de abuela

Michelle Falcón Fontáñez, Alvilda Sophia Anaya-Alegria, Laura M. Pantoja

July 11-July 18th

La casa de abuela is a multimedia piece that consists of a traditional Puerto Rican grandmother's home in the countryside, displaying the belongings that the family had to leave behind: furniture, food, family photos, a favorite toy and abuela's café.

The videos and audio playing depict sounds of the island as well as anecdotes and conversations from the people who lived there.

The interactive installation allows visitors to walk through the home, transporting them to a piece of the island. With this act, viewers are reminded of their own homes and what they may have left behind.



La casa de abuela

Michelle Falcón Fontáñez, Alvilda Sophia Anaya-Alegria, Laura M. Pantoja

July 11-July 18th

This project will also include paintings for sale by Alvilda Sophia Anaya-Alegria, a Puerto Rican historian with a Master's in Economics from SNHU, New Hampshire, whose work embodies her experience under Juracán María in the city of Guayama, Puerto Rico, her birth place.

Additionally, the residency will include a fundraising event for Reclaim Puerto Rico, co-founded by Falcón Fontáñez and whose mission is to support entrepreneurship on the island through yearly art fundraisers.

La casa de abuela also featured paintings for sale by Holyoke based artist Laura M. Pantoja.

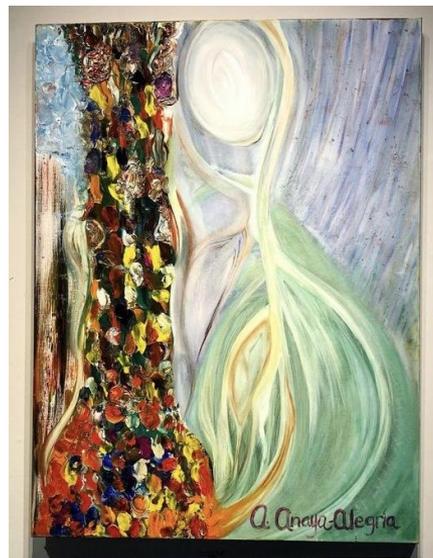
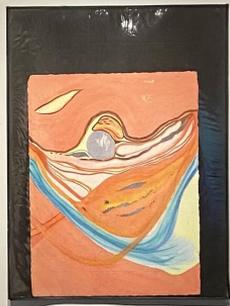
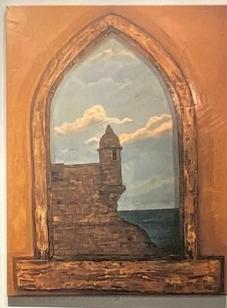


Painting by Alvilda Sophia Anaya-Alegria



The installation component of *La casa de abuela*, by Michelle Falcón Fontánez.





Top: Prints of paintings by Laura M. Pantoja.

Bottom: Paintings by Alvilda Sophia Anaya-Alegria

Artist's Websites

Jill Crary-Ross: <http://jilcraryross.com/>

Jo Hesse: <https://www.theramandtheworm.com/>

Michelle Falcon Fontanez: <https://www.falconfontanezfoto.com/>

Alvilda Sophia Anaya-Alegria: <https://www.facebook.com/GaleriaLAlvilda/>

Reclaim Puerto Rico: <https://www.facebook.com/reclaimpr/>