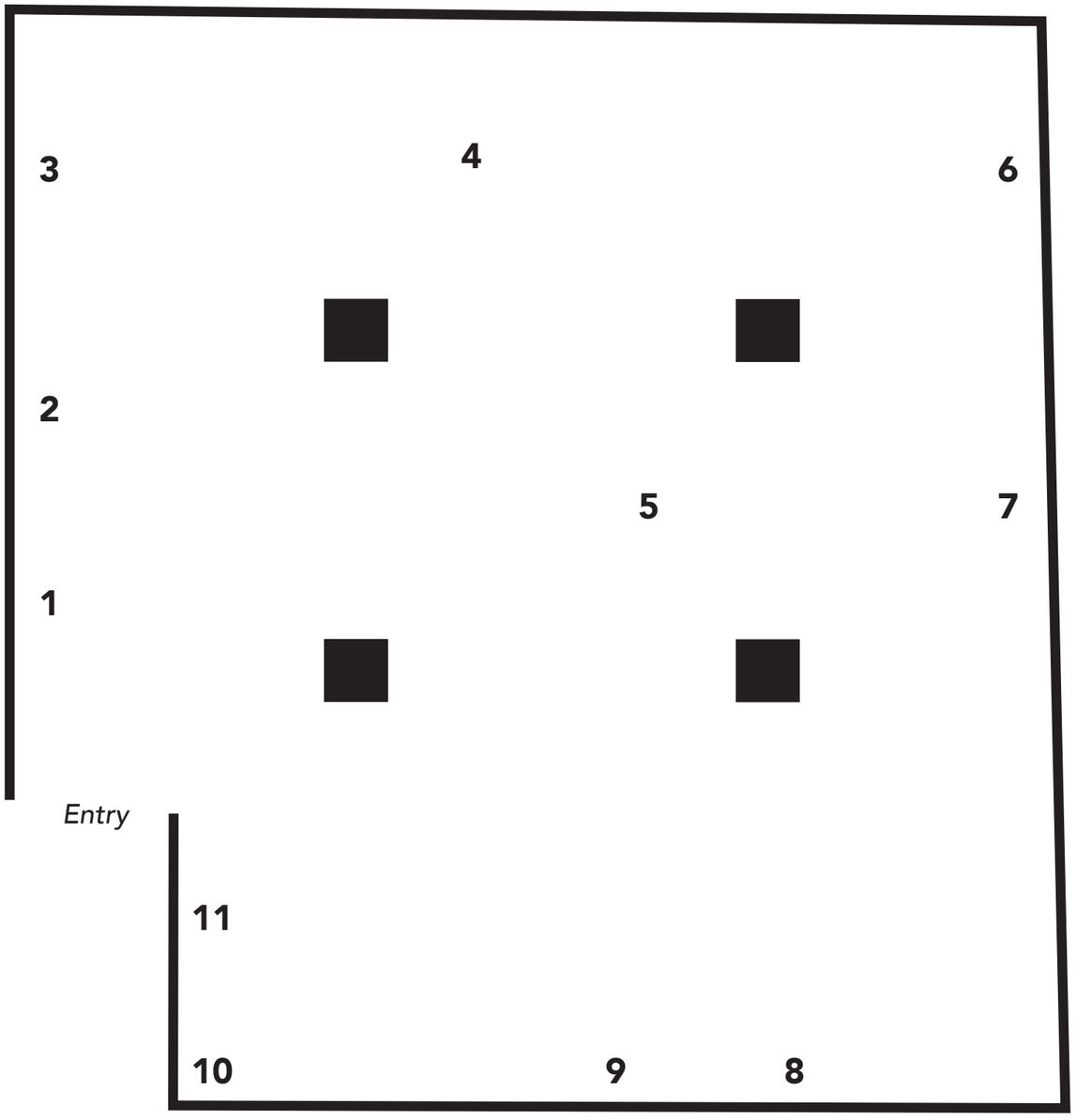
GALLERY MAP



Please refer to the Works List for titles and materials.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

During a visit with her family in Michigan, Jessica Halonen came across her father's military draft records from the Vietnam War where he served as a helicopter mechanic. He never spoke about his experiences in the war, making the discovery as illuminating as it was opaque. Among the official documents from his time there she found: an envelope which contained combat patches; a Christmas card sent from Vietnam to his parents and siblings; and, of particular interest, a tattered, folded sheet of paper containing a sketch of a helicopter. The paper, folded to pocket-size, documented various mechanical parts and commonly used phrases, such as "I'm very busy today," in English and Vietnamese. Despite its age, the words and diagrams remain remarkably vibrant. The text includes an intriguing combination of blue, black, and red inks, and it is clear multiple people contributed to its content.

Sorry I haven't written was inspired by the ephemera in her father's file, and the gallery space in which the works are viewed. The repeating rectangular forms of the pocket-sized note, the Christmas card, the free-standing window-esque wooden grid, as well as the panels on which they are painted, are in dialogue with the windows in the space.

The sculptural elements in the exhibition are made of varied materials including wood, metal-leaf, and blown glass. Halonen's choice of materials is deliberate, calling to mind the gold embossing on her father's holiday card and sandbags used for protection during conflict. Glass usually offers an unobstructed view; however, as seen in the sandbags and the surrounding gallery windows, glass can also distort and obscure, reminding us of the more slippery qualities of perspective, memory, and remembrance.

WORKS LIST **(clockwise from entrance)**

1 *Huey* (Parts 1)
Oil on panel

2 *Sky/Sea*
Oil on canvas

3 *Untitled* (traces)
Metal leaf

4 *Sandbag* (Pink lung)
Blown glass on douglas fir

5 *Untitled* (Fence with Green lungs)
Maple, metal-leaf and blown glass

6 *Untitled* (Trans Co)
Oil on panel

7 *Card* ("Sorry I haven't written, Merry Christmas")
Oil on panel

8 *Untitled Window* (Opaque)
Charcoal and pastel on linen

9 *Helicopter* (trực thăng)
Oil on panel

10 *Untitled Window*
Metal leaf on wall

11 *Sandbags* (Barrier)
Acrylic on linen

The artist would like to thank Artpace staff, Kristina Reinis, Tembo Glass, Trinity University and Vigini Paint & Design.

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Since 1995, Artpace has welcomed more than 240 artists through its renowned International Artist-in-Residence program. Annually, Artpace hosts three residencies, which each feature one Texas-based artist, one national artist, and one international artist, who are selected by a notable guest curator. Each eight-week residency culminates in a two-month exhibition on site. The mission of this program is to provide artists with unparalleled resources that allow them to experiment with new ideas and take provocative risks.

ABOUT ARTPACE

Artpace San Antonio is a nonprofit residency program which supports regional, national, and international artists in the creation of new art.

As a catalyst for artistic expression, we engage local communities with global art practices and experiences.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Support for the International Artist-in-Residence Program comes from Artpace members & donors and:

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INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Sorry I haven't written
Jessica Halonen

Fall 2019 International Artist-in-Residence
In residence September 23–November 19, 2019
Exhibition on view November 14, 2019–January 12, 2020

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jessica Halonen creates sculpture and paintings which explore intersections between art, science, and history. She has engaged with topics such as genetic engineering in the pharmaceutical industry and the historical and metaphorical implications of the color blue. Her research-based work has been widely exhibited and was recently reviewed in Artforum.

Halonen received a MFA in Painting from Washington University in Saint Louis and has been an Artist-in-Residence at the MacDowell Colony, New Hampshire; Kunstlerhaus Bethanian, Berlin; and Core Program, Glassell School of Art, Museum of Fine Arts Houston. Her work has been included in numerous exhibitions, notably at The Contemporary Austin, the Dallas Contemporary, the McNay Art Museum, the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Torrance Art Museum, Los Angeles. Her work is in the permanent collections of the Art Museum of South Texas, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Halonen was born and raised in Milford, Michigan and currently lives and works in Austin and San Antonio. Halonen is an associate professor of art in the Department of Art and Art History at Trinity University in San Antonio.