

## Press Release

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### Exhibition *Shapeshifters* March 2–June 16, 2019



Patrick Hsu, *Stretch*, 2018. Digital photographic prints (4 parts), 34 x 34 inches (overall). Image and work courtesy the artist.

#ShapeshiftersCAMH  
#CAMHteencouncil  
#atCAMH  
@camhouston

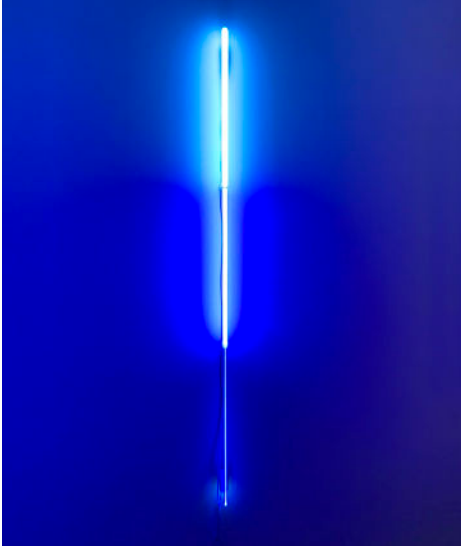
#### Media Contact

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HOUSTON, TX (February 1, 2019)—Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH) is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition *Shapeshifters*. Organized by CAMH's Teen Council, the group exhibition features work by over forty Houston-area teen artists. *Shapeshifters* addresses both instant and continuous responses to rapid shifts in the cultural, socio-political, and physical landscapes that teens face today. A public opening reception will take place on the evening of Friday, March 1, 2019 from 6:30–9PM, with the exhibition remaining on view through Sunday, June 16, 2019. As always, admission to CAMH is free.

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Asa Foreman  
*At Last (to Etta James Who Sang the Blues)*, 2018  
Neon bulb and single-channel audio, 3:04 minutes  
48 x 2 x 2 inches  
Image and work courtesy the artist



Calista Garcia  
*You Have Run Out of Birthdays*, 2018  
Acrylic on canvas on string  
30 x 45 inches  
Image and work courtesy the artist

*Shapeshifters* is the 11th biennial youth art exhibition organized by CAMH's Teen Council. Drawing from an open call, the Teen Council received over 700 submissions responding to the questions: What forms you and/or your generation? How do you define your space? Can you change shapes? The Teen Council chose the theme of shifting shapes knowing that their peers would respond and interpret this idea in a multitude of ways.

Comprised of painting, sculpture, video, photography, textile, and digital media, including an interactive website, the exhibition is organized into five different themes. The first is *Identity*, which features work made in response to the transformative experience of identity; just as individuals find themselves and journey from childhood to the reality of independence, artists are searching for their voice and how to reveal their true selves to the world. The second focuses on *Documentation*. Teens in 2019 live in a world where photographing, filming, commenting, and liking every imaginable object, person, place, or event is a given. Some of the artists question this phenomenon, while others embrace it. The third—titled *Generation*—includes work by artists reflecting on how the environment and culture have changed in the recent past to impact the shape of our society. The fourth group considers *Organic Shapes*, as many artists in the exhibition explore bodies and faces in their work. Lastly, in a section of works about *External Shapes*, there is a group of pieces that looks closely at the shapes in the world and built environment.

*Shapeshifters* discusses the significant and subtle, past and present, singular and universal ways in which art forms the individual. As Jackson Pollock said, "Painting is self-discovery. Every good artist paints what he is."<sup>1</sup> In the context of this exhibition, these artists are in various stages of figuring out who they are and—in their individual, unique ways—evoking this self-discovery through art.

### About CAMH's Teen Council

Now in its 20th year, the Teen Council is a group of dedicated high-school students who are employed by the museum to create programming for their peers. Council members participate in a two year-long program where they receive in-depth, behind-the-scenes museum experiences; learn about pathways to creative careers; and develop leadership, collaboration, and critical thinking skills while gaining real-world understanding of planning exhibitions and events in a museum setting.

Every other year, CAMH's Teen Council organizes an exhibition in the Nina and Michael Zilkha Gallery featuring new work by young, Houston-area artists. Teen Council members work collaboratively to select the theme, title, and artworks featured in the exhibition while assisting with the design, organization, printed exhibition catalogue, and related programming.

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<sup>1</sup> Rodman, Selden. *Conversations with Artists*. New York: Capricorn Books, 1961.

# Contemporary Arts Museum Houston

5216 Montrose Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77006  
CAMH.ORG | #atCAMH

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DeCarté May  
*The line is here to protect the art, not to protect you* (detail), 2018  
Silver gelatin print  
36 x 24 inches  
Image and work courtesy the artist



Joyane Eriom  
*Dissolution* (detail), 2018  
Colored pencil on paper  
30 x 24 inches  
Image and work courtesy the artist

### Public Programs

These events are free, open to the public, and take place at Contemporary Arts Museum Houston. Seating is limited. Please check [camh.org](http://camh.org) for a complete list of Museum programs relating to this exhibition.

#### Opening Reception | Shapeshifters

Friday, March 1, 2019 | 6:30–9PM

Join us to celebrate the exhibition *Shapeshifters* curated by Teen Council.

#### Open Studio | Wearable Art

Saturday, March 2, 2019 | 2–4PM

Silkscreen layers of pattern and color on fabric with CAMH's Teen Council to create wearable art inspired by current exhibitions at the Museum.

#### Family Day and Teen Council Curated Fashion Show

Saturday, March 16, 2019 | 1–4PM

Explore current exhibitions, participate in hands-on projects, and at 3:30PM view a runway-style Fashion Show featuring designs from Houston-based teens.

#### Performance | Music Fest

Thursday, April 4, 2019 | 6:30–8:30PM

Hosted by Teen Council, this live music event showcases the budding talents of Houston's young musicians. Through performances of original compositions and carefully crafted covers, these bands are bound to inspire and impress.

#### Open Studio | Character Remix

Saturday, April 6, 2019 | 2–4PM

Create and remix imaginary characters of all different shapes with an "exquisite corpse" collaboration inspired by *Shapeshifters*.

#### Catalogue Release and Teen Council 20th Anniversary Party

Thursday, May 2, 2019 | 6:30–8PM

Come celebrate with an opportunity to meet CAMH Teen Council, artists featured in *Shapeshifters*, and celebrate 20 years of CAMH's Teen Council.

### CAMH Mission

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston presents extraordinary, thought-provoking arts programming and exhibitions to educate and inspire audiences nationally and internationally.

### General Information

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is located at 5216 Montrose Boulevard, at the corner of Montrose and Bissonnet, in the heart of Houston's Museum District. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10AM–7PM, Thursday 10AM–9PM, Saturday 10AM–6PM, and Sunday 12PM–6PM. Admission is always free. For more information, visit [camh.org](http://camh.org) or call 713.284.8250.

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