

## Family Review

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# *Turn On, Tune In, Tap Out*

On view | May 13-August 8, 2021



Emilia Sterkel, *Individuality*, 2020. Wood, wire armature, tin foil, clay, and plaster, 21 x 24 x 14 inches. Images and work courtesy the artist.

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### *Turn On, Tune In, Tap Out*

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*Turn On, Tune In, Tap Out* is a group exhibition featuring twenty-six Houston-area teen artists and curated by CAMH's Teen Council. The exhibition addresses the world's rapid shift into a virtual space where learning and interactions with others occurred almost exclusively through a digital screen. The works represented in this exhibition respond to this moment with both hope and despair. The artists in *Turn On, Tune In, Tap Out* have found their voice and power behind the screen, while others feel muted and a loss of control. The themes within the exhibition include discussions of how "The Screen" impacts our physical bodies, affects us psychologically, influences our addiction to our devices and social media, and our feelings of connection vs. loneliness.

There are two films, *The Ascent* (2020) and *Siluetas* (2020) by Danny Zuniga Zarat in a room that is in the center of the gallery. This room is dark and the films will play together on a loop. Limited seating is provided for extended viewing.

The work *REDUCED TO BYTES* (2020) by Sam Nunez features a painted figure that is bloody and decapitated.

There are several works in the show that deal with the theme of addiction including the work *Plugged In* (2021) by Sadie Burlton. The painting features a figure with a USB port inserted into their arm mirroring how one might insert a needle or intravenous drugs into a vein.

The sculpture, *The Hate Box* (2021) by Grace Jones confronts the issue of online bullying with a computer monitor and keyboard covered with words and phrases that one might encounter from a cyberbully. The work *Family Reunion* (2021) by Garner Lazar-Pope has text including the word "G-ddamned." Hanging nearby is a work by Alec Phipps, *A Trip to the Grocery Store* (2020) which features a beer can, marijuana leaf, and water pipe. This is a colorful and vibrant work and these elements are visible but not the focus.

*Turn On, Tune In, Tap Out* is in CAMH's lower level Nina and Michael Zilkha Gallery. Under the stairs adjacent to the gallery is an installation by CAMHLAB artist in residence Preston Gaines and Mich Stevenson—this is not part of the Teen Council-curated exhibition.

Overall, the show is dynamic with a variety of media and perspectives represented. Visitors are invited to explore the exhibition and reach out to [tours@camh.org](mailto:tours@camh.org) with further questions.