

Artist Statement
Holly Ballard Martz
Pattern Recognition
ZINC contemporary
Exhibition Dates

Pattern Recognition, Holly Ballard Martz's solo exhibit at ZINC Contemporary, is a response to our politically charged times. Martz utilizes text and found objects to examine patterns of behavior and thinking, confronting her own latent biases and those woven into our national fabric. Vintage x-ray viewers illuminate the myth of colorblindness as it pertains to race. Wire hangers morph into uteruses to form graceful patterns, spanning a 10-foot wall.

Men's

detachable shirt collars stack as a totem to white male dominance.

In psychology and cognitive neuroscience, pattern recognition is the process in which incoming stimuli is matched with information retrieved from memory – it is the basis for learning. Martz proposes that we use pattern recognition as a form of unlearning by highlighting patterns that have become so ingrained as to render them invisible. Only by acknowledging systems of oppression can we hope to challenge them and ultimately change them.