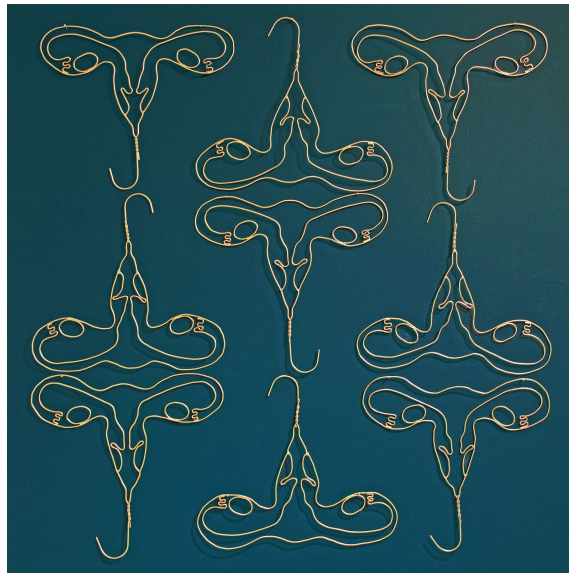


**Holly Ballard Martz: Pattern Recognition
at ZINC Contemporary**

Exhibit runs June 7 - July 21, 2018

Contact: Laura Zeck, founder + curator – laura@zincartobject.com – 206.617.7378





in utero (study for installation)

Holly Ballard Martz

steel wire, wire coat hanger; dimensions variable

22" x 12" as shown

Long Form:

Holly Ballard Martz returns in June with *Pattern Recognition*, her second solo show with Zinc Contemporary. This exhibition of mixed media sculpture is a response to our politically charged time. Whereas prior exhibitions saw the sculptor turning inward to explore an interior landscape, Martz now puts the spotlight unwaveringly outwards towards her fellow citizens, elected officials, and world leaders, highlighting the pitfalls of collusion, silence, and the dangers of going backwards. 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 utilizes text and found objects to examine patterns of behavior and thinking, confronting her own latent biases and those woven into our national fabric. 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.

Pattern Recognition finds Martz chemically bleaching all color from American flags, reducing them to an eerie white-on-white textile; an effective stand-in for anti-immigration and pro-white sentiments in contemporary political circles. Vintage x-ray viewers illuminate the myth of colorblindness as it pertains to race. She morphs dozens of wire coat hangers into the shapes of the female reproductive system, a slow and painful process that is an exercise in endurance for her hands, and is also representative of the slow and painful trudge towards full reproductive rights for women in America. And men's detachable shirt collars are stacked in a column, a monument of white male dominance.

Martz is a multidisciplinary artist based in Seattle, who holds a BFA in Printmaking from the University of Washington. Along with Zinc Contemporary she has also held exhibitions at Centennial Center Gallery (Kent), The Bonfire (Bainbridge Island), and Gunnar Nordstrom Gallery (Bellevue).

More about ZINC contemporary:

View additional works at ZINCcontemporary.com and Artsy.net

ZINC contemporary | 119 Prefontaine Pl S, Seattle, WA 98104 | 206.462.1846 |

@zincontemporary

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 11 – 5pm and by appointment

Visit ZINCartobject.com “making your world FUN to live in!”

ZINC Art + Object | 102 3rd Ave S, Edmonds, WA 98020 | 206.462.1846 | @zincartobject

Hours: Wednesday - Sunday 11 – 5pm

Short Form:

Holly Ballard Martz: Pattern Recognition

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Holly Ballard Martz returns in June with "Pattern Recognition" an exhibition of mixed media sculpture that is a response to our politically charged time. 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. By altering found objects, including men's shirt collars, bleached white American flags, and hand bent coat hangers, Martz highlights systems of oppression and patterns of thought in the hopes that we may challenge and ultimately change them.