



The Art Hall in Oklahoma City

Tiny, Little Fables: The Enchanted **Virtual Tour Transcription**

Narrated and Lead by Helen Opper

Notes

"Sections" are defined by transitions between clips within the video.
Every effort is made to offer the exact timing each instance a new artwork is shown on the screen.
Individual artwork and artwork series titles are italicized.

Section 1

00:00 Hi everybody, my name is Helen Opper and I am the Director and Curator here at The Art Hall. I'd like to welcome you virtually to our space. I'm going to be doing a short and casual walkthrough of our current exhibition entitled, *Tiny, Little Fables: The Enchanted*, and it features artwork by three women artists: Nonney Oddlokken, from New Orleans; Nicole Moan, from Oklahoma City; and Aztrid Moan, from Oklahoma City. Before I turn the camera over to the art, I'd just like to point out that I'm not wearing a mask because I'm completely alone in here, and when I do go into public, I will definitely be wearing a mask and we encourage you to do the same and practice all the safe things. So, thank you for watching this, and I hope you enjoy.

Section 2

00:50 This is the exhibition looking north in our hallway gallery space. There's one more piece to my right. I'm going to start on the left which is where Nonney's work begins, and I'll just talk a little bit about her work for a moment. Nonney's work is very much concerned with her own interpretations of traditional characters and stories from Voodoo and Cajun culture, from life in the bayou. Nonney lives and is from New Orleans, and her work is very much about the culture there and the traditional kind of mythical and mystical folklore that is associated with the Cajun lifestyle in the bayou.

Section 3

01:41 Here we have the first set of works. These are moths that are from the *Stinger* series and these are Nonney's smaller works in the exhibition, and I'm going to zoom in on one of them so you can see the level of detail. This is a Luna moth, and so these are collaged elements that are sewn with hundreds of yards, if not thousands of yards (maybe not thousands for these tiny pieces, but thousands for the larger pieces), and they're sewn onto handmade paper. I'm going to zoom in just a little bit. You can see the thread.

02:26 We'll continue on. Pardon my finger. We've got some wonderful birds with floral elements.

02:41 Here we have a traditional set of characters: we have the Feu Follet, which is the female figure in the background, and the Rougarou, which is traditionally a werewolf

- figure who lives in the bayou, and Nonney has interpreted this as a fox in her work. So that's what we see here. Again, the detail here is just incredible. You can go to our website and zoom in on the images there for really high resolution, beautiful images of these artworks, which I encourage you to do since we can't have you visit in person.
- 03:22 Moving on, we've got some more bird images. We've got another Rougarou, in this case. Just a disclaimer, I am shooting this with my iPhone, so you'll have to forgive me.
- 03:44 This is a Spirit Guide.
- 03:49 Also, I'd like to mention that Nonney created this entire body of work just for this exhibition which is extremely special, and she brought it from New Orleans and we had the pleasure of working together and it has just been a lot of fun to collaborate in this way. It's a new project for the gallery to collaborate with an out-of-state artist.
- 04:12 This is a centerpiece of our exhibition and this is entitled *The Arrival*. This is the only unframed piece in the show. You can see some details.
- 04:47 Moving along, we have some more images. We have a Feu Follet on the left.
- 04:59 Another Rougarou, here.
- 05:11 We have another set of works from the *Stinger* series. These are bees, hornets, and wasps. These are also some of the smaller works.
- 05:24 We'll just sweep on past the door to Walgreens, where we finish up the works by Nonney. These are works featuring birds interspersed with more works from the *Stinger* series.
- 05:47 This is *The Death Knowers*.
- 05:53 Finally, a final Stinger.
- 05:59 Then we have a couple of artworks by Nicole Moan. We have a singular corset right here, and I'll just say that all of these corsets are mounted on panels to be hung on the wall for exhibition purposes. They can also be displayed on pedestals and they are also all wearable. The backs of the corsets – they're in four pieces – the backs are wrapped up behind what you can see here. These are all adjustable as well for different sizes of wearers.
- 06:33 We've got a really fun multimedia sculpture here – mixed media, rather. There will be more of Nicole's work on the other side of the gallery. Right now, we're going to shift to Aztrid Moan's work.
- 06:51 We have several works on paper, paintings, including ink on wood panel works by Aztrid. This is a work on paper – a watercolor.
- 07:01 Aztrid is one of the youngest artists we've ever exhibited. She's also Nicole's daughter, which is pretty cool. This is called *Burning Heart* – love this one. I love all of them; I can't lie.
- 07:18 We're going to sweep past our friends at the Urban Teahouse. We love them! The outside world.
- 07:29 Then we've got some gorgeous pieces on wood. These look like etchings almost, but they're not. They're ink paintings. We're going to look at this piece.
- 07:46 Moving along. These are gorgeous, delicate renderings. I'll get a little closer to one of these guys.
- 08:07 We've got some super fun, kind of Valentine's Day-themed small works. These are appropriate all year round.
- 08:19 Now we're looking at some very attitude-filled kitty cats. Aztrid is a cat lover, as am I.
- 08:31 Those are our friends at Safety Skills. They're all working from home now, though.
- 08:36 We've got this gorgeous, gorgeous, gorgeous red piece by Aztrid. It reminds me of the jackets – the Nehru jackets – that the Beatles wore in Sgt. Peppers, but that's just me.

- 08:49 Now we're going to jump back to Nicole's work, which takes up the eastern wall of the gallery, for the most part. So, we have several pairings of corsets and different works in the middle of the corsets. Right here we have an *Anthropomorphism* series, *Prosperity*.
- 09:11 Again, these corsets are adjustable, wearable, mountable, displayable.
- 09:24 Love this guy. He's got a sweet face.
- 09:32 I'm going to get close to this corset because the blooms are just super, super fun. This is a gorgeous corset. This is called the *Constanze*. Look at that. Very cool, right?
- 09:50 Moving right along. Beautiful patterned corset, very feminine-looking corset here.
- 10:01 We've got another *Anthropomorphism* series, the *Communication*. This is definitely a unique creature we got.
- 10:13 We've got this gorgeous bridal corset. You can see it's beautiful with its draping, hanging ribbons. Nicole does choose every ribbon specifically with each corset which is probably obvious.
- 10:34 This might be our funkiest little section of corsets. We've got the *Blue Steel Life*.
- 10:40 We've got *Passion*, from the *Music* series. Love some music! We had the awesome DJ Ostara at our super fun opening back in February. That work was inspired by DJs like her.
- 11:00 We've got this really great lit up corset. I personally just love this one.
- 11:10 We've got our last corset pairing. There are some beautiful lilies and roses on this.
- 11:17 We've got a piece from the *Tim Burton* series. Hello there.
- 11:24 Then this is the *Steampunk Corset*. This one is super fun. It's fun to get up close to this one. You can see the amount of texture and detail and depth in here. It's really beautiful. Great work, Nicole! We love what you're doing.
- 11:50 Then lastly, we're back at the beginning. These are the *Deathbeds* – the *Deathbed* series. These are nearly life-size torsos that have no heads and no legs. They're displayed on panels and given floral background arrangements, as you can see. They are lit interestingly from within by Volkswagen taillights. Nicole studied car mechanics and learned how to repurpose things like taillights, and you can see it glowing from within. The red that you see in the middle there behind the breastbone and ribs – that's light emitted from a taillight from a car. That's not paint. You can see it glowing.
- 12:50 We've got our *Lily Deathbed* here. You can see it glowing as well. I'm getting kind of a Frida Kahlo vibe to this guy. This gal. This person. This being, I should say.
- 13:14 Finally, this guy. Love the color scheme here.
- 13:23 Then, just for reference, that's 23rd Street.
- 13:30 I hope this was enjoyable and entertaining perhaps, and that when we reopen, that you can come and visit. In the meantime, please, please, please go to our website. It's arthallokc.com, and you can visit our exhibition page and look at installation images and pictures from the amazing party we had and the afterparty at the Bunker Club, and artist talk at Artspace at Untitled. You can also go to each artist's page and see individual works for purchase.

Section 4

- 14:09 So, on a closing note, we really appreciate everybody's support. We know that these times are very weird, if not very tough, and that everybody's experience is unique while also having some things in common. I think one thing that we can all agree on is that art is incredibly important, and without art, times like a quarantine would just be so unbelievably boring and intolerable, and we really need to think about that. Artists and galleries need your support more than ever. Most of us are independently employed workers and self-employed workers, and we get by on what we can do. So, reach out to your artist friends, and your gallery friends, and your museum

friends, and make sure everybody's doing okay. We are really excited to see you when everything is back open! Thanks guys.

15:14 Also, lastly, I am wearing an Aztrid Moan top right now. So, check it. She's got a website where she sells t-shirts and stuff like that, so check our website for a link to her website because honestly, I don't know it off the top of my head. I'm sorry Aztrid. Okay guys, thanks so much, bye!