

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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November 7, 2019

### **Hardin Center to Open Two New Abstract Exhibitions**

GADSDEN, AL: The Hardin Center has two new abstract exhibitions opening on February 15 in the Chan Gallery.

Las Vegas and Honolulu-based Kaethe Kauffman focuses on the human body in her work, in its physical reality and as a vehicle for meditative practice. Her mixed media works combine dissimilar images into new, mysterious forms that suggest a letting go of the self.

Her pieces express meditative and other alpha states of mind as they explore the relationships between feeling, cognition, and emptiness. The work reflects the artist's life-long practice of meditation, and thus fulfills the purpose of religious art. The artist gives herself the role of the protagonist – an unusual one for a woman in religious art – and hopefully provides inspiration to other women who seek a place for themselves in the process of enlightenment.

New York-based artist Francine Tint's colorful paintings are influenced by and contribute to the long lineage of abstract art. Taking inspiration from artists such as Willem de Kooning and Arshile Gorky, Tint creates lyrically free abstracted paintings that express intuition through color. Tint credits discussions with Clement Greenberg in her studio as a guiding artistic force. Though abstract expressionism is an oft-imitated and commented upon style, Tint's paintings remain distinctively her own, especially considering the field is largely male-dominated.

Both exhibitions will be on view through April 12. They are open Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm and Sundays from 1-5 pm. Admission is \$8 per person and free for children under 24 months. Admission includes Imagination Place Children's Museum. Visit [culturalarts.org](http://culturalarts.org) or call (256) 543-ARTS for more information.

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