

These are the fall shows you'll want to check out on Philly's art gallery scene

From huge abstract paintings at Locks Gallery to found-object rugs at Magic Gardens, it's a stunning season for visual art. One highlight: an overdue retrospective for Ed Emshwiller, who illustrated the covers for sci-fi books.

by Edith Newhall, For The Inquirer Sep 14, 2019

This fall promises something for everyone: painting, installation, photography, video, ceramics, sculpture — and hybrids of all of those.

Abstract painter Louise Fishman, long a New Yorker but born and raised in Philadelphia (and a Tyler graduate), is having her first one-person show with Locks Gallery. Julie Heffeman's large, surreal, self-portraits, at Rowan University Art Gallery, are astonishing in every way.

The brilliant painter, illustrator, filmmaker, and video artist Ed Emshwiller (1925-1990) is finally getting his close-up in a retrospective. It's organized by the Lightbox Film Center and taking place both there, where his films will be screened, and at the University of the Arts' Rosenwald-Wolf Gallery, which will display his early paintings, video works, sketches, and cover art for science fiction books.

Bronx-based Ronny Quevedo has covered the 3,200-square-foot hardwood floor of Tyler School of Art's Temple Contemporary gallery with a complex line drawing in colored vinyl that borrows from sports playbook diagrams, Mayan architecture, and Andean geo-glyphs.

In Elkins Park, David Hartt, a Philadelphia-based artist, is presenting a site-specific installation at Beth Sholom Synagogue, a building designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Among other components, it features Hartt's photographs and films shot in New Orleans and Haiti revealing the influence of Caribbean culture on the 19th-century American composer Louis Moreau Gottschalk.

Also this season, we get to see what current and former Clay Studio resident artists fell for when they were invited in to the Philadelphia Museum of Art's storage catacombs.

Ronny Quevedo: no hay medio tiempo/there is no halftime (Amazona) (through Dec. 13, Temple Contemporary, Tyler School of Art and Architecture). Quevedo's installation of colored vinyl on the gallery's wood floor draws from diagrams used in sports. Quevedo gives a talk at the gallery at 6 p.m. Sept. 19. (215-777-9138,