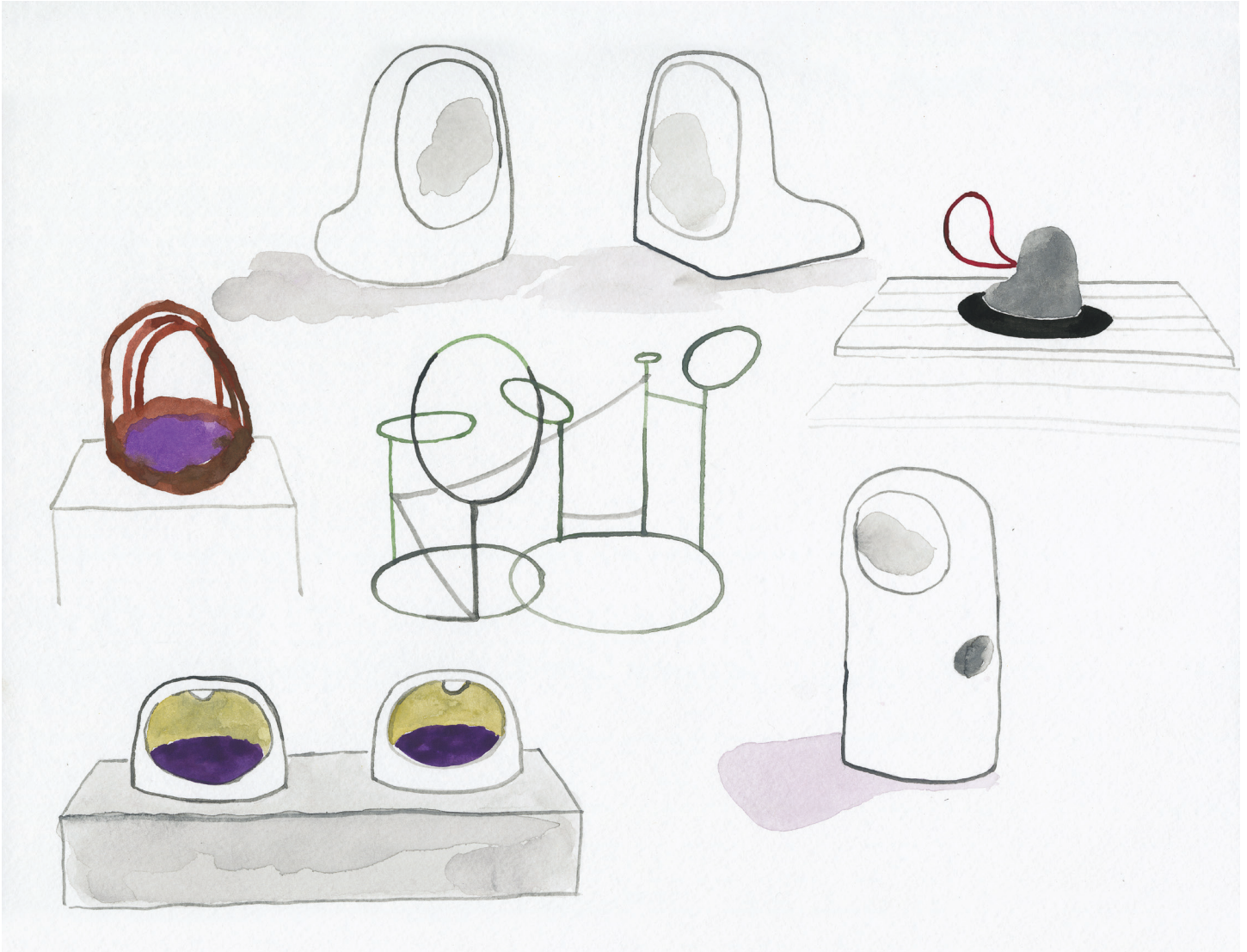


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Educator Notes



Anna Sew Hoy, Drawing for Aspen Art Museum Exhibition, 2015

Anna Sew Hoy: Magnetic Between

November 6, 2015–April 3, 2016

About the artist

Anna Sew Hoy was born in Auckland, New Zealand, in 1976, and currently lives and works in Los Angeles. She earned a BFA from the School of Visual Arts and an MFA from Bard College. She is an interdisciplinary artist whose practice originates in ceramics and explores material transformations in form, function, and relationships.

About the exhibition

For her first solo museum exhibition in the United States, Sew Hoy was commissioned by the Aspen Art Museum to create a series of new outdoor sculptures for the Roof Deck Sculpture Garden.

Varying in shape and scale, these uncanny objects are made with contrasting materials such as steel and denim, bronze and sand, or cinderblock and patina. They address the artist's interests in relationships between materials and objects. One example includes ethereal fiberglass shapes on caster wheels with mirrored "faces," creating playful objects that seem to have a life of their own.

The title *Magnetic Between* suggests a feeling of communication or connectivity. The works can be experienced as though they are in conversation with one another and the viewer.

Questions for discussion

- I Why do you think the artist juxtaposes materials like steel and denim? How does it make you feel?
- I Have you recycled materials or objects before? How are these sculptures similar and different from acts of recycling that you do at home?
- I Pretend you are an archaeologist from the future and have uncovered one of Sew Hoy's sculptures. What would you say was the life of this object? What function or purpose did it have?

Suggested activity

Hybrid Materials Sculpture

Have students think about how we can transform objects in our everyday lives by brainstorming a list of items that can take on more than one function, for example, a tire turned into a swing or a mug turned into a pencil holder.

Next, invite students to gather a soft material from home that they could turn into an artwork. They can collect cotton buds, a scrap of fabric, yarn, or any other pliable material.

When students are back in the classroom, invite them to create sculptures using hard materials. This sculpture can be made from clay or wire into any form the student wishes. Alternatively, students can use a found object, like a ruler or a ball.

Finally, have students assemble their sculptures in the middle of the room so that they seem to be in conversation with one another.

For more information, please contact the Education Department at 970.925.8050 ext. 133 or email education@aspenartmuseum.org

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