

An abstract mixed-media artwork. The upper portion is dominated by thick, expressive brushstrokes in shades of pink, magenta, and white, creating a sense of a sky or a textured surface. Below this, a dark green, angular structure resembling a roof or a bridge is drawn with bold, dark lines. The lower section is a light, almost white background with faint, vertical lines and some light green washes, suggesting a ground or a grid.

Defining Home:

Mixed Media & Ceramics of Yelena Petroukhina

April 8 - July 10, 2021

The Arts & Science Center for Southeast Arkansas

Artist Statement: Yelena Petroukhina

In this series I explore ideas of home and comfort within our personal space. I define comfort broadly including physical, emotional, and spiritual.

In sculptural work, I use clay to build the house forms. I explore the complexity of feelings and emotions we have towards our homes. One's home contains a vast landscape of emotions. I create forms easily recognizable as houses, like the ones a child would draw, a peaked roof and four vertical walls. Viewer instantly knows my work is about sense of



Conversation 2, Living Room Series, mixed media, 18 x 24.

home. I begin with a foundational idea of what home is and refine and reimagine it based on experience and self-discoveries. I draw and print on the clay surface to create transparent layers. I add clouds, rain, rays of sun, and different colors rainbows to show the complexity and fleeting nature of feelings. The layers of colors, patterns, and images refer to the layers of emotions and individual experiences toward and within their home.

My mixed media work is an investigation of our sense of comfort within personal space of our homes. I use found objects, Victorian wallpaper, and painted paper to construct the room around the figure. I cut and rearrange a patterned paper to give a sense of being interrupted and reassembled. Just as we rearrange and reimagine our homes as physical embodiment of our evolving mental landscape. I find the physicality of the process of creating this series to be a meditation on the understating of the personal space as a result of the personal experience. The figure is nude just as one should be completely him/herself and comfortable within one's home.

Exhibition List: *Defining Home*

Catalog cover: *Clouds Over 12th Street*, Acrylic on canvas, 5' x 4'

Source of Light, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Still Life with a Nude, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Interior in Pink, Mixed media, 29"x38.5"

Conversation 2. The Living Room Series, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Conversation 3. The Living Room Series, Mixed media, 24"x18"

Living Room Composition 6, Mixed media, 18"x24"

The Intimacy of Dinner for Two, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Living Room Composition 5, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Living Room Composition with Alex, Mixed media, 36"x28"

Composition with Windows 4. Observer, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Composition with Open Windows 9. Observer, Mixed media, 24"x18"

Composition with Lamp and a Rug. A Sense of Presence, Mixed media,
18"x24"

Living Room Composition 10, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Pompadour Yellow, Mixed media, 24"x18"

Conversation. Mixed media, 18"x24"

Composition with Clouds. Observer, Mixed media, 24"x18"

Untitled, Mixed media, 18"x24"

Elevation of Minute, Acrylic on canvas, 5'x4'

Untitled, Acrylic on canvas, 5'x4'

Untitled, Acrylic on canvas, 40"x30"

Monochromatic Rainbows. Black, Ceramics, 7"x6"x6"

How to Fit Everything In, Ceramics, 15"x9"x9"

Untitled, Ceramics, 11"x8"x8"

Untitled, Ceramics, 8"x6"x6"

Monochromatic Rainbow. Orange, Ceramics, 7"x7"x8"

Exhibition List Cont.

Krasina St. 8, Ceramics, 8"x6"x6"

How to See a Cloud at Night, Ceramics, 7.5"x4"x4"

Krasina St. 6, Ceramics, 7.5"x4"x4"

I am Fine, Ceramics, 8"x6"x6"

Landscape in Blue, Ceramics, 6"x7"x5"

Monochromatic Rainbow. Black 2, Ceramics, 7"x4.5"x5"

Monochromatic Rainbow. Black 3, Ceramics, 8"x5"x6.5"

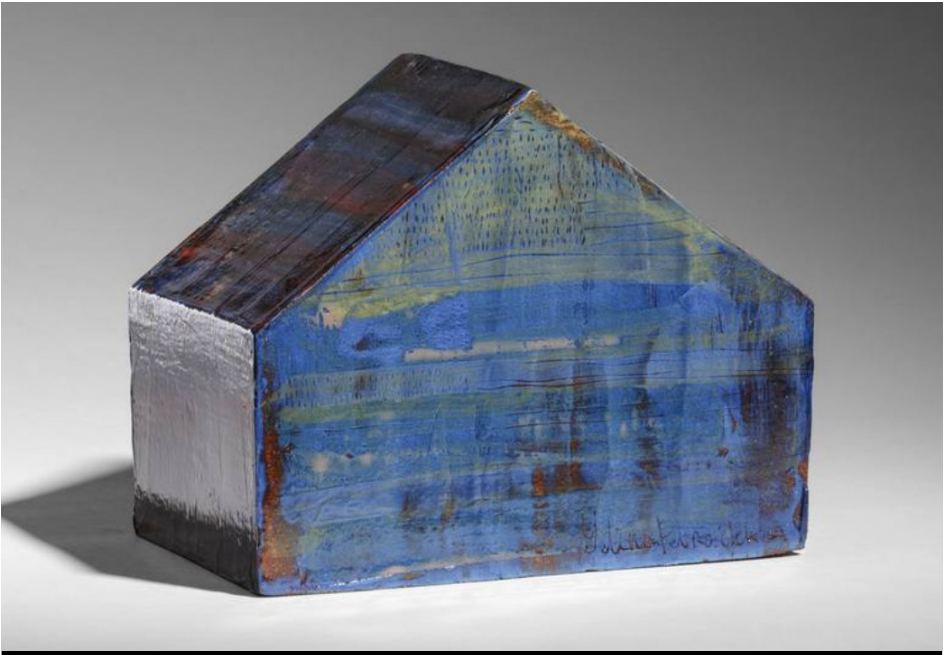
Krasina St. Illuminations, Ceramics, 9"x7"x7"

Krasina St. 4, Ceramics, 7.5"x4"x6"

Landscape in Yellow, Ceramics, 14"x5"x6"

Krasina Street 3, Ceramics, 7.5"x4"x4"

Landscape in Yellow, Ceramics, 6"x5"x5"



Landscape in Blue, Ceramics, 6"x7"x5"

Exhibition List Cont.

Yevokia and Ludmila, Ceramics, 9"x8"x7"

Take a Piece of Yourself, Ceramics, 12"x6"x6"

Untitled, Ceramics, 10"x7"x6"

Lost/merged in the Landscape, Ceramics, 5"x5"x5"

Rooflines. Perspective 2, Soda Fire Ceramics, 7"x11"x6"

Rooflines. Perspective on 12th Street, Soda Fire Ceramics, 8"x11"x10"

Rooflines. Perspective 6, Soda Fire Ceramics, 8"x14"x9"

Rooflines. Fragment 1, Soda Fire Ceramics, 8"x14"x5"

Untitled, Soda Fire Ceramics, 8"x14"x5"

Untitled, Ceramics, 8"x14"x5"

Stack 3, Ceramics, 8"x8"x9"

Untitled, Soda Fire, Clay and wood, 14"x8"x6"



Left: *Krasina St. 6*, Ceramics

Right: *Monochromatic Rainbow. Black 3*, Ceramics

Defining Home, through a collection of masterful and diverse mixed media, acrylic on canvas, and ceramic works by Yelena Petroukhina, allows visitors to reflect on the relationship they have with the space they occupy, in whatever form that takes. Many American's spent the majority of 2020 in their homes. Was your home a shelter, a place for comfort, or a place of turmoil? What defines your home, space itself, or the emotions you carry into and allow to occupy the space?

Chaney Jewell, Curator

The Arts & Science Center has three aspects of collecting and exhibition: art of the Delta, art by Arkansas artists, and art by African American artists.



ASC is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, a distinction held by fewer than 4% of museums in the United States.

Sponsored by Simmons Bank.

Section of *Elevation of Minute, Acrylic on Canvas, 5'x4'*

