

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 16, 2019



University Galleries of Illinois State University is pleased to present *Erin Hayden: Flower-o'-the-Moon* from August 9 through October 20, 2019.

- Friday, September 13, from 5 to 7pm: Artist reception
- Saturday, September 21 at 1pm: Exhibition tour and workshop co-presented with the Children's Discovery Museum
- Monday, September 30 at noon: Artist conversation
- Monday, September 30 at 4:30pm: Artist performance
- August 9 through October 21: Satellite exhibition at Milner Library
- Field trip program, curator-led tours, and workshops available by appointment throughout the exhibition

Flower-o'-the-Moon premieres six new paintings and a video by Illinois State University alumna Erin Hayden. Influenced by fairytales and storytelling, the works address the artist's Irish ancestry, Celtic goddesses, girlhood, and the symbolism of water. Equally versed in the creation of digital and analog images, the Chicago-based artist exploits the possibilities of online searches and photo editing software for her (often) multi-layered digital collages. She then prints them onto fabric and applies a range of painted surfaces, including shiny globs of acrylic and airy clouds of spray paint. The resulting works include surprising juxtapositions that embrace cuteness and absurdity while also prompting deeper consideration of how we access information and meaning.

Works on paper featuring the artist's poetic texts and typewriter-based drawings will also be included. Citing the influence of writers Gertrude Stein, e. e. cummings, and Annie Besant, Hayden says that her own writing "takes a more analog approach to constructing mind spaces while also composing on the pages." The performative aspect of the writing is integral to her practice. She points out that "as words move into poetry, prose, and then drawing with the typewriter," it "allows for errors to be visible...and poetic riffing on mistakes as part of the fluid writing process." Hayden will offer a related free public performance on September 30.

University Galleries is collaborating with Milner Library, Children's Discovery Museum, and the School of Art for programming relating to Hayden's exhibition. All events are free and open to the public.

Events

- August 9 through October 21: Satellite exhibition at Milner Library
Similarly Be Said of Souls features artist's books by Erin Hayden. The exhibition is on view in the stairway landing area on Milner Library's main floor.
- Thursday, August 9 at 9am: Stroller tour
- Friday, September 13, from 5 to 7pm: Artist reception at University Galleries
- Saturday, September 21 at 1pm: Exhibition tour and workshop co-presented with the Children's Discovery Museum. Participants (ages 7-10) will meet at the CDM, come to University Galleries for an exhibition tour, and return to the CDM for an exhibition-related artmaking activity. Registration is required for this free program at childrensdiscoverymuseum.net. This program is made possible by an Illinois Prairie Community Foundation—Mirza Arts and Culture grant awarded to the CDM.
- Monday, September 30 at noon: Conversation
Artist Erin Hayden will have a free public conversation with Melissa Johnson (Associate Professor, Modern Art History and Visual Culture).

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- Monday, September 30 at 4:30pm: Performance
Artist Erin Hayden will deliver a free public performance related to her poetic writing and typewriter-based drawing.
- Field trip program, curator-led tours, and workshops available by appointment throughout the exhibition. Please contact University Galleries at galleries@ilstu.edu or 309.438.5487 to schedule an appointment. Stipends are available for K-12 schools or community organizations to offset the costs of transportation.

Erin Hayden: Flower-o'-the-Moon is organized by University Galleries' Director and Chief Curator Kendra Paitz. The exhibition and programming are supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. Field trip support is provided by a grant from the Town of Normal Harmon Arts Grant Program.

Erin Hayden's work has been exhibited at Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Castello di Rivoli and Galleria Civica di Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Torino, Italy; Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago; Chicago Artists Coalition; Mana Contemporary, Chicago; Visual Arts Gallery, University of Illinois at Springfield; Randy Alexander Gallery, Chicago; Andrew Rafacz Gallery, Chicago; Aspect Ratio, Chicago; Jan Brandt Gallery, Bloomington, Illinois; and Left Field, San Luis Obispo, California. She has been awarded residencies at Chicago Artists Coalition, Ragdale Foundation, and the Banff Center for Arts and Creativity. Her work has been featured in *Frieze*, *Chicago Tribune*, *NewCity Art*, and Lori Waxman's *60-wrd-min art critic*. Hayden received her MFA in Art Theory and Practice from Northwestern University and both her BFA in Painting and BA in Art Teacher Education from Illinois State University. The artist lives and works in Chicago.

University Galleries is located at Uptown Station at the corner of Beaufort and Broadway streets. Parking is available directly above in the Uptown Station parking deck, and the first hour is free, as well as any time after 5:01pm. If you need special accommodations to participate in any event, please contact University Galleries at 309.438.5487 or galleries@IllinoisState.edu. All events at University Galleries are free and open to the public.

For more information, visit galleries.IllinoisState.edu or call 309.438.5487. Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Sign up to receive emails by clicking the Newsletter link on our website.