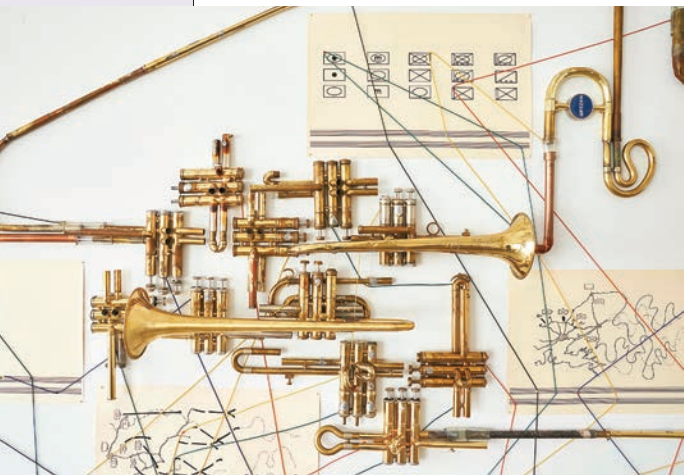


## BETTER THAN THE WHITNEY BIENNIAL: SCULPTURE MONTH RETURNS

New York has the Whitney Biennial; New Orleans organizes the citywide Prospect exhibition. Now Houston steps up with the fourth edition of **Sculpture Month Houston**, an immersive visual festival and banquet of installation art titled “**Outta Space**,” which promises to be the strongest iteration to date. Five venues participate, with the main action spun around two spaces repurposed for art: **SITE Gallery at The Silos**, **Sawyer Yards**, and the **1940 Air Terminal Museum Hangar**. The former, a creepy-cool relic

of Houston’s agrarian past, hosts “**Outta Space**”; the latter, a monument to the city’s early age of aviation, complete with vintage planes, serves up a dialogue about man and machine in “**Pitch and Roll**.” James Surls’ **Splendor Gardens**, **City Hall**, and **Rudolph Blume Fine Art / ArtScan Gallery** round out Sculpture Month stops. Hangar headliners include 10 Texas notables spanning generations: **Williams Cannings**, **Dylan Conner**, **Sharon Engelstein**, **Orna Feinstein**, **Alex Larsen**, **Steve Murphy**, **Eduardo Portillo**, **Troy Stanley**, **James Surls**, and **Ed Wilson**. The Silos’ SITE Gallery pairs national names such as **Suzanne Anker** and **Mark Dion** with our best and brightest, including the obsessive **Patrick Turk**; **Ryan Hawk**, an on-the-edge surrealist who mines body parts; biosphere-inspired work by **Henry G. Sanchez**; and the sexcapade sculpture of **Margaux Crump**; alongside Denver-based **Nicole Anona Banowetz**’s wild, whimsical world. *The festival opens Saturday, October 12, 6 to 9 pm, at SITE Gallery, 1502 Sawyer St.; through November 30; all exhibitions free; sculpturemonthhouston.org.* Catherine D. Anson



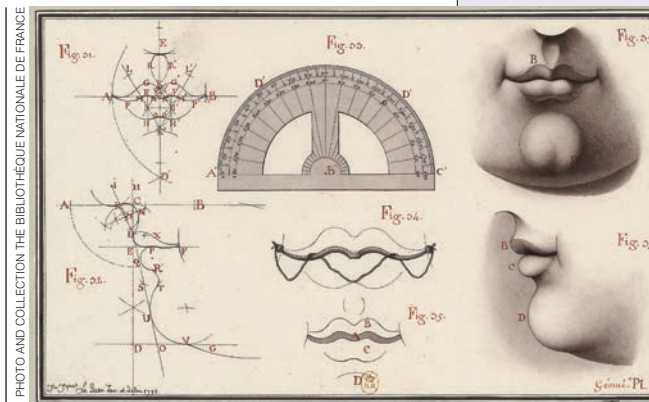
Steve Parker’s *Ghost Box*, 2018, at SITE Gallery, The Silos

### DESIGN DISCOVERY: DIMMITT CONTEMPORARY ART

**Dimmitt Contemporary Art** may be celebrating its first anniversary on the West Alabama design corridor, but owner **Kathy Dimmitt**’s art-advisory expertise spans two decades. After eight years as an indie advisor, she founded Dimmitt Contemporary Art in 2013; it immediately became a destination for designers. Now with a Hollywood Square address and the addition of **Bailey Miller** as director, Dimmitt appeals to her designer base as well as a new generation of Houston collectors. Within its 2,000-square-foot footprint are expansive canvases by senior Houston ab-ex painter **Michael Von Helms**; op art by Austin-based **Sarah Ferguson**; animalia C prints



Kathy Dimmitt,  
Bailey Miller  
with Donald  
Martiny’s *Ori*,  
2019, at Dimmitt  
Contemporary Art



Jean-Jacques Lequeu’s *Mouth study (Étude de bouches)*, 1792, at the Menil Drawing Institute

## DRAWING CONCLUSIONS

As its first anniversary approaches, the **Menil Drawing Institute** reaches to the past. This month’s exhibition departs from MDI’s recent contemporary emphasis by focusing on a talent from the 18th century — an architect, not an artist. “**Jean-Jacques Lequeu: Visionary Architect**, Drawings from the Bibliothèque nationale de France” takes over the serene spaces of the Institute with 50 architectural renderings and anatomical studies that demonstrate Lequeu’s deft draftsmanship. The occasion is a homecoming of sorts. Sixteen of the works were first exhibited in 1967 in a traveling show that Mrs. de Menil brought to the University of St. Thomas, before she arranged an extensive American tour for “**Visionary Architects: Boullée, Ledoux, Lequeu**.” Some 50 years later, MDI chief curator **Edouard Kopp** and assistant curator **Kelly Montana** present Lequeu’s fantastical, elegant architectural schemes to a 21st-century audience. *October 4 through January 5, menil.org.* Catherine D. Anson

from **Randal Ford** of Austin; and geometric paintings by Fort Worth’s **John Holt Smith**. The gallery also represents the serene abstractions of New Orleans painter **Mallory Page**, whose collectors include designer Bunny Williams; dramatic brushstroke-inspired neo-Pop work by **Donald Martiny** (headlining November 2 through January 2); and Canadian-born **Sara Genn**’s whispery, colorfield topography (through October 17). *3637 W. Alabama St., dimmittcontemporaryart.com.* Catherine D. Anson