

# A TENUOUS BALANCE

CURATED BY EMILY SULLIVAN SMITH



Works Included by  
**Lori Kella**  
**Mark Schatz**  
**Veronica Ceci**  
**Michael Loderstedt**  
**Taryn McMahon**

The image is a diorama of a desert landscape. The top half shows a surface view with rolling yellow hills under a dark, stormy sky. In the foreground, there are some green cacti, a wooden crate, and a pair of legs in a cowboy boot. The bottom half is a cross-section of the ground, revealing a complex network of blue pipes and tubes. Some pipes are vertical, while others are horizontal and interconnected. A small yellow object is visible on the right side of the underground network.





## CURATORIAL STATEMENT

Cover Image:  
*All is Quiet*  
Lori Kella

Back Image:  
*Crossing the Divide*  
Lori Kella

Left:  
*Flyover Continents*  
Michael Loderstedt

The exhibition, *A Tenuous Balance*, curated by Emily Sullivan Smith, features the works of Michael Loderstedt, Taryn McMahon, Lori Kella, Veronica Ceci and Mark Schatz. The collection of work reveals a tenuous and changing relationship between humans and the natural world. These artists are noticing and conceptualizing through their work, the cause and effect of our existence on this planet. They explore the ideas surrounding this topic with a variety of media including printmaking, photography and sculpture.

Each of these artists' works is imbedded in a dialogue of social and environmental consciousness, exploring the idea of this tug of war between human convenience and the will of the natural world.

A very special thanks to the Graul Chair for Arts and Language, Richard Chenoweth; Chair of the Department of Art and Design, Judith Huacuja; Graphic Designer, Mary Miller, Department of Art and Design; and Exhibition Coordinator, Sam Kelly, Department of Art and Design.

Gallery 249, Fitz Hall, University of Dayton  
September 24th-October 29th, 2015

# TARYN MCMAHON

## BIOGRAPHY

Taryn McMahon has received numerous awards for her work including residencies at Anderson Ranch, Anchor Graphics, and Women's Studio Workshop. Her recent accomplishments include solo exhibitions at The Print Center, Philadelphia, PA; Lexington Art League, Lexington, KY; and William Busta Gallery, Cleveland, OH; as well as numerous group exhibitions. She is an Assistant Professor at Kent State University.

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

My work uses images of patterned botanicals to investigate sites and histories, highlighting the complicated construction of an idea of "nature." The resulting installations are responsive to the architecture of their site, changing viewers' ambulation through the space and creating a bodily experience.

I am developing a visual vocabulary that mashes up the languages of 17th-18th century botanical engravings, space age cartoons, and nature documentaries. Like a DJ spinning sounds culled from disparate sources, I endlessly remix forms from botanical engravings, my own drawings, and other popular culture.

My most recent work includes installations of cascading printed Mylar film and mixed media prints on paper. This work imagines a future ecology in which the natural and artificial become intertwined and conflated in the face of unprecedented change.



*Supra Ecology Installation*  
Silkscreen on Mylar  
3' x 8'



Top:  
*Future Flower I*  
Silkscreen and monotype  
on paper and cut Mylar  
40" x 30"

Left:  
*Future Flower II*  
Silkscreen and monotype  
on paper and cut Mylar  
40" x 30"

Right:  
*Future Flower III*  
Silkscreen and monotype  
on paper and cut Mylar  
40" x 30"







## **GALLERY LOCATION**

Department of Art and Design  
Gallery 249, second floor Fitz Hall

For more information: [go.udayton.edu/gallery249](http://go.udayton.edu/gallery249)