

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE** ATLANTA, OCT 2022

Elyse Defoor
SLIVERS OF TIME

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A survey of work by Atlanta multi-disciplinary Artist Elyse Defoor – The Art Institute of Atlanta

Opening November 5, from 6 – 8PM, this exhibition will run through **December 15th** at The Art Institute of Atlanta and can be viewed during the Gallery hours of **Mondays – Thursdays, 8AM – 6PM**.

On display will be works from several series in Defoor’s multi-disciplinary artistic practice including drawing, painting, and photography. The exhibition centers on Defoor’s exploration and documentation of the various transformations and transitions in a woman’s life. The through-line of the feminine form – represented in both body and spirit – evokes narrative and introspection. Defoor’s work is serial in nature, each body of work evolving from the ones before, representing chapters in her oeuvre – “the art of personal mythology.”

In her new “Body Armor” series, Defoor utilizes objects of clothing as physical signifiers of her own past and present. An Atlanta native, the dresses are potent memory objects related to her playing Scarlett at age ten, her first prom dress, and others that mark celebrations and the transitions of life. Defoor sculpted the dresses on top of her artwork and photographed them as a material record of an idealized self – of a woman dressing one’s body to protect, and reinforce the softness underneath while expressing her empowerment.

The oldest work in the exhibition is a small painting that reveals her early ability to illuminate the essence of being human as a common thread since the beginning of her art-making. In this solo exhibit, Defoor is also presenting new glinting images of knives lying on soft surfaces. Knives, along with content for other photographs in the show such as belts and on/off switches, are small, everyday items that can have larger significance based on the alchemy of a viewer’s memories, experiences or fantasies.

While the exhibition will not physically include any of Defoor’s installation work, there will be scrolling, video documentation of the sculptural aspect of her practice.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Elyse Defoor (b. Greenville, SC, 1952) is a multi-disciplinary artist and curator who lives and works in Atlanta. She received her education from the University of Georgia and the Atlanta College of Art. For the last twenty years, she has used her art to respond to the wonders and the tragedies of the world. She consistently uses personal iconography as a vehicle to outwardly express her inner response to universal conditions. From this passionate inspiration, she produces artwork that causes a visceral shift in the eye and mind of the viewer. Defoor’s drawings, paintings, photographs and large-scale installations have gained international recognition and national exposure. Her original art and archival reproductions can be found in numerous corporate and private collections throughout the world. For more information, visit www.elysedefoor.com.

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