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Solo Exhibition *Beronica Gonzales: Lying in Squares* Opens June 4th at Cluley Projects

[Dallas, Texas – May 17, 2022] **Cluley Projects**, Erin Cluley Gallery’s satellite space located in West Dallas, is delighted to present artist Beronica Gonzales based in the Dallas / Fort Worth region. The artist was the recipient of the inaugural open call proposal for the 2022 season. The show will run June 4th thru July 2nd. **An Opening Reception will be hosted for the artist Saturday June 4th from 5-8 pm at its location at 2123 Sylvan Avenue.**

In her solo exhibition, *Lying in Squares*, Denton based artist Beronica Gonzales presents work focusing on themes of identity through the depiction of personal moments, objects and environments that reveal her complicated relationships with the spaces around her. Works reference childhood recollections using traditional materials that are then deconstructed, layered, restitched, painted, and reconfigured. The artist addresses contrasting feelings of isolation and familiarity that happen in the spaces where objects are memorialized. Squares as form and function are emphasized as personal sentiments throughout the exhibit.

“These works reference childhood memories of afternoon naps on my living room carpet within warm square shaped patches of cast sunlight. In my work, I seek to open a conversation to the community about intimate ideas of comfort and loneliness, and what personal spaces mean to us.”

The mixed media piece entitled *Lying in Squares*, muted colors broken by thread create an interior space reminiscent of the artist’s childhood room. In *Things That Broke in August* the artist paints personal objects - her favorite bra, a broken pair prescription glasses superimposed as if thrown, on quilted fabric. Passages of time represented through personal items in her childhood bedroom, such as a bed sheet, t-shirt, or a thrift store item are repurposed and presented in new forms. Items often include original manufactured tags to highlight the items original use. The artist describes “preserving personal objects creating memorials to mundane items as a means of immortalizing these connections. In *Bathtub*, a vessel is recreated in soft form using colorful tiled squares with materials tag visible to the viewer. In *Then, and Now*, a quilted canvas highlights a familial item, a treasured Swiss army knife paired with a painted fabric kitchen knife, all used in her daily life.

About the artist

Beronica Gonzales explores personal stories about spaces through paintings, drawings and soft sculpture. Her work addresses intimate ideas of comfort and discomfort utilizing materiality to juxtapose her subject matter.

She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Drawing and Painting with a double minor in Art History and Psychology from the University of North Texas in 2021. Currently an artist in residence at Cedars Union, Cohort 3, Gonzales lives in Denton with her sister.

About Cluley Projects and Erin Cluley Gallery

Erin Cluley Gallery's new satellite gallery Cluley Projects opened in April 2021 and is housed in an 1100 sq ft space on Sylvan Avenue within walking distance from the Belmont Hotel. Cluley Projects will act as an incubator space focusing on regional artists and providing a platform for discovery and mentorship.

Erin Cluley Gallery opened its doors in West Dallas in 2014, igniting a creative movement and acting as a hub for visual arts and community engagement. After nearly five years on Fabrication Street, the gallery moved its main operation to Riverbend – a development in Dallas' Design District celebrating the intersection between culture and commerce.

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