

# SUYAMA SPACE

2324 Second Avenue Seattle WA 98121

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 20, 2015



*The False Spectator* installation, photograph by Wayne McCall

*The False Spectator: Installation* by Joan Tanner opens to the public on Monday, January 18 and continues through April 15, 2016. The artist's opening reception is scheduled Friday, January 15 from 5 - 7 p.m. and artist talk occurs in the gallery on Saturday, January 16 at 12 p.m.

Joan Tanner's *The False Spectator* introduces a populous of vertical structures - troughs, columns and step constructs made of wood, sheet metal, plastic webbing and a variety of other materials, into the vast central gallery at Suyama Space. Suspended from above by a network of ropes and cables, these forms and groupings address issues of passage and waiting, of keeping and storing before transport.

Ideas that emerged during Tanner's first visit to Suyama Space in 2014, these constructions sometimes skinned with Tyvek™, industrial grade sandpaper and other diaphanous materials, will stand densely mounted on the floor in the context of a large array. They reflect the concept of objects dispossessed of location; possibly abandoned, left as scrap vessels, failed conduits, and ill made remnants; a collision of obstructions. Tanner began her career as a painter, and in recent years has mainly exhibited her work in sculpture and installation.

Born in 1935 in Indianapolis, Joan Tanner has lived in Southern California since the mid-1960s. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1957 and began her career as a painter. She has consistently exhibited her work nationally, with major exhibitions at Santa Barbara Museum of Art, MCA Santa Barbara, the Ben Maltz Gallery at Otis College, Los Angeles, among others. Tanner's work is held in the following public collections: The Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities; Harvard University; Stanford University; The Speed Art Museum; and Santa Barbara Museum of Art. She has been a visiting lecturer at the University of California Santa Barbara, Ohio University (Athens), Illinois State University (Normal), and the University of North Carolina (Greensboro). [www.joantanner.com](http://www.joantanner.com)

The exhibition will be documented with a full color catalogue, accompanied by a scholarly essay written by Maiza Hixson, former curator of the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art and currently Curator of Collections for the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission.

This exhibit is made possible through funding from 4Culture/King County Lodging Tax Fund and Suyama Space Friends. Suyama Space is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and is in compliance with the 504/ADA Assurance for people with disabilities. Regular gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is free to the public for all events.

For more information:

Contact Beth Sellars or Kate Murphy at 206.256.0809  
[mesellars@gmail.com](mailto:mesellars@gmail.com) or [Kate@suyamapetersondeguchi.com](mailto:Kate@suyamapetersondeguchi.com)

[www.suyamaspace.org](http://www.suyamaspace.org)

