

UPCOMING EDITOR'S PICK EVENTS

ARTS ENTERTAINMENT | VISUAL ARTS

Tamara Johnson serves up tasty metaphors at Dallas' Keijzers Koning gallery

The Texas sculptor transforms everyday snacks into reflections on labor and desire.



By **Kendall Morgan**

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Humorous, poignant and tempting, sculptor Tamara Johnson's works play with consumer culture in the most whimsical of ways. In "Get Me, Don't Get Me," Johnson's first solo show for Dallas' Keijzers Koning gallery, her toy-like foods delight the eye while offering reflections on labor, care and desire.

"I'm always mining for meaning and metaphor," says Johnson, who co-founded [Sweet Pass Sculpture Park in Dallas](#), which closed last year. "With this show, I was also thinking about the systems of value we put on bronze or concrete and our relationships with those materials, and how I can change that value structure."

Johnson drew on items from her home that have a universal appeal. A pewter can of H-E-B fruit cocktail was painted in homage to Frida Kahlo and Paul Cézanne. Enameled pewter goldfish crackers (cast to be a bit wabi-sabi) are scattered across the gallery floor, recalling the candy works of the late Félix González-Torres. An array of pastel ice cream scoops, cast from cement and mounted on a wooden board, honor the memory of Johnson's contractor father.

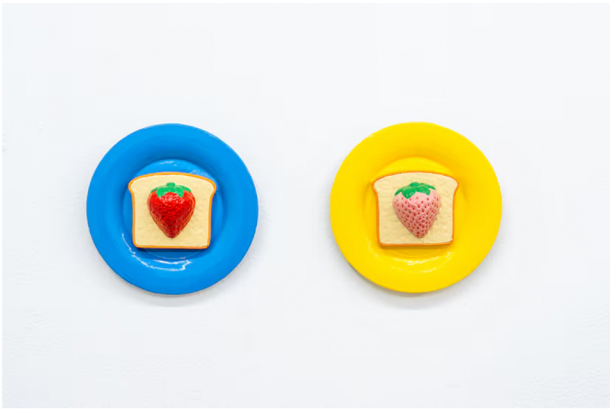


Sculptor Tamara Johnson painted her pewter "Fruit Cocktail" in an homage to Frida Kahlo and Paul Cézanne.
TREY BURNS / KEIJZERS KONING

"You want something so badly, but it's an endless attempt because desire is never done," she says, describing her work as "a playful nod to a larger push and pull."

Details

"Get Me, Don't Get Me" by Tamara Johnson is on view at Keijzers Koning, 150 Manufacturing St., Suite 201, through Sept. 27. Open Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Monday and Tuesday by appointment only. [keijzerskoning.com](#).



"Plate with bread and strawberry (blue)" and "Plate with bread and strawberry (yellow)" are among Tamara Johnson's works featured in "Get Me, Don't Get Me" at Keijzers Koning gallery.
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By **Kendall Morgan**

Kendall Morgan is a Dallas-based journalist who has written about arts, culture, design, food and fashion for publications including Bon Appetit, Dallas Observer, D Home, Nylon, Paper City and Patron magazine.

Having explored the concept of food since she first cast a cement picnic in a Brooklyn park in 2018, the San Marcos-based artist hopes her sometimes kitschy subject matter whets the appetite for viewers to examine their own unfulfilled cravings.