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(Courtesy Blue Star)

A still image from Leslie Raymond's "Reflecting Pool."



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"Landscapes"

Blue Star Contemporary Art Center
116 Blue Star, (210) 227-6960.
www.bluestarart.org
Through Sept. 30

The advent of flat-screen TVs that hang on the wall like paintings has opened up whole new vistas for artists. **Leslie Raymond**, who teaches video and new media at UTSA, has taken on a traditional subject matter with a digital eye, creating closed-loop videos that resemble animated landscape paintings.

"I really wanted to create some work that people would like to have in their homes," Raymond said. "Most of the images are manipulated in some way. They're usually made with a time-lapse exposure, lasting as long as one or two hours, so I can speed up or slow down the image. Sometimes, I overlap images and use other effects. The loops last from about 46 seconds to more than 12 minutes."

The nine video loop compositions are displayed on flat screen monitors in the Blue Star's Gallery 4 for Fotoseptiembre USA.

"Ocean Beach" is a close-up of wave foam moving up and back. Water rushes into a concrete culvert that forms the banks of the "Los Angeles River." Broadcast towers loom out of the fog in "South Florida."

"Michigan (Reflecting Pool)" is a speeded-up image of a bowl of water that's attracting birds and a black squirrel, which flick in and out of the scene so fast that it's hard to tell what they are. By contrast, cows appear almost like an extreme slow-motion mirage in "Schrattenberg."

Going beyond the pure representation of photography, Raymond seeks to imbue her images with emotion, creating languid meditations on the land, with subtle changes of lighting and slight blurs of motion that reveal the new medium's hidden dimension — time.

—Dan R. Goddard

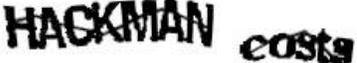
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