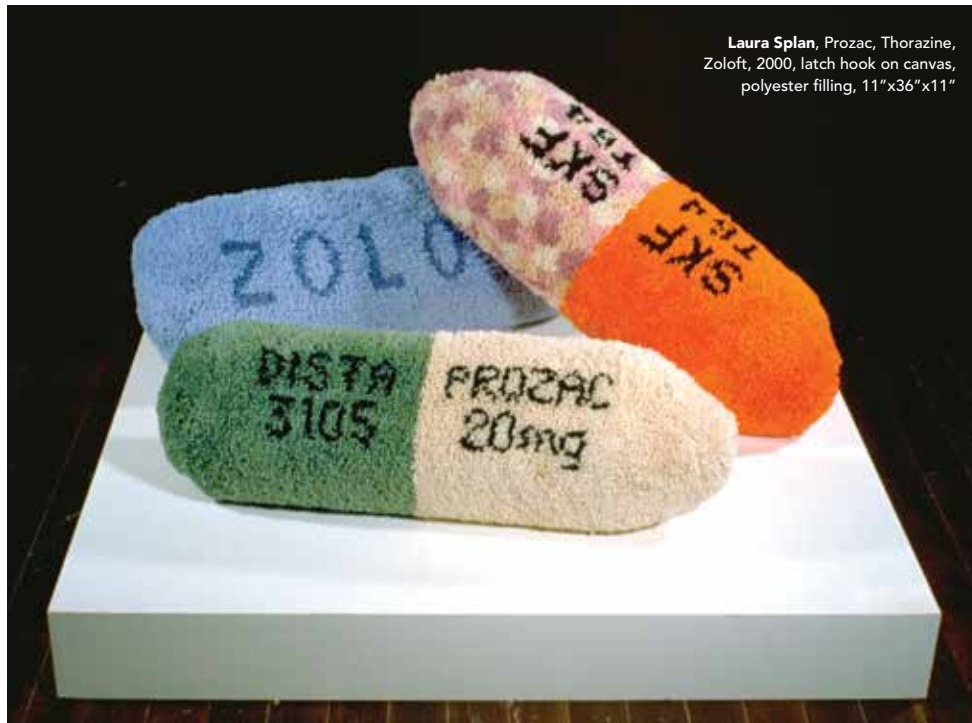


By Janet Langsam

CEO, ArtsWestchester



Remedy Opens in ArtsWestchester's Gallery



Laura Splan, Prozac, Thorazine, Zoloft, 2000, latch hook on canvas, polyester filling, 11"x36"x11"

be healing and healing can be an art in both personal and collective settings.

Works like **Laura Splan's** "Prozac, Thorazine, Zoloft" blend humor and craft with the tools of modern medicine to provoke questions about what can provide comfort in times of physical or mental distress. Splan's soft sculptures, made through the tedious and time-consuming process of latch hooking, transforms these commonly prescribed antipsychotics and antidepressants into cozy, domestic objects. The oversized pill-ows provide a different kind of comfort than their prescription counterparts.

"Asylum" is a captivating body of work by New York photographer **Christopher Payne** who documented some seventy abandoned mental institutions in thirty states. Payne's photographs are both lyrical and ghostly portraits of a forgotten age of mental health care. Today, these palatial institutions of healing are in need of healing themselves, condemned and replaced by outpatient facilities.

Arizona-based artist **Annie Lopez** melds old photographic techniques with her Latina heritage to confront her father's battle with Alzheimer's and its effect on her family. Using photocopies of medical books as well as written memories from family members as source visual material, Lopez prints these images onto tamale wrappers using the cyanotype process and stitches the wrappers together as dresses. "The idea of wearing my burdens has always been intriguing to me," Lopez says in a statement. "If my issues (or accomplishments) are on my clothes, I no longer have to think about them. They would be everyone else's to consider or ignore.

ONCE AGAIN, science and art merge in a new exhibition titled "Remedy" opening October 1st at ArtsWestchester's gallery in downtown White Plains.

New medicines, advanced technologies and healing practices have changed the way today's maladies are diagnosed and treated. Hospitals across the country are bringing artwork into treatment centers, hiring art therapists to work with patients and turning those green hospital walls into more attractive canvases. It seems as though the medical profession has rediscovered the healing power of the arts.

ArtsWestchester's fall exhibition, "Remedy" throws a surgical lens on the many ways art can



"Remedy" brings healing into the open with opportunities to discuss the role of healing our society. The fall exhibition opens with a special reception on October 1, 2016 and runs through January 2017. ArtsWestchester's gallery hours are: Tuesday-Friday (12-5pm) and Saturdays (12-6pm). For exhibit details, visit: www.artswestchester.org

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