



TULSA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

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Please Touch Gently With Clean Hands

May 2–31



Waverly Drive
62" x 93" oil on cotton

Tulsa, OK Artist Johanna Burton takes *things* seriously. "Blankets, sheets and clothes have private lives and histories, in relationship to ours, our bodies and our beds," she says. "They are also a tool for redefining our spaces, making them softer and warmer."

The recent MFA graduate of the University of Tulsa recycles such materials to create a playful sensory environment of touch and color. *Please Touch Gently With Clean Hands* consists of sewing-drawings, quilts, prints and paintings on found plastic, plastic knittings, and paintings (often two-sided) on unstretched found fabric.

"My work is about touch and color, their interplay, the spaces they create and the stories they tell," she explains. "It is both work and play, rhythmic and unpredictable, exploratory; I paint to find out what happens. Working with each piece, I pay close attention, building up image slowly, helping the piece be itself."

Burton is a native Tulsan who earned a BA in classics from Kenyon College in Ohio. She mounted a solo exhibition at Tulsa's Self Gallery last fall. *Please Touch Gently With Clean Hands* includes pieces from Burton's recent MFA show at TU, but "the space is so different, I'm expecting an entirely different feel at the PAC," she says.



Field (detail)
50" x 50" oil on cotton

The PAC Gallery, located at 3rd and Cincinnati, is open M-F from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and during Chapman Music Hall events. Gallery admission is free.

The Tulsa Performing Arts Center is a department of the City of Tulsa.