

The Best 25 Shows of 2015

by THE AFC STAFF on DECEMBER 31, 2015 **LISTS + THE BEST**

BEST DIGITAL ART SHOWS



Joe McKay and Kristen Lucas at Postmasters

Joe McKay and Kristin Lucas, *Away from Keyboard*, Postmasters.

This was best December show I'd ever seen at a gallery. Typically, galleries reserve this time of year for exhibition filler, so I was please see two such strong artists fill the month, and even happier to see them live up to expectations. Scattered around the back gallery are Joe McKay and Kristin Lucas's furniture-like sculptures, each designed to challenge common user experience. "OmegaMouse" consists of a table, six mice, and a screen. There's nothing to indicate whose cursor is whose, and since the game involves you shooting at a bunch of incoming crap, you pretty much have to talk with other players to figure out how to play—perfect for an opening. On another side of the room, a 30-second video loop of waves covered by a huge target shaped watermark runs on rotation. It takes all of 30 seconds of watching this video before you start to feel nauseous.

All of these works require a high level of skill and craft, but their success lies in the fact that they elicit a response in me that's strong enough to actually change my behavior. It's rare when any art can do this, let alone a whole show. — *Paddy Johnson*