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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Amass

A Thesis submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements
for the degree Master of Fine Arts

in

Visual Arts

by

Allison Spence

Committee in charge:

Professor Amy Adler, Chair
Professor Ernest Silva
Professor Anna Joy Springer
Professor Lesley Stern

2013

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Chair

University of California, San Diego

2013

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In the supplementary materials: thesis catalog for *Amass*, contributing essays are currently being prepared for submission for publication of the material. Goodman, Emily Elizabeth. “Wrestlers, Brains, and the Nature of Perception”. Kaplan, Samara. “Allison Spence”. Zehner, Brett. “Geologic Body Time“. The thesis author was the primary author of this material.

ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Amass

by

Allison Spence

Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts

University of California, San Diego, 2013

Professor Amy Adler, Chair

Amass investigates a movement that does not have a fixed name. The thesis exhibition, which took place on March 20-24, 2013, consisted of a series of ten oil paintings and accompanying book of writing, titled *A Mass* all investigating the idea of a particular kind of positive, energetic collapse. In the exhibition, the artist sought to question the viewers' perception of forms and bodies, established definitions, and methods of categorization.