

SOS ART RETROSPECTIVE 2016-2020



SOS ART Cincinnati

sosartcincinnati.com

SOS ART RETROSPECTIVE: 2016 - 2020

Exhibit presented by SOS ART
in collaboration with Kennedy Heights Arts Center

Curators: Vaishnavi Ramanathan and Saad Ghosn

January 9 - February 27, 2021

Kennedy Heights Arts Center
6546 Montgomery Road,
Cincinnati, Ohio 45213, USA

Sponsored by The Charles H. Dater Foundation and
The George and Margaret McLane Foundation



SOS ART is a non-profit charitable organization which mission is to encourage, promote and provide opportunities for the arts as dynamic vehicles for peace and justice and for a better world.

Kennedy Heights Arts Center is a non-profit community arts center which mission is to enhance the life of the surrounding community through arts and cultural experiences that embrace diversity, foster creativity & build community.

CURATORS' STATEMENT

The SOS ART Annual art exhibition has been a regular feature of the Cincinnati cultural and artistic landscape now for the last eighteen years. The uniqueness of this annual exhibition is that it features creative personalities from the Greater Cincinnati region who use their art to advocate for peace and justice. This SOS ART Retrospective show, held between January 9th 2021 and February 27th 2021, at Kennedy Heights Art Centre, Cincinnati features select artworks from the last five years (2016-2020) of the annual exhibition.

The SOS ART Retrospective showcases the artworks of eighty nine local artists, created in various media. These artists address varied themes that relate to broader aspects of peace and justice: racial equity, concern for ecology, politics, economic parity, gender equality, freedom, etc. Featuring artists who are committed to using their art to advocate for a better world, the SOS ART Retrospective is a landmark event that showcases local talent and collectively creates a voice for change.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the SOS ART Retrospective has been adapted to allow for safety guidelines. Workshops and group activities that are a characteristic feature of the annual SOS ART exhibition have been replaced by workshops and guided tours of the exhibition led by artists for limited number of participants. Apart from activities done on-site, some activities that children could engage in at home have also been planned and integrated into the exhibition. These activities are designed in a manner that gives an opportunity for children to express themselves creatively, dwell deeply on issues of peace and justice, respond to the artworks included in the show and to their messages, and also share their own responsive artworks with others, thereby sparking conversation and exchange.

To allow for a broader viewing experience, the SOS ART Retrospective consists both of an indoor display and an outdoor component wherein some artworks will be enlarged and displayed on large panels in the open area. This will allow children and adults passing by easy access to the artworks and encourage them to drop in and view the exhibition. Another unique feature of the Retrospective is the video documentation of the art show and of the artists who are part of the exhibition. This video, featuring all the artworks and during which artists will speak of their work, could be seen remotely and will serve as an important documentation of local artists for future reference.

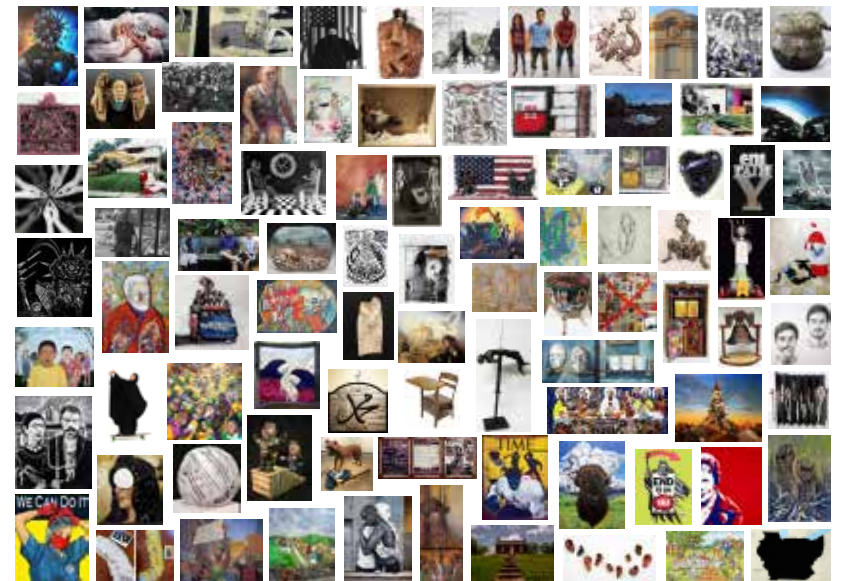
Art is a great healer in a world battered by social, economic and political divides, which has now been made worse by the pandemic. We hope this SOS ART Retrospective will drive home the message that in these trying times peace, justice, love and tolerance matter more than ever.

To all participating artists who accepted to lend their artworks to this show and to share their messages with everyone; to all those who have helped directly or indirectly in the making of this exhibit; and to Kennedy Heights Arts Center who allowed us such a great opportunity to curate a beautiful and meaningful Retrospective; all our gratitude and appreciation.

Vaishnavi Ramanathan* and Saad Ghosn**, curators

*Vaishnavi Ramanathan is an invited Curator of Contemporary Arts from India

**Saad Ghosn is the Founder and President of SOS ART



ANTHONY ACCROCCO

a.accrocco@yahoo.com

Antonio Accrocco is an artist and designer based in Dayton, Ohio.



COVID-XIX

acrylic; 16x12"

"Like a scene from an old horror movie, the coronavirus makes its diabolical attempt at world domination - plunging mankind into levels of unimaginable fear."

MIKE AGRICOLA

mikeca3212@gmail.com

Mike Agricola is an artist who lives and creates in Dayton, Kentucky. He graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a BFA, and studied at the Glasgow School of Art on a travel scholarship.



STRUGGLING THROUGH A DARK DAY

acrylic on paper mounted to board; 23x59"

"'Struggling Through a Dark Day' is about my personal experience coping with depression and anxiety."



(shown details)

BARBARA AHLBRAND

b.ahlbrand@fuse.net

Barbara Ahlbrand is a Cincinnati artist who has exhibited her work extensively locally and nationally. She was involved in "Bridges Not Walls: a Cuban/American Art Exchange" exhibited in Havana, Cuba and Cincinnati, OH. Barbara's work is included in many public and private collections. Over the years she has won several awards.



POCKETS

wire, cement, latex paint, leaves, straw; 25x18x10"

"A commentary on the infamous year 2020 as the world deals with issues ranging from global to microscopic. It is sobering to consider homo sapiens. Where we came from, who we are and where we're going."

ANDREW AU

rotor242@yahoo.com

Andrew Au was born in 1972 in Chicago, Illinois. His creative work is primarily in printmaking. His work is highly influenced by growing up on science fiction movies and his interest in biology. Creating a conceptual narrative from which to work, he tackles social and political themes catered to the body of work.



NE EXEAT (DO NOT LET HIM ESCAPE)

intaglio; 26x20" plate; 21x16" image

"An equitable writ restraining a person from leaving the jurisdiction of the court or the state. Our empire is in its twilight and our own Hellenistic Period is upon us. My print is from a series that borrows from Hellenistic tropes, figures in roles of dominance and subordination, psychological splits within a frame, or general sense of tension and apprehension. The plate is fragmentary, cut and punctured, tarnished and corroded."

LAURI AULTMAN

lapeaceart@gmail.com

Lauri Aultman is a Community Center Director at the Westwood Town Hall CRC center. Since 2006, she has been involved—as an individual artist and with her students -- with SOS Art. Lauri's artwork has been sold at the HeART4Sudan shows for The Sudan Project in Darfur; Secret Artworks in Cincinnati; and fundraisers for CISV in Miami County (OH).

**L IS FOR A LIFE LIVED WITH LOVE**

mixed media; 26x14x10"

"My nephew Liam suicided on October 25, 2015. He was only 15. Later that week, I left this note in an ofrenda at the Eiteljorg Museum. Minutes later, this picture popped up on my phone. Another time, I was attending a church healing ceremony and crying hard for Liam and this photo of Liam and a heart kept alternating on my phone. I believe in miracles. I also believe that Liam was telling us that he loves us and that he is at peace with God."

GORDON BAER (1940-2019)

Gordon Baer, a photojournalist, was a longtime supporter of and participant in SOS ART, and a dear friend to the many. He always used his camera as his voice to advocate for human rights, for peace and justice, and for a better world. Gordon's series and book on Vietnam Vets suffering from PTSD earned him the prestigious Nikon World Understanding Award.

**AUNT BECK**

color photography; 12x18"

"Gordon Baer's work on the elderly (including his series on his dying aunt Beck) called attention to the frailty of the aged human being, to mortality, and to the potential neglect of the elderly in impersonal and understaffed nursing homes."

MARIO BARBI

mario.barbi@gmail.com

After graduating from the Advertising & Graphic Art School in Milan, Italy, Mario Barbi's brilliant career in advertising followed. He covered almost all possible positions on the creative side of the profession, from art to creative director, to television commercial writer and director. Mario's true passion, however, always remained drawing, painting, and every form of non-commercial art. His work has been shown in Milan and Mantua. Mario recently obtained a BFA and a BA in Spanish at NKU.

**HUNTING THE WHALE**

linocut 15 color reduction; 10x8"

"My linocut print symbolizes the fight of man trying to submit nature to his own will. In this battle the man is far smaller than the object of his conquest indicating the huge difference between man and nature itself. Killing the whale will lead to a fatal change in the balance of marine ecosystems and there is no profit big enough to pay for it."

KEVIN BARBRO

barbrokw@netscape.net; kevinbarbro.com

Kevin Barbro was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio. He attended the University of Cincinnati where he received a BFA and also earned a certificate in International Human Rights. He completed his MFA from the University of Arizona and currently lives and works in Louisville, Kentucky. His studies of political and social structures inform his work greatly. His paintings, drawings, and installations have been shown nationally.

**UNTITLED**

charcoal and acrylic; 12x12"

"Through my work I explore the impacts that various social, political, economic and environmental conditions have on both individuals and within public spheres. I incorporate figurative elements of people, animals or objects to symbolize my concerns; also how the subject interprets feelings of loss, despair, fear, hope/hopelessness, anxiety, and alienation within various states."

JYMI BOLDEN

photoj33@gmail.com; artbeyondboundaries@gmail.com

Jymi Bolden is a native of Cincinnati, OH. His work was shown in Munich, Germany; Havana, Cuba; many museum, gallery exhibits and alternative venues. He has participated in various local and regional arts and social initiatives. Jymi sat on numerous arts organization committees and boards. He has also been a mentor and taught youth photography classes at the Cincinnati Art Museum, and local after-school programs. He has been Gallery Director of Art Beyond Boundaries Gallery since March, 2007.



ALLAH BLESS AMERICA

b&w photography; 17x21"

"Allah Bless America' is part of a series that represents the perception of American condescension of cultural, gender, racial, and other minorities."

JULIE BROXIC

jbroxic@cinci.rr.com

Julie Broxic (aka Braucksick) is free-lanced in Cincinnati, doing production work & graphic design, focusing on original works since 1995. For over 50 years she worked in many fields including sculpture; graphic design; stained glass window design; costume design; production design; scenic artist; sign painter. Julie displayed regularly her work at The Hyde Park Square Art Show, where she won first place in 2018. She also served on the organizing committee for the Woman's Art Club of Cincinnati's Juried Spring Exhibit for several years; in 2004 & 2005, she was the event chairperson.



STOP THE MADNESS !!! (after John Tenniel)

ink & watercolor; 29x41"

"Begun in November, when I drew a caricature of William Barr, as the Cheshire Cat, from 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'. While watching the impeachment hearings, one character led to another (after the illustrations by John Tenniel who illustrated Lewis Carroll's iconic books). THE CHARACTERS ARE: Bill Barr as the Cheshire Cat. Mick Mulvaney, Mike Pence, Rudy Guiliani as the March Hare, the Dormouse, & the Mad Hatter. Igor Fruman & Lev Parnas as Tweedles Dum & Dee. Stephen Miller as the Caterpillar. Painting the roses red, are John Ratcliffe, Devin Nunes, & Jim Jordan. The Duchess is Kellyanne Conway, with husband George Conway as the baby. Gordan Sondland is the White Rabbit. Rick Perry is the Carpenter, with John Bolton as the Walrus & "Moscow" Mitch McConnell is, naturally, the Mock Turtle, & Lindsay Graham, the Gryphon. Mike Pompeo is the Knave, bearing the Crown. Trump is the "Queen" carrying his favorite accessory, which is either Melania or a golf club (2 schools of thought). "Alice" is Nancy Pelosi."

NATALIE BRAUN

natalie.h.braun@gmail.com

Natalie Braun received a BFA in sculpture and illustration (2017) from Xavier University and holds a master's degree in UX design from Maryland Institute College of Art. Her art is influenced by many aspects of the political and environmental climate and how society copes with both. Natalie is influenced by many liberal activists, artists, scientists, and spiritual leaders, and is a huge promoter of environmental awareness.



OUR NATION

colored pencil; 12x12"

"These three individuals have been alienated from our nation, the USA, because of irrationally prejudicial attitudes. They have faced challenges with having their voices heard and none of them can relate to Americans when they say "We the people." A quote on each one of their shirts alludes to their experience with prejudice that has been around ever since the creation of this country: the native American's, "our nation was born on genocide;" the Asian-American's, "trapped in a nation yet excluded by law;" the African-American's, "a man was made a slave by a nation."

JAKE BRINKMANN

jake.brinkmann@yahoo.com; jbrinkmann.com

Cincinnati based artist Jake Brinkmann is a creative adventurer seeking out his passion through the visual arts of multiple mediums. A Fine Arts Graduate from the University of Cincinnati/DAAP, Jake continues to explore the curiosities of life and functionality through the usage of Duct Tape. Now he joins the Art Academy of Cincinnati to pursue a Master's of Art Education while teaching the adventures of Duct Tape to future artists."



AMELIA EARHART

duct tape; 40x32"

"Amelia Earhart is an American icon who has broken the barrier of sexual bias in order to bring equality and peace to this nation; she deserves recognition. My use of duct tape represents the bondage that we as Americans hold for such figures of admiration. Slowly overtime, the adhesive will peel off and fall, leaving a lasting imprint on the surface, just as these famous Americans left their own legacy in our culture."

JEFF CASTO

jeff5.casto@gmail.com; jeffcasto.art

Jeff Casto has been producing and exhibiting his artwork for over 35 years. He is a graduate of the Art Academy of Cincinnati (1987) and also has an MFA from the University of Cincinnati (1989). His art combines a variety of medias, usually assemblages, that are simultaneously 2D and 3D. It fuses fantastical imagery with tactile surfaces and found objects. Jeff's recent body of work addresses environmental concerns and questions the current trajectory of humanity's fate.

**DEVILS AND DINOSAURS**

mixed media assemblage; 33x33x7"

"The anti-science movement in the United States, propelled by Christian fundamentalist ideology, promotes an agenda based on philosophy not fact. They refute almost everything from evolution to global warming. Growing up in West Virginia as a child, this doctrine was prevalent there. One of the teachings we were taught in church was that the dinosaurs inhabited the earth before "the Creation" ruled by Satan and his minions. A nation that ignores education, science and the arts is one that faces another Dark Ages."

JAN BROWN CHECCO

jan@brownchecco.com; brownchecco.com

Jan Brown Checco is a Cincinnati-based studio artist who works experimentally with a variety of media, and convenes others to work collaboratively. She has quarter century of experience as an art administrator, specializing in project design and direction of public artworks, and has 44 years of experience in fulfilling public and private commissions.

**FORMERLY OF THE WEST
END: WANDA, GUS**

oil on canvas; 31x25" and 26x20"

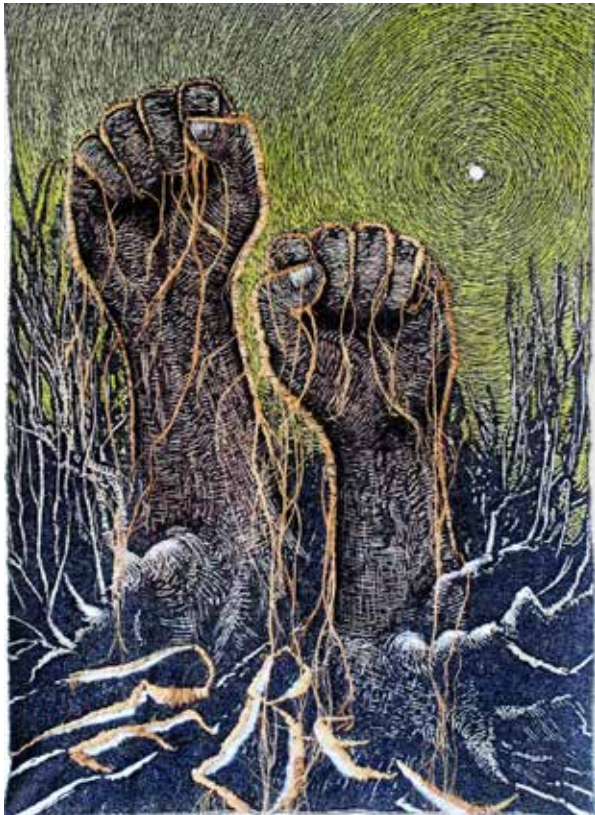
"Massive real estate development within our urban core displaces countless families, often those who live in the direst economic straits. My two portraits represent family members who have been forced out of their home. Wanda misses her neighbor Nadine who would join her daily on the front steps for coffee. Her brother Gus still struggles with functional illiteracy and now must find a new source to help him learn how to read and do simple math."



SUZANNE CHOUTEAU

chouteau@xavier.edu

Suzanne Michele Chouteau is Professor of Art at Xavier University. Her prints, drawings, paintings, and mixed-media combinations have been shown in over 100 solo, invitational, and juried exhibitions here and abroad. She is married to Chris Bedel, Director of the Cincinnati Museum Center's Edge of Appalachia Preserve in Adams County, Ohio. Their son, Elijah Bird Bedel, is a 2018 DIFT (Digital Innovation, Film and Television) graduate from XU and a musician who performs solo and with the Harmless Varmints and the Old Souls String Band.



REBEL

woodcut tapestry with raffia and paint; 80x60"

"'Rebel' is inspired by the imagery of fists cracking through the earth. It rails against the degradation of mother earth caused by extractors, racists, bigots, sexists, abusers, rapists, liars, cheaters, and defilers."

HALENA CLINE

halenacline@gmail.com

Halena V. Cline is a Cincinnati studio artist who has exhibited her work locally, nationally and internationally, including in Ohio, Kentucky, Alabama and Germany. In her work, she expresses concepts of her experiences and perceptions. Her paintings reflect her personal points of view of current or historical events.



CHAMPION OF FOOLS AND TYRANTS

mixed media; 30x22.5"

"My painting is a satirical comment on the state of our current US Democracy which has become more dire since I created it. I thought the Iraq war was bad but what we're living now is catastrophic!"

KEVIN COLLANDER

kcworkin@gmail.com; <http://artupclose.com/kevin-collander/>
<http://patronart.com/keca>

As a fine artist, Kevin Collander uses watercolor and mixed media to explore traditional avenues and fresh, evocative expressions. His signature style includes atmospheric landscapes, waterscapes, urban streetscapes, landmark homes and architectural treasures, best recognized in his collection of vibrant nightscapes. Kevin adds to his creative interests with illustration and creative fiction writing. A special love is creating poignant socio-political cartoons. SOS ART has been a stable venue for him, now for many years. He also contributes his artwork to select 501c3 charitable organizations for their fund-raising functions.



THAT FACE IN THE CROWD

ebony pencil, ink; 11x15"

"The cautionary tale "A Face in the Crowd" serves as a warning to all Americans that we can be duped via the power of media and celebrity. Budd Schulberg (writer) and Elia Kazan (director) braved this movie soon after the dangerous unsettlings of McCarthyism. If history truly repeats itself, we have let it be repeated with our current administration."

LISA HUEIL CONNER

lhueilc@hotmail.com; lhcpottery.com

Lisa Hueil Conner is a lifetime resident of Cincinnati, a Fine Arts graduate of Edgecliff College and a member of the Clay Alliance. She is recently retired after teaching 3 to 6 years old children for over 30 years in both private and public Montessori schools. When Lisa is not working in clay, she enjoys gardening, historical research and hiking out west in the National Parks.



TRANSFORMATION MASK

stoneware clay; 15x16x4"

"After studying indigenous peoples and their disappearing cultures, I was inspired to depict the genocide of the indigenous peoples of North America. My mask is based on Northwestern Native American masks that opened during sacred ceremonies to reveal another spirit form. Mine opens to a Native American stripped of his culture."

WATER IS LIFE

porcelain; 14x10x10"

"'Water is Life' is my visual statement of outrage over the Standing Rock pipeline that was allowed to be built below Lake Oahe and through the sacred Native American lands in North Dakota. Representations of a Lakota family unit (a father, a mother and a child) form the base of this piece. The rim is a depiction of the leaking pipeline as it contaminates the ground waters in the area."



JIM CONROY

jconroy1594@gmail.com

Jim Conroy, a Cincinnati native, is a retired fire fighter/paramedic and a self-taught artist. He works in both oil and acrylic in a realistic style with impressionistic abstraction. Jim participates in many of the local art festivals.



THE GREY
oil on canvas;
20x16"

"This is a representation of a man whom I saw sit outside of a department store on 5th street and how people would walk past him as if he didn't even exist."



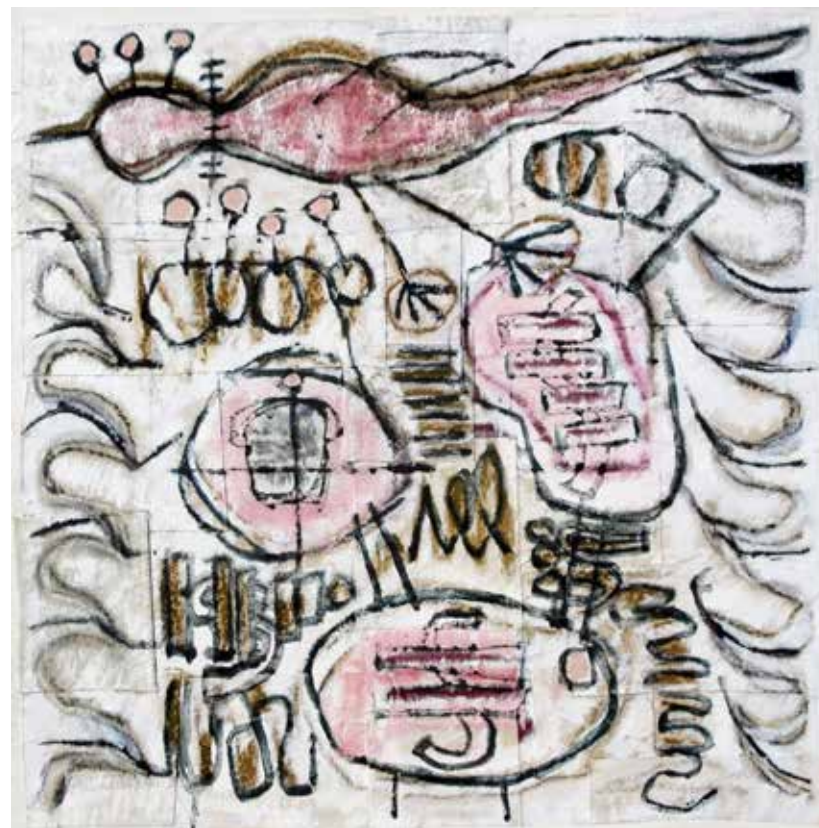
OUTSIDE EDEN
oil on panel; 5x7"

"This piece is of a man whom I saw resting on a milkcrate with all his worldly possessions in a shopping cart outside of a higher end apartment building."

HOLLAND DAVIDSON

hollanddavidson@yahoo.com

Holland Davidson is a Cincinnati-based artist originally from Florida. She is a charter member of the SOS ART community. Her work is included in collections worldwide.



BIRD DROPPING THE PINK TAX (ACROSS THE FLY-OVER STATES)

oil and charcoal on canvas; 28x28"

"The Pink Tax: Products marketed for women cost an average of 7% more than products marketed toward men; with personal care products it is 13%. The so-called "tampon tax" on (necessary) feminine hygiene products is still in effect in most states."

SHARMON DAVIDSON

sharmon.davidson@gmail.com; sharmondavidson.com

Sharmon Davidson is a Kentucky mixed media artist who uses mystical, dreamlike, nature-inspired imagery to explore her belief in the interconnections between everything in the universe. She studied visual arts at Northern Kentucky University and the Art Academy of Cincinnati and has exhibited widely throughout the eastern U.S. and online. Her work has been featured in numerous publications, as well as on prominent art websites such as ArtsyShark, Fusion Arts, and Gallery 25N.



THE END OF INNOCENCE

collage and mixed media; 14x10"

"The native girl, still half 'wild' but wearing a skirt, looks around with dismay at the changes that colonialism has brought to her homeland, as the 'civilized' girl offers her a dead bird. What is lost by native populations as more technologically advanced societies take over their lands? Often their traditional way of life is subsumed by the more powerful civilization, while natural resources are essentially stolen, leading to a loss of the indigenous culture."

AMANDA JOY DENNEWITZ

amandajoydennewitz@gmail.com

Amanda Joy Dennewitz is a sculptor, fat activist, and alumni of the Art Academy of Cincinnati. She is also a studio manager at InsideOut in Hamilton, Ohio, where she supports artists with developmental disabilities. You can find her fat lady pottery on Etsy and Instagram as Amanda Joy Pottery. Her current body of work is preceded by decades of fat liberation efforts by fat, black, queer women, as well as organizations like the National Association for the Advancement of Fat Acceptance (NAAFA).



FAT LADY VASE

wood fired ceramic; 6x6x6"

"In the recent past, Western culture (aka White culture) has shifted from a focus on health to a full-on panic over fatness and fat people. The use of the body mass index (BMI) scale to determine an individual's health is not only racist, it's unscientific. This focus on fatness has not made human beings thinner or healthier. In fact, it is well-documented that the odds of losing weight and keeping it off are in the ballpark of 1 in 100. Emerging data suggests that weight stigma can explain many of the poor health outcomes currently believed to be correlated with fatness. Fat people experience weight stigma in healthcare, relationships, employment, and practically every other area of life. My piece rouses not only a challenge to the dominant diet culture, but a celebration of body diversity. Forged in fire, I created this voluptuous, ceramic figure as a symbol of power, a reclamation of the reverence we humans once held for abundant feminine bodies as depicted in the Venus of Willendorf created 35,000 years ago."

SCOTT DONALDSON

stdonaldson54@gmail.com

Scott Donaldson's art has been shown all over the Cincinnati area including nearly in all of the SOS shows beginning in 2005. In 2005 he received an Individual Artist Grant from the city of Cincinnati. In 2013 he received best Pop Artist award from ADC Gallery. Scott has created 17 murals around Cincinnati most notably 'Campy Washington' a humorous play on words, 'Cincinnati's Table' on the wall of Jean Roberts' Table restaurant and 'Garden Party' at the Taft. He has also created murals for Goodyear and GE.

**SPIRIT OF THE BUFFALO**

acrylic on canvas; 40x30"

"The Buffalo lived in vast herds on the great prairies of the West but were nearly hunted to extinction in the late 19th century. Fortunately a few survived clinging to the edges of the Great Plains and today live in managed herds on ranches and in our National Parks. I did this painting in 2016, the year of the Buffalo."

GRACE ECKERLE

eckerlegp@gmail.com

Grace Eckerle did this sculpture in 2019 when she was a seventeen years old senior student artist at Notre Dame Academy in Park Hills, Ky. She is now a freshman at NKU studying visual arts. Grace hopes to use her art on social justice issues in order to be a voice for those who feel they have none.

**SCHOOL SHOOTINGS**

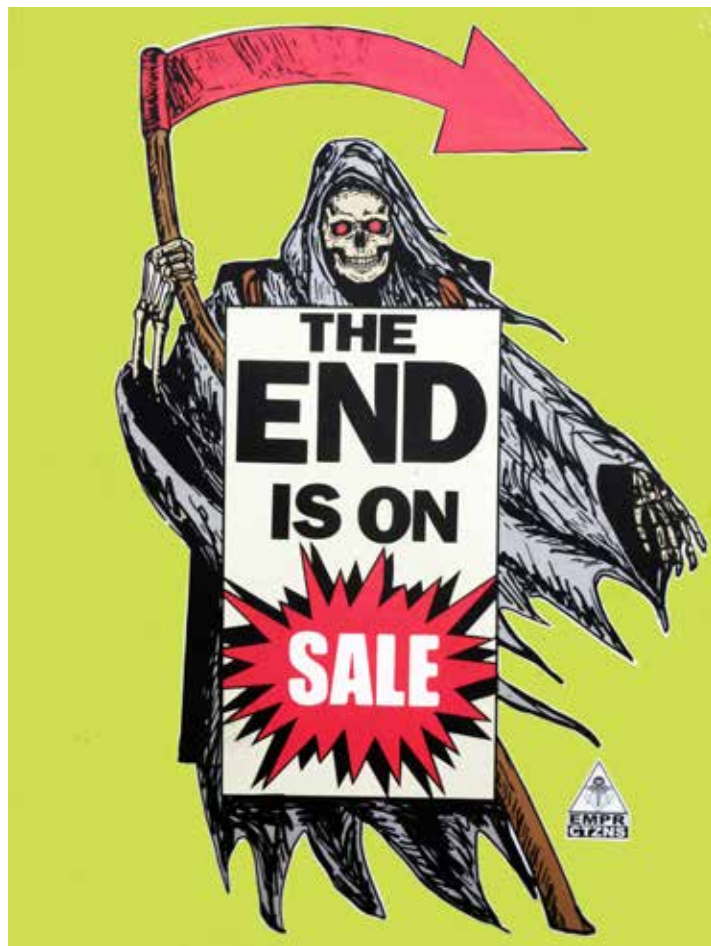
mixed media; 24x24x18"

"My piece is based off of the statistic that out of the 2,000 school shootings that happened in 2018, nearly 700 were done by students attending the school. Each bullet hole in the back of the desk symbolizes a hundred student perpetrators. The hands trying to escape the desk represent the fear current students feel, and the pressure they are under to try to ensure their safety at all times. No student should have to feel trapped by fear, especially fear of their classmates."

EMPIRE CITIZENS

emprctzns@gmail.com

Empire Citizens is a street art campaign designed to expose the absurdity of contemporary culture through sowing seeds of skepticism and malcontent.

**THE END IS ON SALE**

digital print and acrylic on canvas; 48x36"

"Our piece is a reaction to the madness and anti-intellectualism that passes for normalcy in contemporary culture. It comments on putting economy before the natural systems on the planet that allows for human existence; also on the "doubling down" on irrelevant energy systems for the benefit of a few people."

ANA ENGLAND

anaengland999@gmail.com

Ana England is a Professor Emeritus at Northern Kentucky University where she taught for 30 years. Her numerous exhibitions include "Ana England: Kinship" at the Cincinnati Art Museum, The Weston Art Gallery, the Clay Studio, Philadelphia, and Miami University Art Museum. She has completed commissions for the Cincinnati Art Museum, Fidelity Investments, NKU, and the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.

**LISTEN**

ceramic, wax, oil; 37x87x7"

"In an era in which we seem to be deaf to the opinions and concerns of others, 'Listen' encourages humans and our primate kin to hear each other's voices, in the hope that it will promote respect and peaceful co-existence."

MARCUS EVANS

marcuswevans@roadrunner.com

Marcus Evans is a photographic artist who lives in suburban Cincinnati. He received training at UC, and Miami U., Oxford. His photographs have been shown in exhibitions in Southwestern Ohio, including The Springfield Museum of Art, The Cincinnati Art Academy and FotoFocus 2015 & 2016. Marcus is the recipient of The Outstanding Media Production Achievement Award from UC for his Tao portfolio entitled "Seeing Things Differently." He believes the value of photographic art is in providing a distillation of political consciousness beyond photographic documentation."



DISPOSSESSED

digital photography; 16x23"

"Minorities are most vulnerable to falling into homelessness. One in 129 minorities and one in 69 African Americans in the US experienced homelessness in 2012."

JOHN FERRANDO

haute.fusion@yahoo.com

Ohio resident John Ferrando has been working in the medium of fused glass for several years. Kiln-formed glass artist, instructor, and owner at Haute Fusion Glass Studio & Gallery in Downtown Middletown, OH, John's personal objective is to never stop learning, continue to experiment with glass, and explore its possibilities without limiting himself to traditional methods. He continues to challenge himself through invention and innovation. He strives to create textures that compel touch, colors that provoke memory, and shapes that expand reality.



A HOUSE DIVIDED

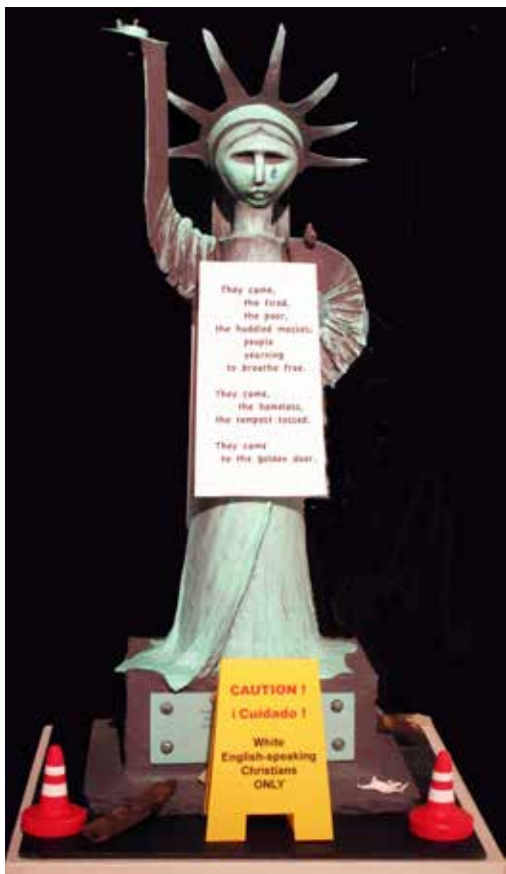
kiln-formed glass; 17x26"

"Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand."- Jesus Christ
 "A house divided against itself will not stand. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved - I do not expect the house to fall - but I do expect it will cease to be divided."- Abraham Lincoln

DOROTHY GEHRES FRAEMBS

dorothyfraembs@fuse.net

Dorothy Gehres Fraembs is ninety-two years old and still relies on art as an expression of frustration. She is grateful for over eighty years of artistic endeavor; Girl Scouts, a Chicago Ad agency, a young people's encyclopedia, GEANPD art department, free lancing, volunteering, social commentary.



STATUE OF LIBERTY, 2017

mixed media sculpture; 28x16x16"

"My mother's father was an immigrant, my father told me of seeing the Statue of Liberty from the ship bringing him to this country, our two children were immigrants. All became citizens in a land of opportunity but what is the true character of the United States?"

ABBY MAE FRIEND

abbymf000@gmail.com; abbymaefriend.com

Abby Mae Friend is an artist and activist living and working in Cincinnati, Ohio. Maintaining a balance between art making and curating, writing, community commitment and conversations allows her to blur the boundaries between art and activism and to redefine objects and movement as both art and resistance work.



THE THINGS WE STEAL (MAP 4)

acrylic on geographic map; 22x35"

"This piece, from the series titled 'The Things We Steal,' consists of obscured, archival National Geographic maps that portray federally recognized reservation land for displaced Native populations. The painted black areas represent the land that was forcefully stolen from Native peoples by colonizers throughout history and into the present. They highlight the overwhelming inequity and violence that found the United States. 'Map 4' includes our region which is stolen Shawnee and Myaamia land."

SAAD GHOSN

saad.ghosn@uc.edu

Saad Ghosn, a native of Lebanon, has lived in Cincinnati since 1985. A retired physician, educator and Professor Emeritus of Medicine at The University of Cincinnati, he resorts to visual and spoken art to express himself and convey his sociopolitical views. Saad believes that activism is at the heart of art expression. He is the founder and president of 'SOS ART' and the editor and publisher of the yearly 'For a Better World, Poems and Drawings on Peace and Justice by Greater Cincinnati Artists'. Saad has written about many of Cincinnati's Artists Activists including in his book 'Greater Cincinnati Artists as Activists.'



CONVERSATION WITH ME AND ME, #1 & 2

woodcut print;
2 prints, each 12x16"

"In my 'Conversations 1 & 2 with Me and Me', I reflect on the importance of being truthful to one's self, on being always in touch with what's essential in the big scope of life, with the spiritual, always reminded that our material existence on this earth is ephemeral and that we need to always strive to be better individuals adding beauty, love and betterment to this world. The important is always what we do in the moment to contribute positively to life."

TYLER GRAY

morallygraystudios@gmail.com

Tyler Gray was born in Bellevue, KY, and has spent the majority of his life on the south side of the Greater Cincinnati Area. He graduated from NKU's School of the Arts program with a BFA in Sculpture.



KING OF THE HILL

ceramic,
wood;
28x14x34"

"When I first made and displayed this piece in May of 2016, the world was a very different place. The mid-decade slump left us dazed and all we could see was what we took for face value. We as a nation abandoned all reason and let the odious tide of fascism slowly creep up around our ankles; falling to realize the rising filth seeping into our very being, leaving us furiously looking for the drain plug of this watertight loony bin. The Minotaur was free from the Labyrinth, unleashing the dormant angst of a repressed demographic better left forgotten. This piece is still representative of the themes embroidered within it but the satire that was present in the initial concept is gone as it now acts as a historical point in time. Lines have blurred and the end is near. To what end, I'm not sure, but it's coming and make no mistake about it. The end will be here sooner than you think."

VINCE GRAY

vsg610win@yahoo.com

Vince Gray is a self-taught Pointillism artist from Lincoln Heights, OH. He has been painting for the past 15 years and has shown in local and national galleries and has won multiple awards.

**BULLIES**

acrylic on canvas; 18x24"

"My painting is about bullying which is so prevalent nowadays. Each of us, at some point in our life, has or will have to deal with it."

MELVIN GRIER

melvin.grier@gmail.com

Melvin Grier is a retired Cincinnati Post staff photographer. He serves on the board of Fotofocus, and in 2004 was a Duncanson Artist in Residence. Among his many exhibits are: White People, A Retrospective (KHAC 2011), Homage to a Sound (KHAC, 2016), Clothes Encounter (Behringer Crawford Museum, 2018). His work is in the Cincinnati Art Museum collection.

**THE PRICE AVONDALE PAYS**

color photography; 11x14"

"Demolition of houses on Larona and Dury Ave in S. Avondale in the 90's for expansion of the Cincinnati Zoo. There was then active protest by the residents who were paying the price."

TINA GUTIERREZ

tango@fuse.net

Tina Gutierrez is a Cincinnati-Based Arts-Photographer and an adjunct professor at the Art Academy of Cincinnati. Her works are held in private and institutional collections. Tina's specialties are portraiture, social justice, and underwater photography.



**PRAYER HANDS FROM COLORS OF WOMEN -
HAND MANDALAS**

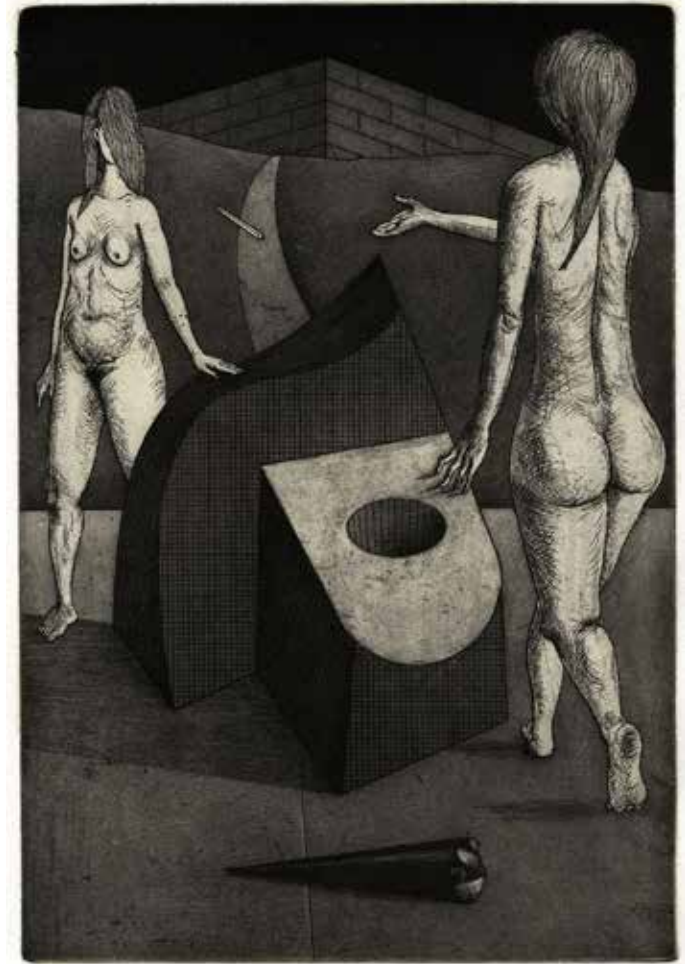
b&w photography; 12x12"

"This image was created in 2017 after the Women's march. It is part of a number of images I created then to convey a sense of unity, solidarity, peace and community. They represent the world that can and, in many cases, does exist. Creating them was a way for me to stay sane in a difficult political climate. The women who volunteered to model for the photographs represented many cultures and religions. They came into the project strangers and left friends and neighbors."

JOHN HANKIEWICZ

hankiejm@miamioh.edu

John Hankiewicz is a printmaker and cartoonist in Oxford, OH. He received his MFA from Miami University, where he currently teaches drawing.

**PENCIL**

etching and chine collé; 20x16"

"There is a line between the creative act and the violent act, but it is a permeable line. Are the two figures in this image, with an ominous machine, about to collaborate on a project, or are they about to engage in battle? The answer is unclear, and the overall mood is a mixture of hope and dread."

GEORGE HARDEBECK

geo8arche@gmail.com

George Hardebeck graduated from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh in 1981. He worked in graphics and illustration and has provided painting and poetry and changes needed in our world. George has participated for decades in intentional community, and recently helped lead collaborative ecological restoration events, and reconciliation work with our Indigenous. He has grown reindigenizing family and culture in Ireland; working also in nature education, leading outreach into community centers and puppetry and storytelling. George has also helped teach permaculture, and gardening with natives.



JUST SCREAM NO

b&w poster art; 17x11"

"My poster is about Imperial Economics which is a greed-led addictive dysfunctional system, dividing to conquer, a typical trick of the Imperial trade. We need to move to Mutual Economy."

KEVIN HARRIS

k3v3h@gmail.com

Kevin Harris is a Professor in the Art Department of Sinclair Community leading classes in Drawing and Printmaking and Digital Media. He received a BA from Hampton Institute (1983) and an MFA from the University of Cincinnati (1988).



AGUA DE BEBER (WATER TO DRINK)

solar plate intaglio; 10x8"

"'Agua de Beber' reflects on the water crisis of Flint, MI. In the drawing drops of contaminated water gushing from faucet to sink turn into the distended bodies of tortured infants gagging in a turbulent swirl of poisoned tap water. The seven babies in the drawing reference the star cluster Pleiades, the seven daughters of Atlas. The superimposed lyrics are from the jazz classic Brazilian love song, Agua de Beber, composed by Antonio Carlos Jobim with lyrics by Vinicius de Moraes."

STATE LINE

mixed media—metal sign, paper, ink, collage; 80x36x8"

"'State Line' is a memorial in 3 parts displaying the names, faces and eyes of African-American men, women and children whose deaths were the result of state sanctioned or vigilante police action."



C. TED HENDRICKS

crosssquared@yahoo.com

C.Ted Hendricks is a local artist and painter with a fine arts degree, who has also worked as a scenic artist on films and in theater.

**SKY PEACE EARTH JUSTICE**

acrylic on canvas; 48x60"

"My painting is of woods and trees with an atmospheric sky and furniture flying through the air. I regard the sky as a source of peace and the earth as the place of justice."

KIMBERLY HENSON

kymber.henson@gmail.com

Kymerly Henson has been working in the arts for over 30 years. After graduating with an art degree from Edgecliff College she owned and operated a wearable art studio, producing one of a kind and limited-edition hand-painted and shibori clothing. Recent years have seen a shift of artistic sensibility to mosaic, small sculptures and painting. Kymerly is increasingly interested in storytelling. In all of her work one will find narratives from her life and from lives that have touched her in some way. Frequent travels to Mexico have been a major influence through the years. The vibrancy of the colors, the crafts and the people have been a source of joy and inspiration. For the last 15 years Kymerly has also worked on several series of work, in multiple mediums, that tell the stories of the abused, the powerless and the invisible. Art is the vehicle that gives her meaning, and breath, and hope. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States. She lives in Cincinnati with her husband, cats and flowers.

**DON'T GO BACK TO SLEEP**

mixed media wood box with found objects; 9x13x7"

"Don't Go Back to Sleep' was in response to a Rumi poem: The breezes at dawn have secrets to tell you/Don't go back to sleep!/You must ask for what you really want..."

DEVAN HORTON

devanhortonart@gmail.com; devanhorton.com

Devan Horton is an oil painter working in Northern Kentucky and her newest series "Penchant" confronts our culture's obsession with consumption and waste. Each painting features a foreboding pile of trash which relates to a tradition or ritual imbedded in our daily lives and society

**OFFER**

oil on canvas; 30x40"

"We relentlessly take from our planet in order to make our experience more pleasurable, but what happens when nothing gets replenished? The only thing we have to offer are the plastics and materials we have thrown out, leaving a temple blocking out what used to be a vast landscape."

WILLIAM HOWES

howes.life@yahoo.com

William Howes, a native of Cincinnati, graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a degree in Industrial Design. William is interested in architecture, photography and gardening.

**STANDING PROUD
DOWN & OUT &
FORGOTTEN**digital photograph; 22x17"
and 17x22" (shown before
and after)

"As Avondale is replaced, its character isn't."



IVAN IVANOV

ivanovartstudio@gmail.com

Ivan Ivanov is a fine artist with experience in photography and graphic design. His understanding of the complex world we live in today and its influence on contemporary art has been enhanced by his witnessing first hand of two different socio-political systems at work.



BALL OF SHAME 2

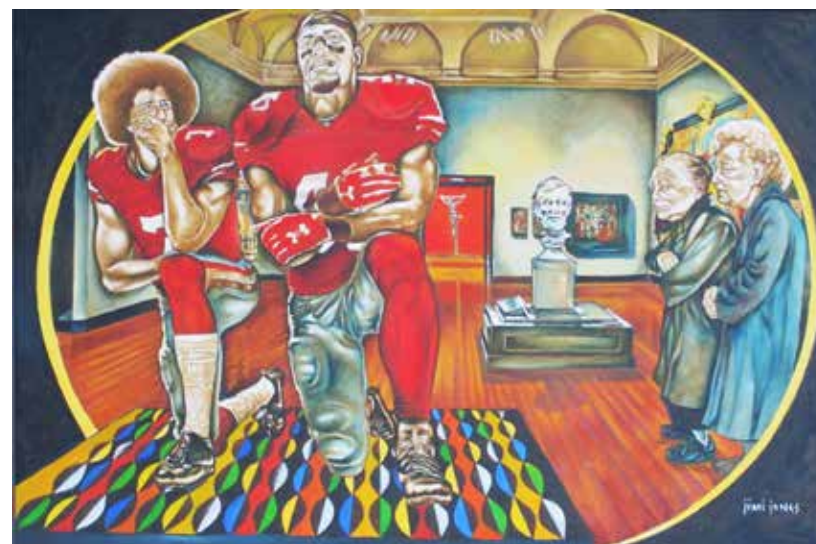
paper, newspaper, glue, tape; 13" Diameter

"Ball of Shame" is a 3-D display of select recent newspaper headlines and ads. It intends to capture the current moment in a snapshot and as such it also reflects fairly well who we really are as a society. What would today look like when viewed from the future?"

JIMI JONES

jaj0421@zoomtown.com

Jimi Jones, a Cincinnati artist and graphic designer, graduated from the UC/DAAP, and retired after a 27 year career as an art director in charge of display design at Procter and Gamble. Jimi is a founding member of the Neo-Ancestralist art movement. He has exhibited his work widely in galleries and museums.



THE WARRIORS

oil on canvas; 24x36"

"Standing up while taking a knee!"



(shown details)

LARRY JONES

lejones_99@yahoo.com

Larry Jones was born in Cincinnati and graduated from its University. He previously created constructions and sculptures but is currently limited to photography. Larry lived in the San Francisco Bay area for eleven years where he photographed primarily street art and events. Having returned to Cincinnati about two years ago, he continues that type of photography.



TGI JUSTICE
photography; 8x8.5"

"Photograph of participants in a transgender march in the Tenderloin Neighborhood of San Francisco, CA, during gay pride weekend in 2018."



ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

photography, 10.5x8"

"Photograph of street art by Mel Waters seen in the Mission District of San Francisco, CA."



HUGGING

photography; 10x8"

"Photograph of street art by an unknown artist found in an alley in downtown Cincinnati."



TAKE HER AWAY

photography; 8x9.5"

"Photograph of street art by an unknown artist found in downtown San Francisco, CA."



HAVE YOU HAD THE "TALK?"

photography; 8x11"

"Photograph of a sticker seen on a newspaper box in Oakland, CA"

MARSHA KARAGHEUSIAN

karagheusianm@xavier.edu

Marsha Karagheusian holds BS, BFA and MFA degrees in Ceramics and Art Education. She has been a Professor in the Department of Art at Xavier University for over three decades where she teaches all levels of Ceramics (handbuilding and wheel throwing) as well as Art Education. Presently concentrating in figurative sculpture and tile work in ceramic earthenware clay, Marsha exhibits in international, national, regional, local and online venues.



REMAINS

ceramic; 13x18"

"As a woman of 100% Armenian heritage, the Armenian Genocide has become an intimate topic for interpretation. Little is known of this first genocide of the 20th c. due to denial efforts. The Ottoman Empire's 1915 campaign of ethnic mass murder forced deportations of innocent Christian Armenians from their ancient 5000-year presence in their historic homeland, resulting in the massacre of 1.5 million innocent souls. The atrocities continue today in the Nagorno-Karabakh region".

MICHAEL KEARNS

michaelfftv@gmail.com

Michael Kearns is a writer and photographer. He lives in Milford, Ohio with his beloved Rebecca and two sons, Matt and Jacob, both of whom live with schizophrenia. The family enjoys cooking, music and long walks as well as overseeing a menagerie of dysfunctional animals including two cats, a snarly Norwegian Elk Hound, a highly neurotic Pit Bull mix and a Chinese fighting dog. Michael and Rebecca's oldest son, Nathaniel lives happily with his partners in Washington DC. Michael also publishes a blog site about schizophrenia called a Kaleidoscope Called Schizophrenia and Open Roads United (with Matt Steffen), a site concentrated upon travel, music and photography.

**MATT AND JACOB**

photography; 12x18.5"

"My photo concerns schizophrenia and is a portrait of my schizophrenic sons. We need to be aware of the current status of schizophrenia and its treatment in our society."

SUSAN KEMP

slorkemp@yahoo.com

Susan Kemp is a retired educator studying sculpture under Kirk Mayhew.

**GEORGIA**

clay; 23x10x33" (with base: 30x23x36")

"Georgia is one of 22 dogs rescued from life in Michael Vick dogfighting ring by Best Friends Animal Sanctuary. "Rescuing one animal may not change the world, but for that one animal, her world is changed forever." (Quote from Georgia's adopter, Amy@best friends.org)"

BOB KLING & THANE LORBACH

rkling@cinci.rr.com

Bob Kling is an artist interested in creating points of interest that may provoke further thought. He tries hard to use ordinary ability to address extraordinary subject matter. Bob insists on painting, painting more and more about peace and justice. Bob collaborated with Thane Lorbach, a master carpenter, in the making of the sculpture "Empathy."

**LIBERTY'S PRICE**

acrylic on canvas and plastic; 16x20"

"Peace and Justice, so very hard to reach, may be pushed further from our grasp as we desperately poke and clutch at various versions of freedom. Liberty's siren calls for new, engaging, and profitable methods to obtain fame, respect, and money, sadly often occupy our prime consideration and sometimes our only one."

EMPATHY
pvc; 27x18x9.5"

"Empathy is an association with another person or even another object whereby a fuller understanding is achieved."

**JACOB KRISMANICK**

jake.krismanick@gmail.com

Jacob Krismanick is an artist and human being from Northwest Indiana currently living in Cincinnati. He is an autobiographical cartoonist at Yellowballoonx.com and sometimes makes other things too.

**FAKE NEWS**

oil on laser engraved panel; 12x12"

"In 2017, I was trying to be optimistic about Trump in my own way. I was being sarcastic, but my heart was earnestly trying to stop from being consumed by hate. Now, I think we have all been radicalized in one way or another. I have become a radical moderate. I hide behind my firmly held belief that everyone is wrong, while other radicals jump into their trucks and wave their flags. Are these new trucks or was I just not paying attention? What am I wrong about? I think there are still reasons for hope. I will try to be kind and to pay attention. Remember when America was worried about the Islamic State?"

OLIVER LACKEY, JR (1928-2020)

Oliver Lackey, Jr., 92 years old, just passed away. He has depicted events of his life and the lives of his friends and family as well as social conditions with a variety of media – oil, pen and ink, pencil, pastels, acrylics, wood, metal, found objects. His work offers a unique perspective of events, both large and small, during the past century.



MISSISSIPPI TREE
wood sculpture; 12x16x13"

"My sculpture depicts images of lynching of African Americans painted and carved into an actual tree stump. It reflects on the horrors of lynching, a subject part of my African American experience."

KENNETH OBASI LESLIE

lesliecnc1@aol.com

Kenneth Obasi Leslie, born in Cincinnati, OH is a founding member of the Neo-Ancestralist movement. Ken loves working the Alchemy in mixed media process.



FIRST SUPPER
(FIRST WILL BE LAST AND LAST SHALL BE FIRST)
mixed media collage; 16x40"

"My 'First Supper' is part of a series "The Shift" that exposes how the world is changing spiritually, bringing in the new paradigm."



(shown details)

STAN LITZ

litzstan@gmail.com; stanlitz@icloud.com

Stan Litz's initiation to art started when he was 5 years old, first painting his parents garage, then digging a 10 feet long, two feet deep ditch in their yard and filling it with water. Stan has fought for peace and justice and occasionally picked up the lance. Now, he enjoys nature and literature, theatre, art, more than matters politic and the decay and decadence of government. He is currently taking virtually, due to the Covid pandemic, piano and music theory, at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music.

**THE MARRIAGE OF HEAVEN AND HELL**

oil; 24x18"

"The marriage of Heaven and Hell' is about the forces of good and evil that invade our daily lives. Who are the Angels? Are they real or merely figments, archetypes of the collective unconscious. The pink rose represents the sensory beauty of the material world; it, too, is illusionary. William Blake, Scottish poet and artist who penned the book, depicts the human condition as the marriage of Heaven and Hell."

TOM LOHRE

tom@tomlohre.com

A lifelong working fine artist, Tom lives off the kindness of strangers. He still paints old master portraits but developed this manner that is truly his own.

**JORDAN WARE**

oil pastel on metal; 10x8"

"2:21 p.m. April 23, 2020, Jordan Ware was found dead from a gunshot wound at Irving and Forest near the playground between Vine and the Zoo. A 24x24" print of this portrait will be placed in a metal frame at the site. There are many of these Sidewalk Shrine Portraits all over Cincinnati, a gesture that means a lot to the family and brings hope to a tragedy. The family receives the original art."

NIKKI MARIE

dio@nikkimarieceramics.com; nikkimarieceramics.com

A graduate of Kent State University, Nikki Marie received her BFA in ceramics in 2010. She has studied at Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD and now works in Cincinnati, Ohio. Nikki's work is an exploration of hand built sculpture, wheel thrown pottery, acrylic paintings, and their combination. It is the physical manifestation of her subconscious, and is in no way drug induced.



DM ME

stoneware; 24x20x15"

"This piece is the physical manifestation of the series of life events which ultimately lead to me embracing the feminist movement. Thanks, bro."

CONSTANCE McClURE

constance.mcclure@gmail.com

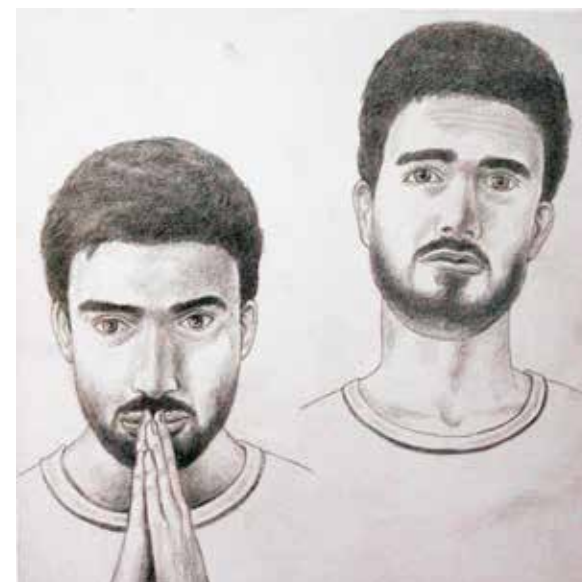
Constance McClure has recently retired from the Art Academy of Cincinnati where she taught art since 1975.



OH NO/ OH YES! WONDERING/ CONSIDERING

silverpoint;
each 8x8"

"Facial expressions of frowning when hearing others putting down other fellow humans; of smiling when seeing people accepting others for who they are. Wondering and considering if I myself am showing respect to others."



GLORIA McCONNAGHY

gloriamcconnaghy@twc.com

Gloria McConnaghy has had several careers in the health field, retailing, illustration and fine art. While working in international public health with the Peace Corps and Save The Children, she lived in South America, South Pacific and Asia. The folk art, crafts and religious art of the people inspired and influenced her own work. Gloria has enjoyed exhibiting in the SOS show almost every year since its beginning, as well as other shows and venues.



**VALENTINE FOR THE DEAD
(IN HONOR OF VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE)**

felt, cloth flowers, crystals; 3 dimensional wall hanging; 18x18x2"

"My piece, in remembrance of all killed by gun violence, was triggered by sadness due to the news of all the deaths by the hands of gun-owners."

CREWS McCULLOCH

crewsmc@aol.com

Crews McCulloch holds a BA in Fine Art from the University of Kentucky and an MA from Humboldt State University in California. He has exhibited and taught in Hawaii, CA, KY and OH. His work ranges from still life through landscape.

**PALMYRA**

watercolor; 22x30"

"My watercolor is of the Greco/Roman era Arch of Triumph, part of the Temple of Baal at Palmyra, Syria. It is part of the UNESCO World Heritage site destroyed by ISIS in 2015. The arches and columns no longer exist as they are pictured."

RICCI MICHAELS

riccimichaels@gmail.com

Ricci Michaels is a visual artist, an activist and a chaplain. She has been painting for over 40 years.

**IT'S ABOUT TIME**

mixed media on canvas; 68x54"

"'It's About Time' means to convey the frustrations of today's millenials."

KEVIN MUENTE

muentek@nku.edu

Kevin Muento received his BFA in drawing and painting from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1994 and his MFA in painting from the University of Cincinnati in 1999. While working for nationally known mural artist Timothy Haglund, he assisted in the production of murals at the Hyatt Regency in Milwaukee, the Johnson Wax Worldwide Headquarters in Racine, WI, and at several private residences. He has exhibited his paintings internationally and has garnered several awards and honors including the Kentucky Arts Council's Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship. Kevin's work is in several public and private collections. He is currently a full professor of art at Northern Kentucky University.

**THE SLEEP OF REASON**

oil on canvas; 24x30"

"Our wild spaces are quickly disappearing. My painting aims at giving them a voice. Beauty is represented as a young girl in a white dress. Is she sleeping or dead? The deer skull she holds alludes to the death of the once natural space that has been clear cut for development eliminating both a beautiful space and wildlife habitat, also the death of reason."

DEBORA MYLES

mylesdc@auburn.edu

Debora Myles received her MFA in drawing and painting from Auburn University and taught there until her retirement and move to Cincinnati, OH in 2016. She has shown on a national level and participated in installations and lectures at universities across the southeast. As a graduate student, Debora received an award for Outstanding Work in the Humanities.

**rest in peace**

mixed medium, silk tissue, kapok, collage, stitch; 26x20"

"This creative expression is from a series entitled "what they wore" and which references found garments of children that were lost, tossed, misplaced, displaced, abused and destroyed. In the world today of displaced persons, I am obsessed with the fate of the children. I wish to display homage to their missing bodies and lives."

KELLY & KYLE PHELPS

phelps@xavier.edu; kphelps1@udayton.edu

Identical twin brothers Kelly and Kyle Phelps are Professors at private Catholic universities in Ohio; Kelly, at Xavier University (Cincinnati) where he oversees the sculpture department and Kyle, at the University of Dayton (Dayton) where he is the head of the ceramic department. Much of their work is about the blue collar working-class, race relations and the everyday struggles of the common man and woman. Kelly and Kyle work collaboratively to create their artwork and share a studio in Centerville (OH). They share numerous grants, regional and national exhibitions, and commissions. More notable private collectors of their work are film director Michael Moore, and actor Morgan Freeman.

**UNREST**

ceramic, mixed media; 24x48x15"

"'Unrest' is about the modern-day civil rights movement of our time. It explores the racial divide caused by unjustified police violence that continues to go unchecked in our society."

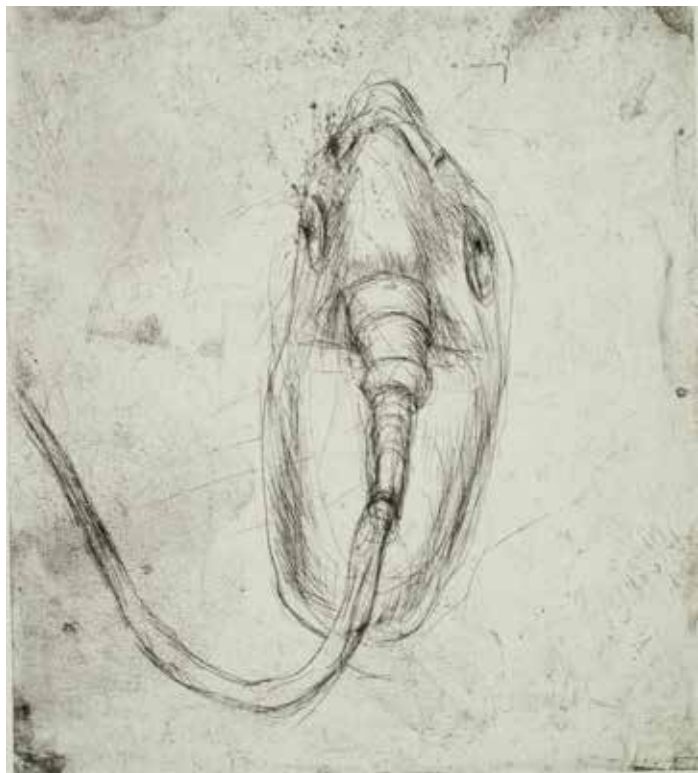
(below shown details)



ELLEN PRICE

priceej@miamioh.edu

Ellen Price was born in New York City and earned her BA in Art from Brooklyn College and her MFA in Printmaking from Indiana University, Bloomington, IN (1986). She recently retired as Professor of Art at Miami University in Oxford, OH, where she taught graduate and undergraduate printmaking. Ellen's prints are included in public and private collections and her creative work was recognized with Ohio Arts Council Artist Individual Excellence Awards in 1996, 2001 and 2009 as well as a 1998 Cincinnati Summerfair Artist Award.

**MASK**

intaglio; 9x8"

"This image is based on an oxygen mask and stems from thinking about aging and recent losses of close friends. Although this piece was conceived prior to the Covid pandemic, it nonetheless ties together personal fears with larger societal concerns about illness."

MATT REED

xredmenacex@hotmail.com

Matt Reed is an artist, educator, and radical leftist currently living in Cincinnati, OH. His work has appeared in galleries, in Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, and Munich. His illustrations have been used for magazines, books, t-shirts, and music album covers.

**HUDDLED MASSES - NO ADMITTANCE**

scratchboard; 10x8"

"This image depicts (Syrian) refugees behind a wall, with missiles firing and explosions behind them, as the Statue of Liberty sinks into the water. It is about the xenophobia and the limited help that refugees fleeing war torn countries face. As a person and as a country, I think it is better to be generous, compassionate, and open, and perhaps be wrong on occasion, than to be fearful, hard-hearted, and closed-off, just to create the illusion of safety."

TODD REYNOLDS

Todd Reynolds, born in Cincinnati, lives in Southeastern Ohio. He holds an MFA from Ohio University and paints in both oils and watercolors. He has received several Ohio Art's Council Individual Artist Grants and his work has been shown widely in both solo and group exhibitions. Recently, Todd exhibited work in the London Erotic Exhibition, London, England.



FACE MASK AND TOILET PAPER

oil on canvas (diptych); 15x44"

"I had been wanting to paint the plaster head molds in my bathroom. When the coronavirus surfaced this March and the toilet paper shortage arrived I thought I could create an allegorical painting about this current event. Thick impasto paint was applied to sculpt the image from life. I incorporated the two subjects into one and this diptych is the result, with irony playing a part in the pieces' theme."



(shown details)

GABRIELLE ROACH

gabiroach2@gmail.com

Gabrielle Roach, born in 1990 in St. Louis, MI, was raised in Terre Haute, IN by her parents, Judge and Mrs. John Roach. She received her BFA in painting and printmaking from Indiana State University (2014) and her MFA in 2017 from Miami University. Gabi has been included in various solo and group exhibitions including The Future of Art, Tate London and 2018 Young Painters. She currently works as the Arts and Programming Manager for Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park & Museum in Hamilton, OH.



10.01.2017

soft pastel and graphite on paper; 21x28"

"After the 2017 massacre in Las Vegas that killed 58 and injured several hundred more, one twitter user commented, 'lots of white Trump supporters in Las Vegas at route 21 watching Jason Aldean. Pray only trumptards died! #prayforvegas.' This gruesome incident occurred almost four years ago. During the intervening years, how has the rhetoric online progressed...or should I say regressed? Do we have more empathy for those who differ from us ideologically? Do we pause to think about our words before pressing the post button? Do we even remember those who died? I think we've only gotten worse - more wretched, more callous, and more narcissistic in our pursuit of hot takes and the 'likes' that come with this commentary."

PATRICIA CLARK ROPER

clarkroper@gmail.com

Patricia Clark Roper grew up in Paulding, Ohio, and has lived, studied, and worked in Bogotá, Colombia, and Madrid and Barcelona, Spain, as well as in different cities in Ohio. She has taught Spanish – or in Spanish – at the elementary, high school, university, and adult education levels and has used language, art, and culture to connect with others and expand everyone’s – including her own – horizons.



DANDELIONS & THISTLES

acrylic on canvas; 36x36"

"Who decides which plants are flowers and which are weeds -or who is worthy and who merits life in the creeping shadow of fear?"

JAMIE SCHORSCH

jmeschorsch82@gmail.com; jamieschorsch.wordpress.com

Jamie Schorsch is a Cincinnati based artist and art educator with widely varied teaching experiences, including working with students ages 5 to 18, private and public institutions, and both inner-city and suburban schools. Jamie has taught at the Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati Public Schools, and is employed by Oak Hills Local School District as an Art Teacher and the Art and Design Department Coordinator. Currently, she teaches Art Foundations, Painting and Mixed Media, Drawing and Printmaking, Art History AP, Studio Art AP Drawing, and Studio Art AP 2D Design at the high school. When not teaching, Jamie spends her time creating murals throughout the Southwest Ohio region and exhibits her works that integrate psychology, religion, literature, and history. Her repertoire of images illustrates visual, social, and spiritual explorations and issues in relation to modern societal standards.



ROUTINE EDUCATION

archival ink, prismacolor pencil, alcohol marker, collage, relief print; 12x18"

"Routine Education' is a commentary on the gun violence epidemic that impacts schools in America. Following the recent mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas HS, I researched events of gun related violence in schools in order to raise awareness to the magnitude of the problem. The numbers in my piece represent the amount of documented shootings, deaths, and injuries in American schools from the late 18th century until 3/2018."

JUDITH SERLING-STURM

jssbookarts@gmail.com

Primarily a book artist, Judith Serling-Sturm is keenly aware of the way in which all elements of a piece communicate the intent of the artist. Her books often incorporate found objects and natural elements and address social justice issues. They have been exhibited in shows around the country and are in public and private collections. Judith also teaches book arts and hand binding. She is the former President of the Cincinnati Book Arts Society and now one of its Board members.



BOO! OR WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?

wood, handmade lokta, pva, computer-generated images, linen thread; 15x15x2"

"My piece explores the various ways that Americans understand threat in these divided times."

ALISON SHEPARD

shepbrandt@gmail.com; alisonshpardart.com

As a tiny child, Alison Shepard fell in love with drawing before she knew how to write or spell. From an early age, she had an affinity for narrative, and used to create characters and stories as she drew. Ever since she can remember, her work has been ethereal and dream-like. Whether her subject is a flower that is lovely today and fades tomorrow, the quiet dignity of the human form, or the fierce majesty of nature, she is approaching her art as a way to celebrate the hope and beauty embedded within creation.

She was an art professor for over a decade, and several years ago, returned in childlike faith to her studio practice.



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN, FOR THEY WILL BE COMFORTED

oil on canvas; 16x20"

"My painting allowed me to work through the sadness I felt for the innocent people who have been persecuted by the Islamic State. I started it before Palmyra was destroyed. It is a prayer for the innocent martyred people and those who mourn them. It is also a prayer for those who have carried out the persecutions to mourn over their actions and have the eyes of their hearts opened."

KIMBERLY SHIFFLETT

kimtheartist@gmail.com

Kimberly Shifflett grew up in New Mexico and moved to Cincinnati in 1993. A painter, printmaker and fiber artist, she is a believer in the power of art to promote social change. Kim has a BFA from the Art Academy of Cincinnati and a MFA degree from University of Cincinnati. As a USAID grant recipient to Jordan, she taught contemporary weaving to Bedouin women in Wadi Rum. She has been an Adopt a School educator for Art Links and a teaching artist for ArtWorks. Currently Kim operates an art and design business called ArtSet located at her studio in the Over The Rhine district, Cincinnati, Ohio.



TRAVEL UP IS NOT PERMITTED

oil on canvas; 42x38"

"We need to call for a national condemnation of our current government's immigration policy which denies humanitarian aid to all refugees in order to curry favor from those who seek to protect their unearned privileges. As a result of this policy we now have thousands of asylum seekers living in refugee camps stuck indefinitely at Mexico's northern border. Our nation's refusal to share our good fortune when this country was created from asylum seekers just like today's migrants is unjustifiable. My painting represents the reality that by denying migrants their opportunity to create a more prosperous life, we deny ourselves the economic and social benefits gained from welcoming them into our communities."

GABRIELLE SIEKMAN

gabrielle.siekman.art@outlook.com

Gabrielle Siekman, an emerging artist, uses her artwork to call attention to various environmental and cultural issues. She received her BFA in Painting from Northern Kentucky University, and has since been using her art to encourage positive change, expose the negative aspects of our way of life, and shine a light on the best things such as family, friends and nature. She has been part of several indoor and outdoor murals around Northern Kentucky, and also created works for the documentary, 'Mourning the Creation of Racial Categories.'



ALMOST THERE

oil on canvas; 30x40"

"George, Breonna, Elijah, Botham, Philando, Alton, Eric, Sandra, Trayvon, Tamir... a small fraction of names I've heard, names of people whose lives were unjustly taken by officers sworn to serve and protect. I started this painting in late 2018, and it feels like nothing has changed since that time. It is part of a larger series that placed different Disney characters in contemporary settings to point out problems our society is facing. Here, the main figure is Tiana, from "The Princess and the Frog," protesting the unjust murder of her frog prince, Naveen, at the hands of corrupt police. Protesters in the background carry signs that point out other cultural problems, such as the Food and Drug Administration and its passing of food-like products as safe, war, money in politics, factory farming, large companies that destroy the environment. There is so much wrong right now that needs to be protested and changed. People in power have shown us that true change is not on their agendas. If we want a better world, it is up to all of us to change it."

BILLY SIMMS

m67simms@aol.com

Billy Simms is an artist and educator who holds an MFA degree from Miami University, OH. Billy lives in Hamilton, OH with his wife and three cats.



**THE NEEDLE
AND THE
DAMAGE DONE**

cast bronze; 16x10x7"

"My sculpture is of a person impaled on a hypodermic, calling attention to the prevalent drug addiction in our society."

J. MICHAEL SKAGGS

rohoboz@aol.com

J. Michael Skaggs is a Lecturer in Communication Studies, College of Informatics at Northern Kentucky University. His photography has appeared in *Black & White Magazine*, *Licking River Review* and is in the collections of the Ft. Wayne Museum of Art and National City Bank. Michael also coordinates the photography exhibitions in the COI Advising Center Gallery at NKU. He has published three books, *Americans Revisited Volume I* from Edgecliff Press (2008), *What Pain Does*, Poet Megan D. Henson and Photographer J. Michael Skaggs, Dos Madres Press (2017), and *Little Girl Gray*, Dos Madres Press (Forthcoming 2020), Poet Megan D. Henson and Photographer J. Michael Skaggs.

**RANKIN HOUSE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD**

photography; 24x36" hd metal print

"Photo taken of the last steps to the Rankin House underground Railroad Museum in Ripley, OH. This would be the last several steps to liberation for the slaves escaping from the south to the north."

RANDALL SLOCUM

ohiovalleyarts@gmail.com

Randall Slocum is an Artist and Civil Servant who holds a BFA and MFA from the University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP).



WE CAN DO IT 2020

digital illustration print; 20x16"

"An update of the classic Rosie the Riveter to honor the nurses on the front."

STEPHEN SMITH

smith7se@mail.uc.edu

Stephen Smith an artist based in Cincinnati uses the concept of irony and humor to make social commentary about racism, systematic oppression, and micro-aggressive behavior. Within the current state of affairs, it has become difficult to have open, honest, and much needed discourse. Considering this Stephen's works are subliminal, present themselves as harmless, but house terrible truths. Through his work, Stephens hopes to end oppressive behavior on all fronts no matter the perceived significance.



CROCODILE TEARS

ink pen, acrylic on quilted canvas; 48x48x3"

"Crocodile Tears' speaks of emotional manipulation, when people of color are abused by white people. It embodies the themes of racism and systematic oppression in America and aims to challenge its audience to be better, making it aware of its own implicit biases."

FAZILAT SOUKHAKIAN

fazilat.soukhakian@gmail.com

Fazilat Soukhakian is an Iranian artist, photographer and scholar. She received her BFA in Photography from the University of Teheran, in Iran, where she started her career as a photojournalist. In the US, she received her MFA, and a PhD in Architectural History and Visual Studies from University of Cincinnati/DAAP. Fazilat transitioned into the world of academics, complementing her art practice, and is currently an Assistant Professor of Photography at the Caine College of the Arts at Utah State University. She considers herself a visual storyteller who observes and records her concerns regarding social and political issues that surround her as a means for social change and justice. Her work reflects on contemporary issues concerning gender inequality, gender segregation, and the loss of national identity. Her photography projects have been shown throughout national and international exhibitions and she has received many awards and recognitions.



AN ANONYMOUS BATTLE

digital photography; 21x28"

"My photograph is part of a body of work which explores the role of the Muslim woman in a changing Islamic society, trying to grasp an understanding of her life behind the veil. Women no longer tolerate the suppression of sexuality, and society's fight over what is right and wrong, associated to both tradition and modernity, has shaped their mind over time. Young generations of women are reacting to the power held over them, trying to find a form of freedom they can achieve behind the facade of their everyday life."

KEN SWINSON

ken@kenswinson.com

Ken Swinson is a printmaker who lives in rural Kentucky. His recent studies in Mexico were an inspiration to use traditional printmaking as a tool to advance cross cultural understanding and arts in rural spaces. After the current Covid pandemic is over, anyone interested can visit Ken and print with him at his co-op print studio, the log cabin print shop, in Old Washington, KY.



GOTHICA AMERICANA

woodcut print; 10x8"

"My woodcut is a response to the current isolationist "America First" movement. It is a parody of Grant Wood's famous painting: American Gothic, substituting iconic people from Mexican history. The USA culture comes from different parts of America."

TINA TAMMARO

tina-tamaro.com; @tina_tamaro (instagram)

Tina Tamaro is a figurative oil painter living in Cincinnati. She has shown her work extensively, regionally and nationally and has won numerous regional art grants. For over 25 years she has given lectures on art history and contemporary art and has been published in a number of international and national art periodicals. Tina teaches painting and drawing in her studio and welcomes new students.



we were never children like your children

oil on two canvases; 110x48"



"The bottom part of my painting was begun after seeing a lynching postcard from 1920 at The Freedom Center. The writing on the postcard mentioned going to this public lynching, then to church before eating peach pie with the family. How do we take a child to a lynching? Pose for the camera? Even consider such actions and then go on with our Sunday activities?"

KIM RAE TAYLOR

kraetaylor@mac.com

Kim Rae Taylor is a visual artist and educator. She serves as Associate Professor of Fine Art for the University of Cincinnati Clermont College. She received her MFA from the University of Cincinnati/DAAP, and her BFA from The College of Fine Arts of the University of Texas at Austin. Additional studies include the University of Georgia in Cortona, Italy, and the Metáfora Center for Art Therapy Studies in Barcelona, Spain. Kim spent more than two decades working as a graphic artist, including work in cartoon animation and product design. She has been an artist in residence at Taipei Artist Village in Taiwan, Red Gate in Beijing, and Cill Rialaig in County Kerry, Ireland. Kim works with a variety of themes that draw from nature, language and gender



DOES NOT WONDER WOMAN

oil and mixed media on panel; 12x12"

"Does Not Wonder Woman' was created in 2012 in response to the all-male, Republican House Committee on women's access to contraception. Five years later we see similar tactics as the party assaults women's health in a multitude of ways. The portrait is a variation of Wonder Woman. We know the agenda of these lawmakers and whose needs it's serving. We must pay attention, stay informed, and be Wonder Woman to resist what is happening."

JANET THOMAS

saylorpark@aol.com

Jan Thomas has been both an art educator and working artist in Cincinnati for over forty years. As an eclectic fiber artist and printmaker with a penchant for assemblage, Jan creates pieces that reflect her concern for issues facing women and families.



DETENIDA

stitched collagraph
chine colle etching with
handmade paper; 5x5"

"This assemblage print is a response to the government's mandate to separate immigrant children from their family along the border. The Red Cross slogan, "Have you saved a life today" references the loss of spirit and hope suffered by these traumatized children."

CHAIN GANG

mixed media assemblage; 6x7x4"

"The health of our city depends on addressing not only its fancy new facade and redevelopment but also its underbelly of nagging social problems, in particular gun violence which threatens our citizens and neighborhoods."



THOMAS HIERONYMUS TOWHEY

towhey@gmail.com

Tom Towhey, a native Cincinnati born in 1958, works in several media at a time. A narrative of rather dark humor represents a common thread to his paintings and sculptures. Tom's work can be found in many private collections, as well as in galleries, throughout the world.



POSTULATION

permanent ink on metal; 40x30"

"Suggested figures juxtaposed concerning moral views."

ORA VICHITCHHOT

oravichitchot@yahoo.com

Ora Vichitchot is a Cincinnati ceramic designer. She has exhibited her creations locally and regionally and received several awards over the years. A lifetime member of the Toledo Potters' Guild, Ora is also currently a Clay Alliance of Cincinnati member.



THE LIBERTY BELL

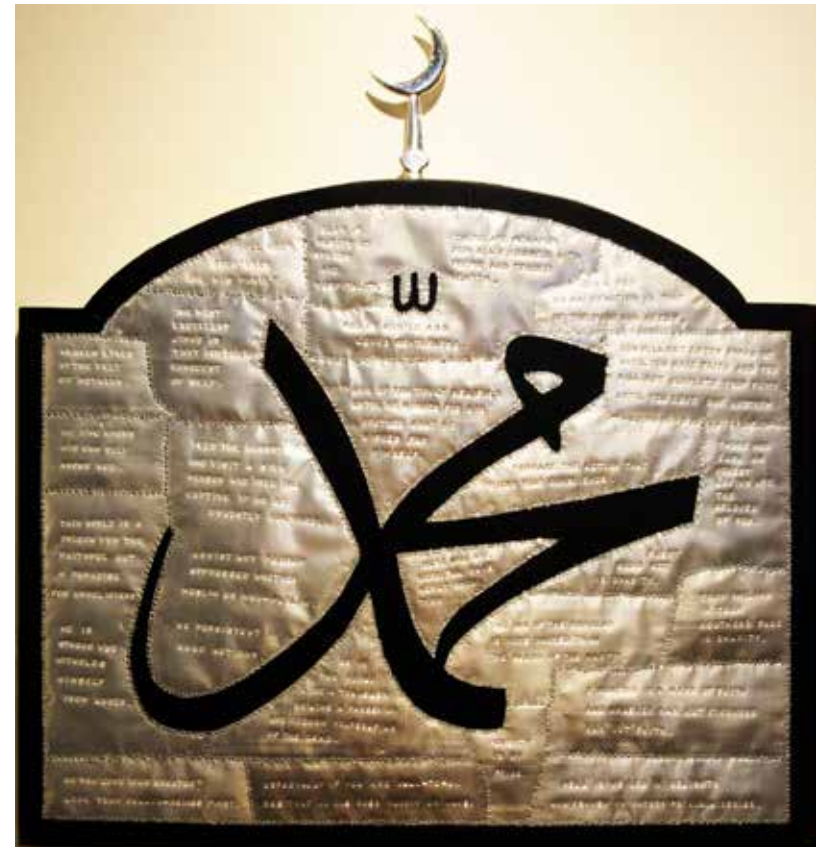
mixed media; 17x15x11"

"The Liberty Bell is a symbol of our FREEDOM. The white lines all over the States' map on the bell reflect my concerns about the direction and polarization of our nation. The cracks grow bigger or smaller depending on how our leader implements the constitution, democracy and justice for all. Diversity is our strength & Unity our power."

LEIGH WALTZ

demang.waltz@gmail.com

Leigh Waltz (b. Dayton); drawing lessons Dayton Art Institute; lived in Borneo, learned photography; lived in Vienna and Amsterdam w/ painter & photographer; lived in Vicenza, Italy; attended Art Academy of Cincinnati; BA cinema studies; MFA printmaking; taught art in Dayton; served in Iraq; has a job; working on another degree.



TALKING PROPHET

mixed media (paint, aluminum, nails); 24x25"

"There is so much misplaced fear and hatred. We need to focus on commonalities. When the teacher said, "love your enemies," perhaps that includes, "don't kill them," and "don't let them starve." My piece pertains to Islam; it shows the name of Mohammad, the crescent, and hammered sentences representing peaceful sayings and teachings from the Islamic 'Hadith'"

RICK WILEY

rickwwiley@yahoo.com

Rick Wiley is a creative from the Cincinnati area.



HOW FAR WE'VE COME...HOW FAR WE HAVE TO GO

digital print; 24x24"

"Done in collaboration with Asha White, my print is a collage of actual antique sheet music folio covers from the late 19th & early 20th centuries. Blatant racism was acceptable 100 years ago and despite progress in how minority populations are being treated now, we still have much work to do. We do not discriminate on the basis of eye color, so why do some discriminate on the basis of skin color? or spoken language? or origin? Let's be one race of homo sapiens."

R. SHARON WILSON

rswilson1282@gmail.com

R. Sharon Wilson, a professional fine art photographer, studied at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. She enjoys inviting the observers of her art to reflect on the story the art evokes in the observer. R. Sharon is a member of the Art4Artists Women's Art Collaborative.



USA COMPASSION

assemblage, clay, metal, photo; 9x6x4"

"I am appalled by the psychological damage inflicted on the children incarcerated by the Trump government at the Mexico/USA border."

CAROLE WINTERS

cswinters51@gmail.com

Carole Winters is an artist, printmaker, and graphic designer, born and raised in the Cincinnati-area. She serves on the Board of Director of Tiger Lily Press.



A CITY OF IMMIGRANTS

inkjet photos, wood; 10x22"

"Cincinnati's Over The Rhine was the destination for German immigrants in the mid-19th century, and for waves of immigrants from Appalachia in the 20th. My paternal great grandparents were German. My maternal grandparents were from Central Appalachia. Cincinnati is a city of immigrants, and the United States is a country of immigrants. Let people live their lives in peace."



(shown details)

PAUL "PABLO" WRIGHT

pablo.wright@gmail.com; anti-robot.org

Paul "Pablo" Wright is an artist who has been working in various mediums since he was a small child. From a purely artistic standpoint, he is a muralist working mostly in acrylics and spray paint. He enjoys creating abstract art using shades, tones and lots and lots of dots. There is also an overtly political side to Paul who creates books and linoleum block prints reflecting political angst using a Robot theme. Recently, Paul has been printing vinyl stickers reflecting political angst and admonishments to vote which he affixes about his Cincinnati neighborhood.



OBLIQUE STRATEGIES FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE CARD DECK(S)

playing card deck; 5x6x5" (display box), 0.25x3.5x2" (card deck)

"Two volumes of printed card decks containing brief messages designed to spark ideas for creating art with social import."

CHILDREN/YOUTH ART ACTIVITIES

SOS ART's Mission is to promote, encourage and provide venues for the arts as vehicles for Peace and Justice and for a Better World.

A major educational goal of SOS ART is to engage children/youth in the process by exposing them to issues of peace and justice, informing them, triggering their thinking and involving them in a dialogue about the issues. The purpose is to help introduce and internalize values of peace and justice in children/youth through the arts. The arts will serve as a starting point to discuss such issues and also as a way to actively engage children/youth through their own creative process in addressing them.

SOS ART is using the opportunity of this retrospective exhibit with all its included messages on peace and justice by 90 artists to engage children/youth to actively take a part in it and add their voice to it.

Following are 3 art-related activities that children/youth could engage in while visiting the exhibit in person or remotely from the comfort of their home. The product of their art activities will be shared in person and online and will help continuing the dialogue and reflection.

Thank you to all the children/youth who would participate!!!

Please bring your images, answers, statements to Kennedy Heights Arts Center (KHAC) or send them by e mail to: sosartcincinnati@gmail.com
For additional information please call KHAC at: 513-631-4278 or SOS ART at: 513-751-3777

A) First Children/Youth Art Activity

- 1) While visiting the exhibit or while going through the book documenting it, please spend time reviewing all the images and read their messages.
- 2) Select one image to which you respond and which message touches you particularly.
- 3) Do your own research on the issue addressed by the artist. Research the internet for information relating to it and develop your own understanding of it. If not familiar with how to proceed, ask for help from an adult (parent, teacher, family friend) or from a peer versed in the use of the internet.

4) After doing your own research, respond with a drawing of your own addressing either a specific or a more general aspect of the issue that interests you or has touched you in particular. Do your drawing using color pencil, crayons, etc. on an 8.5x11" sheet of paper (paper and packets of crayons are available to take away at KHAC during the exhibit).

5) Then write a short paragraph about your drawing, its meaning, how it relates to the issue of peace and justice you are addressing, its message, etc.

6) After you are finished with both your drawing and statement, please drop them off at KHAC or e mail them, the drawing as a jpg attachment, and the statement as a typed text, to: sosartcincinnati@gmail.com

7) If received on time (i.e. before February 15), you will be invited to participate in person or remotely at a meeting at KHAC to present and discuss your work. Your work will also be posted online on a SOS ART Retrospective Youth gallery on the SOS ART website: sosartcincinnati.com

Below is an example of such an activity completed by Sanat Ananth, 11 years old

1) Sanat was touched by the painting "**Spirit of the Buffalo**" by Scott Donaldson (see below and page 26) which deals with animals being hunted to near extinction.



2) Sanat researched the issue of extinction of animals using the Internet and developed a better understanding of it and of its many aspects.

3) Sanat did his own drawing/painting (size 8.5x11") in response to that issue focusing on the particular aspect of the replacement of animal habitats by urban and city developments.

4) Sanat wrote a statement about his drawing, its message and the issue it was representing.

5) Below is Sanat's image:



6) Here is Sanat's statement accompanying his drawing:

"I was inspired by Scott Donaldson's "Spirit of the Buffalo" painting because I liked the details in it. There were many small details such as the little trees on the hills, the lake, and the big, puffy clouds that seemed like they were rising from the ground, like at Yellowstone. I focused on the buffalo and used that as the theme of my painting. I made this painting of how the buffalo were hunted, but I also added a few of my own ideas. On one side, buffalo are being hunted in the Great Plains in the 1800s. On the other side, the buffalo's habitat has been replaced by a modern-day big city with busy roads and many cars. As the buffalos transition from one place in time to another, they turn into cars, and the plains turn into roads, buildings, and sidewalks. I really enjoyed making this painting!"
- Sanat Ananth, 11 years old

B) Second Children/Youth Art Activity

For this activity we have selected 10 images from the show and accompanied each of them with a small description of what the artwork meant and its intent.

We would like you to answer some questions, do some research, also create an artwork based on the instructions.

- 1) Select an image of the ones we have chosen.
- 2) Answer the questions and do the research we have asked you to do.
- 3) Create an artwork (a drawing or another type) following the instructions.
- 4) Drop off your answers, drawing (or other type of artwork) to KHAC or e mail them, answers typed as text, and the drawing (or other type of artwork) as a jpg attachment, to: sosartcincinnati@gmail.com
- 5) If received on time (i.e. before February 15), you will be invited to participate in person or remotely at a meeting at KHAC to present and discuss your work. Your work will also be posted online on a SOS ART Retrospective Youth gallery on the SOS ART website: sosartcincinnati.com

Below are the chosen images and their accompanying questions and proposed activities:



Devan Horton's work (**Offer**, page 44) looks at the way we degrade our environment, generating waste by consuming more than we need and clogging the landscape with trash.

- 1) Can waste be recycled and if yes which one, and what does recycling do?
- 2) What is the effect of the non-recyclable waste on the environment?
- 3) Can you think of and list five ways in which in your daily life you can reduce, reuse and recycle materials in order to prevent trashing the environment?
- 4) Collect some waste material from your daily life and use them for creating a piece of art.



Ivan Ivanov's **Ball of Shame 2** (page 46) is made of cutouts from newspapers and ads to present a view of our current society- violent and lacking in morals.

- 1) If you could change the world in a positive way, what would it be like?
- 2) Create a collage of this world using cutouts of images and words from magazines, newspapers and advertisements that convey what this better world would be like.



Mario Barbi's **Hunting the Whale** (page 10) talks about man's desire to dominate nature and the disastrous effect this can have on us.

- 1) Can you list 5 reasons why we should not try to destroy nature.
- 2) Can you list 5 ways in which you as a person can do your part to take care of nature.
- 3) Do a drawing or another type of artwork illustrating an example of how we as humans are destroying the world.



Ana England's work **Listen** (page 29) talks about how little we really listen to what others have to say. Listening to different opinions helps us grow and mature as people.

- 1) Are there examples in your life where you were told something important but did not listen. Give some of them.
- 2) What is the best piece of advice someone has shared with you and what did you learn from it?
- 3) Do a drawing or another type of artwork regarding the advice you were given.



Dorothy Gehres Fraembs uses the image of the **Statue of Liberty** (page 32) to ask what is the true character of this country.

- 1) What is the history of the Statue of Liberty?
- 2) What is the symbolism of the torch she is holding in her right hand? What is the symbolism of the 7 spikes on her head?
- 3) Which do you think are the core values of this country- Equality, Justice, Liberty, Freedom? Explain what each means.
- 4) Do a drawing or another type of artwork that represents any one of these core values.



William Howes' photographs (**Standing Proud** and **Down & Out & Forgotten**, page 45) document neighborhoods where familiar buildings are being torn down in the name of development.



- 1) Can you research and list at least 3 historical buildings in your city that were torn down.
- 2) What are the reasons for which beautiful and historical buildings are being torn down? What can be done to prevent this from happening?
- 3) Do a drawing or another type of artwork of a building from your neighborhood that was once a landmark but exists no more. Write why it was important and needed to be protected, also the memories you have of it.



Jake Brinkmann has created a work depicting the American aviation pioneer and author **Amelia Earhart** (page 15) who broke many barriers imposed on her by society.

- 1) Who is Amelia Earhart and why is she such an important symbol both for women and for daring and dream-pursuing individuals?
- 2) Jake Brinkman created his work not with paint, crayons or pencil but with duct tape! Create an artwork of a person who inspires you using different materials that you find in your home.
- 3) Write why this person inspires you.



Jim Conroy's paintings (**The Grey** and **Outside Eden**, page 22) feature people who are ignored by society and live their life as homeless people. All they want from us is a kind word, a little smile and some sharing of the resources that we have been bestowed with.



- 1) How many homeless people live in the United States?
- 2) Which city in the United States has the largest number of homeless individuals? How many are there in the city where you live?
- 3) What are some of the reasons people become homeless? What can be done to solve their problem?
- 4) Do a drawing or another type of artwork of (a) homeless individual(s) you have seen. Write how you think you can help make their life better.



Kevin Harris' work (**Agua de Beber, Water to Drink**, page 41) reflects on the water crisis of Flint, Michigan. Water is one of the most precious resources yet we unthinkingly waste it. How about closing the tap while we brush our teeth or making sure that we do not have any leaky taps at home?

- 1) Why is water so important for life? And what are the dangers that may affect it and affect life?
- 2) What are solutions that can be used to protect water? Also to insure it to every part of the world.
- 3) Is water lacking in the USA? Which parts of the country are drought prone?
- 4) Do a drawing or another type of artwork depicting ways in which you can save and conserve water.



Oliver Lackey's work (**Mississippi Tree**, page 54) depicts the horrors of racial violence and reflects his life experience as an African American individual.

- 1) Why were there slaves in America and how did they come here?
- 2) Reflect on racial equality in our country. Do your own research to find out if minorities benefit equally in our society (income, education, health, law protection, etc.).
- 3) Do a drawing or another type of artwork on the theme of racial equality.
- 4) Write how you can create a more harmonious and racially just world.

On the previous page (page 107) is a line drawing by Cincinnati Street Artist EMPIRE CITIZENS; its title is: "Blinded"

1) Color the drawing (you may cut the page out of the book if easier for you).

2) The drawing is about the effect smartphones and social media have on individuals, who become consumed and distracted by them, blinded to the reality that exists right in front of them.

How are smartphones and social media affecting your own life? Can you think of instances where you did not see the truth even when it was obvious in front of you.

Write a couple of paragraphs about the positive and negative influences smartphones and social media have on our modern life; also on the fact that sometimes we do not or even refuse to see the obvious truth, and why.