wva

WISCONSIN
VISUAL
ARTISTS

JULY 2023

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On the cover

Aaron Laux

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DIRECTOR'S LETTER

STRATEGIES FOR SUB

Hello artists,

In case you haven't heard, submissions for the 2024 Wisconsin Artists Biennial are now open! While you have until September to enter your artwork (or perhaps make the artwork to submit, amiright?) I recommend an early start to your scheming. So in lieu of a letter this month, I'm sharing a little list of strategies for applying to a juried exhibition.

Now pick up your instruments and get to work, you talented folks!

Sincerely,

Ally

MISSION

1. Preliminary research:

• Research the jurors: who are they? What medium do they work in, or what kind of artwork are they drawn to? Can you tell? Does any of your artwork complement these ideas?

• Research the host(s): what is the purpose of the juried exhibition? Why is the museum/gallery/organization putting it together? How can your work speak to that purpose?

2. Documenting your work for submission:

• Photograph your artwork before framing if possible, to avoid glass glare and/or unnecessary inclusion of a frame in the image.

• Make sure your images aren't blurry. Photograph in a well-lit space.

• Make sure your images meet the file size and title requirements listed in the prospectus.

• Avoid watermarks or unnecessary filters when editing and uploading images of your work.

3. Curate a selection of your artwork for submission:

• Imagine you are a juror clicking through hundreds of submissions on your computer screen - what makes you pause on an image? How do you feel clicking through the group of images you've chosen to submit? Is it your strongest work?

• Is your artist bio and statement up to date? What sets you and your work apart from other artists? Hone in on that.

• Don't be afraid to ask your artist peers for their opinion on your submission choices!

4. Submitting your entry:

• If you've submitted artwork for a juried exhibition, do remove it from any websites or galleries that may sell it first!

• Don't wait until the last minute to submit, in case there are technical issues
  - I recommend writing the deadline on your calendar, one week prior to the actual deadline.

• Double and triple check your application before hitting "submit"
  - Is everything spelled correctly? Did you follow the directions? Are the measurements accurate?

CHAPTER NEWS

Northeast Chapter

The Northeast Chapter wants to share this fun opportunity with you!

The 48th Juried Annual Exhibition at Miller Art Museum has gone live and we'd like everyone to apply. The submission period has begun and closes August 11 at 5pm. The link to the prospectus is on the Homepage of the Miller Art Museum website >> https://millerartmuseum.org/

Submitting artists will have to create an account on artcall.org, but the prospectus has the link to begin that process. Artists must be Wisconsin residents, 18 years-old or older and (2D) works in any media are accepted.

Each artist can submit up to (2) artworks for a single $30 fee.

This year's jurors are as follows:

Gina Ward, Senior Marketing Specialist at Fine Art Connoisseur and Plein Air Magazines

Greg Vadney, Executive Director at Rahr-West Museum

Robert David Jinkins, Artist and Lecturer at UW-Stout

State Board

The next state board meeting will be **Thursday, July 13th** at 7:30 via Zoom

The board is currently working on promoting Biennial artwork submissions, as well as fall programming and updates to the website.

CONNECT / EDUCATE / EMPOWER

WISCONSIN

Visual Artists

WISCONSIN ARTISTS 2024 BIENNIAL

FEBRUARY 3RD, 2024

The Wisconsin Artists Biennial is back and the Call For Art is now Open!

Cohosted by WVA and MOWA.

Enter your original artwork now until September 30th, 2023 via the online call for art entry form on our website.

Open to all currently residing Wisconsin residents ages 18 and up.

The exhibition will be on display and hosted at MOWA in West Bend, WI opening on February 3rd, 2024.

Visit the WVA website today to read the prospectus. Please read it before entering to ensure the dates and guidelines work for you.

Be sure you are following our social media pages as we will be sharing more

details about the Biennial Exhibition over the next few months.

[Wisconsin Artists Biennial 2024 - WVA (wisconsinvisualartists.org)]

Photo by Andrea Waala

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Aaron Laux

The Magic of Spring

Crane Dance

Do you have any formal art training?

I went to three years of art school at the UW Madison WI however I never graduated. Instead I accepted an apprenticeship with the artist Steven Spiro. He created organic sculptural furniture and I spent most of a decade working with and learning from him. I have carried his influence into my own artwork, definitely preferring to work with natural/organic shapes and themes. I also spent a number of years working as a carpenter and cabinet builder, which experience helped me to learn skills such as project management and working on a larger scale.

How long have you been making art?

I was pretty much sure I was going to be an artist since I was 5 years old. That has been a part of my identity for my whole life and my practice of always making things. The most recent incarnation of my artwork and my professional career started about 10 years ago.

What influences your work?

The simple answer is the natural world. I tend to be very curious about how humans are a part of this web of life. So when it feels like being connected to the other life that is everywhere around, that is like the sweet spot for me. This can also be a healing experience and healing is a practice that I think many in our modern world have forgotten how to do. I focus on tangible things like the visceral feel of weathered wood and the sun and wind that it suggests and many other textures that are mostly organic materials. Abstract design just feels right to me, and I like the open endedness of interpretation by the viewer. My inspiration is often very different from what other people see and that feels like a conversation which I love. To me that adds depth to the object that I wanted to make.

Parallel Pathways

Can you talk about the process of making your work?

My process is like an ebb and flow. There are times when I am on fire and the inspiration and ideas come rushing out. Then there are the cooler times when I feel like the creativity is pulled back within me. When I was a younger man I worried that I was witnessing the end of my ability to create. Now I understand that this is simply a necessary cycle that allows me to sustain my art. This being the spiritual aspect of my process. I often have something that I am thinking or reading about and that can lead me in a direction. Then other times I am out in the woods hiking, wild crafting and I will see something in the landscape that really calls to me and that leads me in a direction. Really I am allowing what is all around me to shape what I want to make. Many of my sculptures could be considered mosaics, made of many pieces carefully fit together. In a way that is also my approach to the process.

What do you hope viewers get out of your work?

I have suggested earlier that there is a healing component to my art, well all art really. That is that aspect of art that I find so compelling for myself and that I wish to transmit to the viewer. If someone looks at my work and they feel a little calmer and their heart rate slows down a tiny bit then that is a big deal to me. I think it is the little things that matter in life and if being around something of beauty can offer a small shift then that is success.

Any upcoming exhibitions, shows, or art happenings?

I have an exhibition scheduled for spring of 2025 at the overture center madison wi. I continue to make original art and take commissions both public and private. My work is available directly through me or through Artful Home online gallery. I keep my instagram and facebook pages upto date with the most recent works and you can go to my website aaronlauxdesign.com. Or my complete body of work is available at artwork archive. ■

artworkarchive.com/profile/aaron-d-laux

facebook.com/aaronlauxdesign/

instagram.com/aaronlauxdesign

www.artfulhome.com/artist/Aaron-Laux-Design/8672

Shifting Currents

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Jim Liedtke

Fond Memories of Cold Calls

Aleutian Bentwood Hat, Caribbean Scene Holiday

I was born and raised in a no longer vibrant steel town in Western Pennsylvania south of Pittsburgh. My path to the creative arts was circuitous at best having paused in the hard sciences for several decades, first in engineering and then in medicine. I never had formal art training per se. Still, I was fortunate to have met several master carvers while I was crafting my skills as a sculptor. Their instruction was invaluable as was their sensitivity to the beauties of the natural world and the cultural influences on art. They were all experts in indigenous art forms of the Pacific Northwest and Southeast Alaska. I came to appreciate the skill set of these artists through their teachings and by visits to several native villages in Alaska.

That was 20 plus years ago. My interests and motives have since evolved in some ways, and in some ways have remained the same, i.e., inspired by Nature and with a deep respect for all things Ancient. I find myself continuing to ask: how were these talented artisans so good and how did they capture such beauty? In tribute my compositions have on occasion tipped my hat to the cultures of Mesopotamia, Classical Egypt, and the European Middle Ages as well as to Nature and even Science. The inspiration from these sources continues. ■

Wild and Free

Tlingit Bear-Human Transition Mask

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Cyndie Rauls

How long have you been making art?

I began creating art full time in 2021. I had always been an artist, but didn't believe in myself enough to commit to the title of 'artist.' As a kindergartner I would run to the easels every free time. In high school, the art room was my solace. I was an art minor as an undergraduate and subsequently took positions that orbited the art world. And although art would find its way into every corner of my life, I couldn't see the obvious. When life and motherhood freed up, I found myself returning to that which I always loved… full time… and with unabashed acknowledgment.

What motivates you to make your work?

Two things motivate me the most: the first being opportunity. I grew up with limited resources. Fresh playdough, a new Crayola watercolor pallet in which my brothers hadn't yet triple dipped their brushes, a new box of 24 crayons at the beginning of the school year, these were a big deal. Mostly I would draw on recycled printer paper with the family tin of crayon pieces. 'Making do' fostered a strong sense of ingenuity in my approach to creativity. I see potential and opportunity in all things discarded. I currently sculpt using reclaimed wood scraps and found wooden objects.

Another motivation of mine lies in uncovering the connections between all things. I was lucky enough to be surrounded by nature as a kid and I honor my connection to nature with the scrutiny of a neuroscientist. Everything has a journey that leads back to nature. The wood box, created and assembled by a craftsperson, cut and planed by a sawyer, was hewn by a logger from a tree planted hundreds of years ago. This tree, perfected through millions of years of evolution, is an exquisite example of form and function. Welcome to my rabbit hole.

What influences your work?

I consider myself an outside artist motivated by a white-hot, inside drive. I didn't have any mentors to teach me an 'art language' so I've had to develop my own, unique language. As an artist traverses formal training, they pick-up dialects from various instructors. This helps them communicate their art in a way that people can understand. When you're self-taught, your art language isn't broadly understood…you're coming from left field. Some people will see this as exciting, others won't really understand what you're saying with your art. That's okay… you cannot expect everyone to speak your art language. Also, I am inspired by Wassily Kandinsky.

Can you talk about the process of making your work?

My last run of work circles the demise of the ash tree due to the emerald ash borer. My work begins with a piece of ash wood, beetle etchings exposed. From there I recreate the spirit of the ash with scraps of sister woods: mahogany, walnut, cherry, oak and hickory. I build the sculptures using dowel rods and glue as to not stray too far from the wood. My goal is to capture the unseen essence of the ash tree, physically representing the species as it slowly fades from our consciousness.

As my work has evolved, I have begun to incorporate found wooden antiquities into my pieces. These items are beautiful in their craftsmanship and functionality, but long since discontinued for more easily produced ware. To me, their functional extinction mirrors that of the ash tree.

What do you hope to accomplish with your work?

I hope to deeply engage the viewer… open little piece of their understanding that hasn't been opened before. I want for them to look more closely and connect more deeply with what is going on in the natural world. I want for them to see that there is always more to a story and it's always beautiful. I'd love for them feel connected to the work and the nature it represents.

What is currently most of interest to you as it relates to your art making?

I am a very intuitive artist - I think that comes from not having a 'taught' understanding of art language. There are no set patterns to follow so my work has to feel right. Each piece is an extension of me as an alternate universe form. There's also a complexity to my work as that's how I interpret and absorb the world around me.

Any upcoming exhibitions, shows, or art happenings?

Kindred Spirits, Art from the Driftless
5 Person Show
Rountree Gallery, Platteville, WI
October 5 - November 11, 2023

Found and Lost
Solo Show
The Center for Visual Art, Wausau, WI
Vault Gallery
January 5 - March 16, 2024

How are you involved with your Wisconsin art community?

Before joining WVA I opened my house and studio to the public several Saturdays in 2021. We are fairly new to the area and I wanted to connect with the Driftless community at large. I met some really wonderful community members and fellow artists by doing so. It also afforded me the confidence to begin entering local/regional calls for art. ■

www.wanderbrookglen.com
Instagram: wanderbrook_glen

Not With a Bang But a Whimper

WISCONSIN VISUAL ARTISTS: Member News

CAROLYN ROSENBERGER

The New Visions Galley at the Marshfield Clinic is presenting its 37th annual Culture & Agriculture exhibit from May 15th through July 28th. Among the 120 artists representing four states is Carolyn Rosenberger, who has had two of her paintings juried into the exhibition. "At the East Fence" and "Rural Afternoon" are both watercolor and rice paper painting creations.

New Visions Gallery
1000 North Oak Ave.
Marshfield WI 54449

CAROLE GLASS

"Shades of Crimson" includes diverse work in digital, up cycling, pastels and pigments on canvas.Artists include: Carole Glass, Judi Golombowski, Jeanne Cole Panka, Leah Robertson and Robert Zondag.

Images depict ways in which our lives are impacted by climate, technology and social changes. Most are available for purchase.

The show runs Wed. July 5 -28. The artists reception is July 13, 12-2 pm

For gallery hours and more info pls see the UW-W website.

Roberta Gallery
UW-Whitewater campus. University Center Bldg.
190 Hamilton Green Way
Whitewater, WI 53190

JEAN JUDD

The LagunaArt.com Gallery has selected textile artist Jean M. Judd of Cushing, Wisconsin for inclusion in AIR 2023 exhibit at the LagunaArt.com Gallery in the Shops at Mission Viejo in Mission Viejo, California. Artwork selected for inclusion in the exhibit includes Scribble #2: Black Pathways.

Curated by Yeslin Santos, the exhibition opens on June 1, 2023 and is open through June 30, 2023. The artist reception is June 3, 2023 from 3-6pm with live music. The address of the LagunaArt.com Gallery is:
LagunaArt.com Gallery
555 the Shops at Mission Viejo, Suite 928A
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center (BBAC) has announced textile artist Jean M. Judd of Cushing, Wisconsin for inclusion in 42nd Annual Michigan Fine Arts Competition at the BBAC in Birmingham, Michigan. Artwork selected for inclusion in the exhibit includes Prairie Leaf #1.

The competition was juried by Cris Worley, owner of the premiere contemporary art gallery, Cris Worley Fine Arts in Dallas, Texas. The exhibition opens on June 16, 2023 and is open through August 17, 2023. The artist reception is June 16, 2023 from 5-7pm. The address of the BBAC is:
Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center
1516 South Cranbrook Road
Birmingham, MI 48009

The Texarkana Regional Arts and Humanities Council has selected textile artist Jean M. Judd of Cushing, Wisconsin for inclusion in the 35th Annual Juried Art Exhibition being held at the Regional Arts Center in Texarkana, Texas. Artwork selected for inclusion in the exhibit includes Aged Psychedelic #8.

This exhibit features artworks by professional artists across the US working in diverse mediums including photography, printmaking, sculpture, aqua media, oils, fiber arts, collage, intermedia, drawing, video and digital. The submission pool of almost four hundred artworks was juried by Iris Bechtol, Curator and Gallery Coordinator from the Oak Cliff Cultural Center, Dallas, Texas.

The exhibition opens on July 7, 2023 and is open through September 2, 2023. The reception and awards ceremony at the art center is July 7, 2023, 6:30 to 8pm. Over $5,000 in awards will be announced at the reception. The address of the Art Center is:
Texarkana Regional Arts Center
321 West 4th Street
Texarkana, Texas 75501

ART OPPORTUNITIES

Museum of Wisconsin Art

MOWA is hiring for a Grant Writer

Job Posting

Call for Art: 4Ground Land Art Biennial

Franconia Sculpture Park is pleased to present the second iteration of 4Ground: Midwest Land Art Biennial in Summer 2024. This site-specific festival will raise awareness around important land and water issues while celebrating the art and land of the rural Midwest.

https://www.rochesterartcenter.org for info.

Support us at **https://www.wisconsinvisualartists.org/**.

The exhibition is open to artists at all career levels and invites a range of media and artistic practices from traditional to abstract.

Artists over the age of 18 who live or work in Wisconsin are eligible to apply.

Artists may enter up to two original works for a $30 non-refundable entry fee.

Submissions are being accepted online through Friday, August 11 at 5pm at ArtCall.org.

Submission information, including the prospectus and link to the online submission portal, is available on the Museum's website at millerartmuseum.org.

PPWI is looking to purchase empowering art from Wisconsin artists for their health centers across the state. The first location to receive art through the @forwardartinitiative is the Water Street Health Center located in Milwaukee's Harbor District. Artists 18 or older who live in Wisconsin are encouraged to apply. Applications are being accepted from June 28th - August 15th.

http://forwardartinitiative.com.

Business of Art Symposium
Coming to Green Bay, Wisconsin

submitted by Frank Juárez, Artdose Magazine

Artdose

Artdose Magazine x NWTC Artisan and Business Center have partnered to offer a one-day symposium focused on the business of art. The symposium will provide the opportunity for attendees to hear how Wisconsin creative entrepreneurs navigate the world of art, the importance of networking, and share effective strategies to advance their art careers. This inaugural event invites four speakers whose foci ranges from branding to writing an effective proposal, how to make a living making public art to thinking like an entrepreneur. Speakers are Craig Bower, Erin LaBonte, Rob Neilson, and Lauren Marie Nitka.

The business of art symposium will take place at the NWTC Artisan and Business Center located at 1417 Cedar Street in Green Bay, WI 54302 on October 14, from 9:30am – 3:30pm.

Registration opens June 30, 2023 at nwtc.edu/businessofart.

About Artdose Magazine

Founded in 2013, Artdose Magazine LLC is an independent print and digital art magazine committed to connecting and supporting the visual arts in the Midwest. Published by Frank Juárez, the magazine is premised on the belief that we all share common goals of introducing, engaging, educating, and offering diverse art experiences.

About NWTC Artisan and Business Center

The Artisan and Business Center promotes the production of art in the NWTC district as a means of fostering the creation of new job opportunities through the entrepreneurial model. NWTC seeks to provide technical and business training for aspiring and practicing artisans. The College promotes the appreciation and awareness of art through collaborative partnerships, year-round credit, and non-credit classes, as well as open studio and studio rentals.

For more information, contact Frank Juárez at artdosemagazine@gmail.com or Carrie Dorski at Carrie.Dorski@nwtc.edu.

learn.
network.
advance.

You're invited to a one-day symposium focused on the business of art. Attendees will learn how Wisconsin creative entrepreneurs navigate the world of art, the importance of networking, and the opportunity to share effective strategies to advance their art careers. **Join us.**

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Craig A. Bower | Erin LaBonte | Rob Neilson | Lauren Marie Nitka | Lisa Wicka

October 14, 2023
9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

NTWC Artisan and Business Center
1417 Cedar St Green Bay WI

$100
$125 including optional professional portfolio review

Details, registration & more at
nwtc.edu/businessofart

Registration Opens June 30th

business of [art] symposium

The 2023 Business of Art Symposium is offered in partnership with Artdose Magazine and the NWTC Artisan & Business Center.

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