



ArtSpace Goes Green

The Duck Stamp Show: 09/12-10/25

“Each year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sponsors the only Federally mandated art competition. Wildlife artists, both professional and amateur, all across the United States vie for the coveted title of Federal Duck Stamp Artist. The wildlife artist who wins this competition knows that his or her career and fortunes will take wing!”

The Federal Duck Stamp Story, July, 2002.

Junior Duck Stamp Contest since second grade and has placed high in her age group every year. In 2007, she placed third with her an acrylic painting of a Fulvous Whistling Duck in

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The Votes are In:

The Rally: “Best Place for Live Music”

For the third consecutive year, the voters in *The Lima News Best of the Region* poll have named ArtSpace’s Rally in the Square the “Best Place for Live Music.”

And is it any wonder? Now in its 19th year, the Rally (or should we say Rallies, since there are fifteen every summer?) continues to provide variety in musical style, value for money, and just downright good fellowship for the area’s live-music connoisseurs.

The numbers are impressive: every week, some 800-1000 people gather for three hours in the northwest quadrant of Town Square to enjoy the best that an Ohio summer has to give.

Nineteen years after their humble beginnings, the rallies are now a community tradition -- with their diverse mix of musics (rock and roll, of course, but also rhythm and blues, jazz, soul, and Motown), the rallies attract large, congenial crowds week after week. In some ways, they’re the best-kept secret in Allen County. Hats off to all who make them happen, and hats off, too, and multiple thanks, to the many area businesses and organizations who act as sponsors, knowing that the rallies are a phenomenon well worth investing in.

Here’s to the next nineteen years!



Daniel Brevick, *Blue-winged Teal*
2006 Ohio Ducks Unlimited Sponsor Print

For the Brevick family, Duck Stamp competitions are virtually a way of life. Brothers Daniel and Phil Brevick have been active in the event for over a decade, and siblings Paige and Sarah Brevick (Dan’s children) have been doing duck and waterfowl painting since very early childhood.

Daniel Brevick is a first-prize winner in two recent state competitions (Nevada, 2004 and Oklahoma, 2002) and his “Blue-winged Teal” (see above) was selected as the Ohio Ducks Unlimited *Sponsor Print* in 2006. Daniel is the Creative Director at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota where he manages a team of art directors, designers, and illustrators. Daniel graduated from the Columbus College of Art and Design in 1984.

Phil Brevick is also a prolific duck-stamp painter. As are Paige and Sarah Brevick. Paige Brevick, 17, is a high school junior from Chatfield, Minnesota. She has been entering the



In the Ellen Nelson Gallery

Andrei Rabodzeenko, Works 1993-2008: June 7-July 19



Rabodzeenko plays his Large Tin Lute at the Opening Reception

Russian-born, Chicago-based artist, Andrei Rabodzeenko dazzled attendees in the Ellen Nelson Gallery during June and July with a retrospective of his works from the last fifteen years. Gallery-goers registered their admiration and excitement in the gallery guest book: “Wow,” said one; “fabulous,” said another; while still others commented that it was “exquisite work” and “an excellent exhibit.”

Rabodzeenko’s early work drew on surrealist and even dada inspirations, while his latest paintings fused some of those qualities with a late medieval base, complete with gilt backgrounds, which often suggested book illuminations of the late 12th century. Throughout, his sense of whimsical juxtaposition was in strong evidence. In addition to paintings and drawings, the exhibit featured a number of large wood sculptures and what Rabodzeenko calls “objicles,” small wooden objects with the look of utilitarian purpose, but with no ascertainable function.

If you missed the exhibit, there are photographs and videos of the opening reception at www.artspacelima.com and a large collection of the works at Rabodzeenko’s own website, www.rabodzeenko.com.



Principa, oil on canvas

“From St. Petersburg, with Love”: July 26-September 6



Ransom, *Triformation XXXV*

In an unusual symbiosis of purpose, two artists from St. Petersburg, Florida, joined to present a collection of photographs and a complementary collection of ceramics during late summer. Brian Ransom creates large, complex, *sounding* ceramic pieces of stunning originality. Dick Minck (also of Bluffton and Lima) takes photographs that are colorful, imaginative, and widely varied, recording the range and depth of his visual experience.

Brian Ransom, an associate professor of visual art at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, is a sculptor, potter, composer and musician. He has had exhibits in numerous museums and is in private collections across the country. Additionally, Ransom has been awarded numerous national grants and fellowships. His extensive research on the indigenous pre-Columbian musical instruments of Peru influences his work. “Perhaps the most important revelation I came to,” he says, “was an empathy for the ancient Peruvian idea of animism which adheres to the belief that life force, in the forms of spirits, can be found in all things, animate and inanimate.”



Minck, *Thistles*

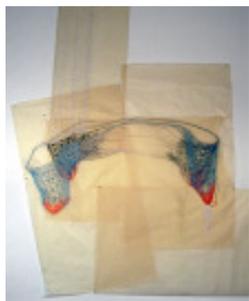
Bluffton native Dick Minck’s images are fresh and observant. With subjects as disparate as thistles against a threatening sky and a portrait of Ruth’ Restaurant on Wayne Street in Lima, they evince a keen eye and a catholic vision. Noted as a maker of exquisite jewelry and for the whimsy of his painted tuxedo shirts, Minck is also a prize-winning photographer. He has won a number of firsts in The Lima News Photography Contest and been published in the St. Petersburg Times and Tampa Bay Magazine.

Ballweg, Thum, Martincic

“Interior Landscapes”: November 1-December 20

Of the works of these three graphic artists, Janet Ballweg writes: “I wanted to choose artists whose work complements, but is different from, my own. While our work is visually quite different, there are common threads and concerns that link us – namely, that each artist looks to the interior, the internal landscape in each of us, to illuminate that which is not visible to the eye.

“Kathleen Thum works with the systems of our bodies (cells, veins, skin, nerves), observing the various structures that exist and intertwine. Kristen Martincic looks inwardly at our emotional understanding of the physical body, particularly its fragility/vulnerability and awkwardness. My own work delves into the psychological/emotional space of intimate relationships.”



Kathleen Thum
lining

Ballweg, the curator of the exhibit, is Professor of Art at Bowling Green State University. Kathleen Thum and Kristin Martincic are two of her former students. Thum is currently Visiting Assistant Professor at Skidmore College; Martincic has recently begun a teaching assignment at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

Thum writes of her work: “I think of my drawings as internal landscapes of our bodies; cells, veins, skin, nerves. These landscapes are systems that our lives depend upon. They circulate blood, compress or expand to breathe, filter or cover to protect and carry signals or messages. They are all inter-related and inter-dependent. I use these systems to construct various structures in my drawings. Like our internal systems, the

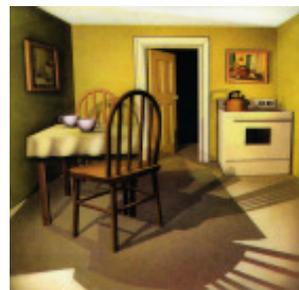
structures are linear, flowing, clustered, dense, and intertwined.”

“The issues of vulnerability and awkwardness,” says Kristen Martincic, “are at the core of my work. When creating two-dimensional imagery, I choose processes and materials that emphasize these concerns. I use various printmaking techniques; most often using etching and relief processes. By contrasting the fragility of thin Japanese papers with the physicality and dense ink saturation of etching, I am able to reinforce the emotional tone in my work.”

These are ground-breaking artists. Please join us for “Interior Landscapes”, with an opening reception on Saturday, November 1, from 6:30-8:30.



Kristen Martincic
nude: pinch



Janet Ballweg
10000 voices

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The Duck Stamp Show: September 12-October 25

the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Competition. Sarah Brevick took First Place in the 2008 Minnesota Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design contest.

On September 12, ArtSpace/Lima is pleased to welcome the Brevicks in an exhibit of original oil paintings, drawings, and posters, all connected with the various Duck Stamp competitions.

Federal Duck Stamps, still a mandatory purchase for hunters (individual states also have their own stamp programs), are now a major crossover phenomenon, drawing the interest of conservationists (almost all of the money raised is used for wetlands preservation), philatelists, and, of most relevance to us, artists and art collectors. The stamps and their

competitions are “art in the service of conservation.”

In 1934, Franklin Roosevelt appointed Jay Norwood “Ding” Darling as Director of the U.S. Biological Survey, the forerunner of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. During his tenure, cartoonist and conservationist Darling initiated the federal Duck Stamp program and designed the first-ever Duck Stamp, a federal license “required for hunting migratory waterfowl.”

In the years that followed, other artists were invited to create Duck Stamp paintings, until in 1949, The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service inaugurated a now 75-year-old tradition by instituting a competition for Duck Stamp design.

It is no stretch to invoke the hallowed name of Audubon in reference to current Duck Stamp projects. These meticulously realistic paintings and drawings of ducks, geese, and all other waterfowl are rightly valued for their representational accuracy and lovingly reproduced detail.

The Duck Stamp Show will open at ArtSpace/Lima with a reception for the artists and their friends on Friday, September 12 from 6:30-8:30. As always, ArtSpace/Lima is free and open to the public, who are invited to attend the opening reception.

For more information on the federal Duck Stamp competition, go to <http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/>.

Meet the Trustees (An Occasional Series)

Mike Baker: The Man Behind (and in front of) Rally in the Square

By day, a mild-mannered Account Manager and Salesman for Innovative Packaging. But every Friday night, he becomes One Hip Dude, Rallyman, the organizer and host of the longest-running outdoor rock-n-roll, rhythm-and-blues, jazz-and-soul concert series in the state of Ohio.

Mike Baker joined the ArtSpace Board of Trustees in the late 1980's, just as the Rally in the Alley (that's what it was called then, when there was still an alley between the Standard Oil building and the Sigma Theatre) was getting under weigh. Ellen Nelson brought him on board and neither ArtSpace nor the rallies have been the same since.

Born and raised in Lima, schooled at Shawnee, North Texas State, Kent State, and Ohio Northern University, Mike spent many of his adult years as an automobile salesman, then as a packaging salesman. But it was as Rallyman that he found his true métier.

In 1998, he formed BakeBean¹ Productions. As its President, CEO, head honcho and chief factotum, Mike provides the entertainment for such area events as the Northwest Ohio Rib Cook Off, the Auglaize County Fair, and numerous private, corporate, country club, wedding, festival, and fund-raising events, as well as, of course, for the rallies. BakeBean books the talent and arranges all technical and production details, and Mike can often be seen as emcee, introducing the bands and thanking the sponsors. Then, there's the Lightning Bug Theatre, outdoor movies on billboard-size inflatable screens, serving a four-state area.

In the early days, the rallies had successes and faced challenges: Mike remembers "the euphoria of watching them 'take off', the fun the crowd was having," but also "the dinky plywood stage we used, the times it rained and we had no roof over the band (ugly)."

Ellen Nelson, Executive Director of ArtSpace, 1987-1998, worked with Mike in those early days, and has this to say: "Mike's irrepressible dedication to fun, exciting and varied music at the rallies kept people coming back week after week."

As they matured, the rallies met the challenges, and then some. Nowadays, It's not unusual for band members to tell Mike that the Rally is a unique experience, that the combination of the large crowds, the outdoor (public, no less) space, and the receptive ambience make for a one-of-a-kind gig. And Mike knows it, too. "At the end of an evening," he told

¹ I asked Mike what happened to the "d" in "BakeBean" and was told: "It didn't show up for work one day, so I fired it." Vintage Baker. But there's another neologistic explanation: "Mike BAKER, who lives in the Lima BEAN town." Equally vintage



Mike Baker

The Lima News, "if the crowd is having fun and they're dancing and people are all in a happy mood, there's a spot where the band knows its all going good and everyone is having a good time. When you're there, you know it worked and you see it in people's faces."

And there's this: the fact that the rallies regularly feature not only rock-n-roll, but also rhythm-and-blues, jazz, soul, and Motown speaks to Baker's own tastes ("I enjoy some of these bands just as much as the crowd does"), and also to his commitment to bring music to "all" of the Lima community.

Ellen Nelson: "Mike's continuing contribution to ArtSpace and the Lima community is without parallel." "The Rally's got its own special thing going on," Baker says. "After all this time, I definitely have a soft spot for the Rally."

And ArtSpace has a soft spot for Mike Baker, our unique impresario trustee.



Christmas Already?

Loathe as we are to join the rush to move Christmas to an all-year festival, we thought it might be helpful to give you a heads-up on ArtSpace's plans for celebration.

First off, on November 14, ArtSpace hosts its first annual Tabletop Settings luncheon and dinner events. Area designers will decorate dining tables with holiday themes.

Then, in a very special collaboration, ArtSpace teams up with Marimor/MRDD student-artists to produce and market sets of holiday cards featuring the artwork of Marimor students. For the last six months, these students and their teachers Vickie Knapp and Deb Hume have been hard at work in their studio on the ArtSpace 2nd floor, producing work of striking originality and depth of content. The holiday cards are one outcome of their work. Look for them in our gift shop and at area retailers.



The Education Program at ArtSpace/Lima

Exciting things are on the horizon for the Education Program at ArtSpace/Lima. New classes, new instructors, and new incentives are all creating quite a buzz as we enter the autumn season.

For starters, ArtSpace will introduce a new “Side by Side” course for children ages 2-5 to attend with a guardian. Young ones will be introduced to the world of art through textures, colors and shapes. ArtSpace will also launch an after-school children’s class on Wednesdays in October. This class will begin with ceramics and in November will become a holiday course where children can begin working on handmade gifts for family and friends. In addition to these newbie courses, we will also offer “Explore Art” and “Origami” in our traditional Saturday children’s classes.

For adults, a “Getting to Know Your Camera” course will be offered for those of you that own a digital camera but have no idea how to turn it on, let alone download pictures. Adults will also have the opportunity to take classes in Portraiture, Ceramics and Knitting. Class dates, times and details for our Fall and Winter course are available on our website: www.artspacelima.com. If you would like to be added to our educational mailing list, please let us know. And, as always,

if you are interested in a class that you haven’t seen offered in a while, or have an idea for something new, call us! We will do our best to accommodate requests.

And now for those incentives....

Sign up for Fall Classes by September 15th and receive 10% off registration.

Sign up with a friend and receive 10% off both classes.



Vanessa Danschroder
Education Coordinator

Coming in November

David Adams Hosts “The Artist in the Film” Series

In November, ArtSpace/Lima welcomes local movie critic David Adams who will host a series of Sunday afternoon screenings in which the artist is the focus of the film.

On November 2, David will present Derek Jarman’s *Caravaggio* (1986), which has been called “a film in which every frame is rendered in reference to the artist’s work, composed with rich, shadowy colors that bring to mind the contrast between fresh and rotting fruit, and an unrivalled interplay between sound and production”

On November 9, the film will be *The Horse’s Mouth* (1958), in which Alec Guinness famously portrays a “fictional” painter, Gully Jimson, “a passionate, sometimes surly . . . [and] brilliant painter.” This is one of the films that launched Guinness’s career.

Then, on November 16, the painter is Jackson Pollock, the actor portraying him and the director is Ed Harris, and the film is *Pollock* (2000), an intense examination of the relationship between two gifted artists and the invention of a new art form. Harris was nominated for an Oscar for his portrayal of the abstract expressionist Pollock, and Marcia Gay Harden won the supporting actress Oscar for her impersonation of Pollock’s longtime friend, Lee Krasner. Harden also won the *New York Film Critics’* award and Harris the *Toronto Film Critics’* Best Actor award for their work.

Each film will screen at 3:00 p.m. David will provide introductory comments for each and will host a Q&A session after the movie. Refreshments will be served.

Professional Development

Mary Ann Sullivan Presents Three Lectures on *The Portrait*

ArtSpace/Lima continues its tradition of offering area art teachers the opportunity to earn CEU credits for attendance at a series of three lectures by Mary Ann Sullivan, Professor Emerita, Bluffton University. The three lectures, on consecutive Wednesday evenings, will focus on “The Development of the Painted Portrait in Western Art” (October 8), “The Self-portrait and Portraits of Children” (October 15), and “The Depiction of Children in Visual Art” (October 22). The lectures are also open to the public.

Following Lecture #3, Mary Ann will lead a group to the Dayton Art Institute on Sunday, October 26, for a docent-guided tour of its exhibit, *Children in American Art*, which includes 46 paintings on loan from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and featuring depictions of children by some of the greatest names in American painting of the 18th and 19th centuries: John Singleton Copley, Gilbert Stuart, James Abbott McNeill Whistler, Winslow Homer, Mary Stevenson Cassatt, and John Singer Sargent.

Price for the lectures is \$15.00 each, all three for \$40.00 Art educators are admitted free of charge.



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September 2008--6

Last Words from the Operations Manager

The State of (the) ArtSpace 2007-2008

[On August 21, I reported to the annual membership meeting on the state of the organization. What follows is that report.]



Welcome, everybody, and thanks for coming. I'd like to start tonight by borrowing and slightly altering a line which always gets a huge round of applause when the president opens his speech to the houses of Congress: "Ladies and Gentlemen, the state of our ArtSpace is strong."

We had a very good year. In the Ellen Nelson Gallery, we mounted seven major exhibitions, beginning with the extraordinary and whimsical Harry Melroy, then realist figure painter Adam Grant, and ending with the very well-received Andrei Rabodzeenko retrospective and the currently running "From St. Petersburg, with Love," featuring the photographs of Dick Minck and the innovative, sounding (!) ceramics of Brian Ransom. Between those shows as bookends, we offered the Photography Club's Annual Juried Exhibit (always of high quality and well-attended), the Kewpee High School Invitational, and our signature event, Spring Show. At the same time, we had another seven shows in ArtZone and our four quarterly exhibitions in the St. Rita's Mezzanine Gallery. All in all, a full and, if I may say so, a fine schedule.

Of course, we offered our usual rounds of classes for adults and children, taught by a trained and award-winning faculty, including Phil Hugo, Derek Morman, Ruth Ann Sturgill, Anna Fisher, Ken Ogle, Joey Stevenson, and Liz Leis. At a different level of education, we hosted two series of Professional Development Soup and Salad Lectures, designed for art educators, but open to the general public as well. ArtSpace/Lima is the only venue in the area which offers art educators programming leading to CEU (Continuing Education) credit. The state mandates that they earn such credit and we are a unique source.

And there were (now coming to an end) fifteen Friday nights of entertainment in Town Square, as the rallies completed their nineteenth year. Many thanks to a generous quartet who make the rallies happen: Mike Baker (see p. 4 for a full profile on this endlessly inventive impresario); Kay Van Meter, who this year took on the job of Rally Manager and makes them the seamless events that they are; Bev Miller, who in year after year of dedicated service, has sold tokens to the thirsty crowds, with Mark Miller at her side — one of our longest-running and most loyal volunteers. Thanks to all four!

Of course, it doesn't end there. For the coming year, as noted elsewhere in this Newsletter, there's a whole new schedule of exhibits, classes and events, and everything that makes ArtSpace what it is: a premiere focus for the arts in Northwest Central Ohio. We hope you'll join us as often as you can for what promises to be an exciting year.