

complex in September with the first local comprehensive exhibition of works by Cleveland Heights illustrator Cathie Bleck, whose work regularly appears in the *New Yorker* and other national publications.

We continued our strong history of presenting live music:

- A new series of chamber music concerts held in private homes in Cleveland Heights featured in the *Plain Dealer* and throughout the local media
- We expanded this great idea beyond classical music, hosting a wildly successful convergence of rock, poetry, and a hip-hop. The excitement continued even after the library lights automatically went off at 9:30!

All the while, we continued involvement in arts-in-education efforts, including:

- Arranging residencies and after school programs for Inlet Dance Theatre
- Acting as the community liaison to Heights High's new Mosaic Experience small school
- Offering classes at the library facility

To top it all off, our role in the Coventry Art Benches earned Heights Arts an **honorable mention at the annual Northern Ohio LIVE Awards of Achievement.**

The community has been overwhelmingly receptive to our simple idea that a place that is as full of artists, arts professionals, and art fans as Cleveland Heights ought to build on its unique character as "home to the arts."

As always, we could not have brought so much great art to the Heights without the contributions of our supporters—people like you. You understand the vital role the arts plays in ensuring a bright future for our community. Please join the ranks of Heights Arts supporters with a donation to our Annual Fund today. You may mail your contribution or donate online.

Your gift to Heights Arts is 100% tax-deductible and 100% appreciated.

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Heights Arts, 2163 Lee Rd Ste 104, Cleveland Heights OH 44118

Z9

Nine Artists from Zygote Press

April 21—June 2, 2007

**Christi Birchfield
Jen Craun
Anne Kibbe
Claudio Orso Giacone
Wendy Partridge
Glenn Ratusnik
Lisa Schonberg
Denise Stewart
Susan Vincent**

HEIGHTSARTS

2173 Lee Rd Cleveland Heights OH 44118 • www.heightsarts.org • 216-371-3457

Zygote Press, Inc.

Northeast Ohio's only non-profit cooperative fine-arts printmaking facility.
1410 East 30th, Cleveland
216.621.2900
www.zygotepress.com

Meet the Artists

Saturday, April 28 at 2 p.m.
Heights Arts Gallery, 2173 Lee Road

Printmaking talk & print pull at Zygote
Saturday, May 5 at 3 p.m.
Space is limited at Zygote—please call 216.371.3457 to reserve

Christi Birchfield

Christi Birchfield graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 2006 with a BFA in printmaking. She has exhibited at the Cleveland Museum of Art's NEO Show, SPACES, Reinberger Gallery, and Heights Arts. Her work is in the permanent print and drawing collections of The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Cleveland Artist Association, Rutgers University, and Kent State University. Christi looks forward to starting graduate school this upcoming fall.

I borrow man-made elements from the physical world to recreate an imagined space of my own to function as metaphor for life. The viewer is exposed to multiple views of the same space on macro and micro levels, which refer to the personal and universal. Influenced by recollection of past and experience of present, I understand that life is a pattern of moments that equate the human experience. Repeated symbols, representing both individual moments and spans of time, suggest that life as a whole is cyclical. As moments of time pass, I look to the minute, the day, the week, the year and understand that the totality is the human experience.

Jen Craun

Jen Craun received her Bachelor's degree in Art Education from Kent State University in 2000. She spent a semester in Italy, and traveled to the major European cities with the KSU and Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative. She then became a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the KSU Printmaking Department, completing her MFA in 2003. In 2004, she was awarded an Ohio Arts Council artist residency in Dresden, Germany. She is currently the Associate Director of Zygote Press. She enjoys teaching as an artist resident for ArtHouse, a nonprofit program that connects artists to Cleveland Public schools, and assisted in pioneering their printmaking program. She works primarily in etching and wood intaglio, collage and letterpress.

HEIGHTS ARTS

Heights Arts Studio

building community through the arts
2340 Lee Rd (west side of the walkway)
Cleveland Heights OH 44118
216.371.3344
heightsarts@heightsarts.org

The Heights Arts Studio at the library is a place to create this summer, with classes, workshops, and displays based on the theme *People, Place, and Thing*.

Throughout **June**, Ohio Arts Council visiting artist Migiwa Orimo from Yellow Springs, Ohio, offers free interactive workshops, open to people of all ages and abilities, to explore *Community as an Art Form*, culminating in a multidisciplinary installation.

In **July**, explore urban landscapes through the paintings of David Buttram and photographs by David Bergholz in a show opening Friday, July 20, 6–9 p.m., then participate in workshops to create your own art inspired by places that have meaning for you.

Midsummer will bring an installation of *Our Town — The Picture Project*, a collaboration with FutureHeights (www.futureheights.org). Workshop participants will be asked to explore the concept of neighborhood, and contribute images to an evolving display in the studio.

For information on Heights Arts Studio classes and workshops throughout the summer, please call 216.371.3344 or check www.heightsarts.org, where you can subscribe to our popular email newsletter.

It has been a great year for Heights Arts. Our mission calls us to enrich the quality of life in the Heights by cultivating a strong, diverse, and collaborative arts community. Ambitious as this goal may be, we continue to be remarkably successful in achieving it.

The Heights Arts Gallery and new library space hosted packed opening nights and received critical acclaim for a number of exhibitions:

- Heights photographic icon Herbert Ascherman Jr.'s *Modern Vision, Classical Methods*
- *After Katrina* organized by the Cleveland Museum of Art's curator of photography Tom Hinson
- The collection of local Latino artists: *NEO Latino*—featured on the Spanish-language Univision television network and on WVIZ's *Applause*

We also opened the renovated Heights Library/former YMCA

Denise Stewart

Denise Stewart is a recent graduate from the Cleveland Institute of Art's Print Department. She has taught classes at the Orange Art Center and in CIA's Continuing Education Department. Her work has been exhibited at the Solon Library, Orange Art Center, Cleveland Institute of Art and the Edge Art Gallery.

Layering, integral to the process of printmaking, depicts a passage of time and the accumulation of memory. The use of rust and recycled tea bags involves renovating and renewing materials that have been discarded. My work speaks of loss, resurrection and the importance of remembering.

Susan Vincent

Susan Vincent graduated from Kent State University in December 2005 with a BFA in printmaking. In 2004 she began volunteering at Zygote Press, headed the artist-in-residence program last year, and is currently volunteering as their Gallery Director. She works full-time at SPACES as the Visitor and Communications Associate and SPACELab co-ordinator. Her responsibilities include managing membership, the annual fund-drive, and processing applications. Susan is also a multi-media artist, focusing currently in print media, but with a past of interactive projects involving interviews and photography.

Most students experience a period of time after graduation when they feel lost and lack motivation (or so I've been told). My "transition period" after graduation lasted longer than most; I spent a solid year feeling lethargic and without purpose. All of these pieces were made during that transitory time and reflect the feeling of limbo that was continuous through the year.

I was moving out of my apartment at the same time that Zygote moved to E 30th and I was surrounded by boxes. These physical objects act as evidence of movement and change while they are waiting to be packed, when they are packed, and immediately after being unpacked. After that, they're thrown away and they disappear from thought until you move again. The images of Zygote Press, "June 06 #1 and #2" were made as quick sketches as I attempted to freeze the change before it happened.

Once the shop (and I) were situated I still felt as stuck as I had before moving. So I started making drawings about not taking steps to improve my situation, such as "Eating my fill". In this drawing I am poking fun at myself—sitting on the couch and perpetuating a cycle of sloth. Which led to "Juggling", where the circular system is frozen in time, forever repeating and going nowhere. The last piece in the show is Untitled, a collage that I made around the same time as "Juggling" and continues with the ideas of entrapment and loss of direction.

My work records various, yet specific places of personal history that contemplate the overlap of individual and collective experience. I combine etching, wood intaglio + relief, and paper lithography to create these prints. I further layer the works by incorporating various drawing techniques and mixed media. My smaller works serve as vignettes, or chapters of a larger story, that navigate through the shifting roles of my daily experience. These unbound pages serve as departure points for deeper investigation into their specific concerns. In the larger works, I am beginning to draw parallels between place and travel, notions of home, and the longing to return to seasons and moments, as well as physical locations. In these prints, I attempt to indicate my current thought process about the desire to understand the pulling of home and place, and the longing to revisit familiar places of previous or memory. The works examine the desire and dedication to journey home that is innate to the homing pigeon, and explores and parallels my concerns of travel and place. They articulate the landscape that is created by collaboration of past and present place, and the threads of personal attachments that connects them.

Anne Kibbe

Anne Kibbe, born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, came to Cleveland to attend Case Western Reserve University where she attained a BA in art history and sociology. She received her BFA from the Cleveland Institute of Art in printmaking. She does contract printing at her studio at Zygote where she is Volunteer Coordinator.

Her work is in the collections of Western Reserve Academy, Hudson, Ohio and Mr. Timothy Tress and Mrs. Kristin Bihary of Shaker Heights. Her work has been exhibited locally at the Cleveland Institute of Art; galleries MPercent and Thrive An-Art-Space; Case Western Reserve University; Beck Center for the Arts; Archives of the Western Reserve; and Zygote Gallery. Her work has also been exhibited at the Spencertown Academy Arts Center, in Spencertown, New York.

My interest is in experimenting with an idea matched up with certain techniques to see how the idea resonates in the work and to the viewer. It has been used with the idea of beginnings as in the ordinary, primitive and naïve where the image and meaning would be derived from pure mark making. Another series was based on mark making, blackness and other qualities of graphite to translate containment and transparency This current series titled "Cave PAINTINGS" is the deconstruction and juxtaposition of prehistoric artwork with 21st century aesthetic and available mediums.

My current work is a by-product of inquiry regarding the historical analysis of prehistoric painting, the development of drawings of them, then the deconstruction of the images. The deconstructive process incorporates current associative elements. Examples of these associative elements include popular American truck colors, or using common mediums, such as the Xerox machine, or a child's water-color set. This work juxtaposes prehistoric artifact and their accompanying belief system with 21st C aesthetic and the use of ordinary mediums and tools. These experimental methods test the resonance of the work.

Claudio Orso Giacone

Claudio Orso is an Italian artist living in Oberlin with his wife Rian, who teaches at the College, and their two children. Claudio makes woodcut prints and ceramic sculptures, focusing on expanding artistic awareness in the community. His major projects have been the creation of the Big Parade, a public event celebrating the beginning of summer with floats, games, free food and music, and the ArtZreach Project, a program offering weekly art education and tutoring to the inmates of the County Juvenile Detention Home. He received his undergraduate degree from Cleveland State and an MFA from Bowling Green State University, and has been awarded grants from the Ohio Arts Council, the Nord Family Foundation, and the Richard Hallock Foundation.

Block prints conjure images out of the dark: every pattern, every line carved in the wooden block brings a ray of light into a picture. My characters emerge out of this darkness, sometimes taking the limelight of the center stage, other times remaining hidden in the shadows. All together they tell a tale through metaphors and actions, letting the viewer wonder what is the story all about. The main character is the people, the good and the evil, the oppressed and the violent, the victims and the hawks, the hopeful and the undesirable. It is a carnival of masks represented through a medium that was for a very long time the king of illustration techniques, yet so versatile as to transfer images on cloth, playing cards, bibles, and agit-prop posters. I continue that millenary tradition in a time when digital software can make believable block-like images, but not quite reproducing that quality that comes only through a slow and humble apprenticeship of the gouge and the chisel, negotiating an image with a living material which is wood.

Wendy Partridge

Wendy Partridge is a painter and printmaker. She studied art at San Francisco State University and the California College of Arts and Crafts in the 1990s. During that time she apprenticed with master printer Peter Koch for three years at his letterpress studio in Berkeley, California. She has a graduate degree in art conservation from the Conservation Center, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University and has been working for the past five years as a paintings conservator at the Intermuseum Conservation Association in Cleveland. She began printing at Zygote two and a half years ago. At Zygote she found exactly what she was looking for in Cleveland, an affordable place to print and a supportive artists' community where techniques are shared and new ideas generated.

The two map prints in this show reflect an obsession with all things cartographical, probably the result of moving often as a child or of spending hours in the Room of Maps at the Villa Farnese at Caprarola outside of Rome where my father was writing his dissertation. Maps' elegant structures provide a rationality that orders life's ambiguities. However, overlapping maps and images create juxtapositions that begin to reflect the layers of life as it is lived. I began the three letterpress and monoprint pieces a few months before Zygote's move into its new space last year. I wanted to see if the Vandercook press for

printing moveable type was worth bringing. What began as a technical experiment has evolved into the Fragment Series. Short lines of text and semi abstract images create small broadsides. The broadsides are combined into diptychs and triptychs, some dealing with the oddity of definitions of sexual orientation, others with humans' impact on the earth. The huge subjects are only touched on in a fragmented and glancing fashion, perhaps one way of trying to understand complex, contested ideas.

Glenn Ratusnik

Glenn Ratusnik, born in Cleveland in 1975, received a BFA in Printmaking from Kent State University in 2003 and soon after became a member of the volunteer staff at Zygote Press. Through his affiliation with Zygote, he has been able to develop his skills as a printmaker, enabling him to conduct printing workshops at Zygote and work as a contract printer for local artists. He currently resides in Broadview Heights, works as a framer, likes bird watching, and enjoys eating.

I am interested in the aesthetics of the landscape which has been divided up as a product for the placement and selling of products. And in the tradition of landscape etchings, these are romantic and toxic images of strip malls and homes.

Lisa Schonberg

Lisa Schonberg teaches printmaking and art education courses at Notre Dame College in South Euclid. She also teaches a children's printmaking class at the Orange Art Center and just finished an artist-in-residency at Metro Health Center's Art Therapy Department.

Lisa earned a BFA from Ohio University in 1976 in art education and an MFA from Kent State University in 1984 in printmaking. Her teaching career includes 5 years teaching art in grades 6-12, 1 year as an intern in the education department at the Cleveland Museum of Art, and 23 years teaching college.

As an artist, Lisa uses relief and intaglio printmaking processes combined with an excitement for nature and various letter-like forms related to ancient and modern writing styles as a means of producing her monoprints. Her work has been exhibited regionally in various galleries, schools and museums since 1982. Last June, Lisa was awarded the "Viktor Schreckengost Excellence in Design" Award at the 35th Annual Gates Mills Art Show.

As an artist, I use relief and intaglio printmaking processes combined with an excitement for nature and various letter-like forms related to ancient and modern writing styles as a means of producing monoprints. A monoprint is a one-of-a-kind print made by applying ink in various ways to a non-porous printing plate. After the ink has been manipulated on the plate, paper is then placed overtop the plate and run through a printing press to obtain the image. Sometimes the final print consists of several layers of ink as a result of running the same print through the press numerous times. Unlike traditional printmaking where multiples of identical prints can be produced, monoprinting produces images that are all different and can reveal exciting variations on a theme. At present, Lisa is combining hand cut stencils of tree forms and birds with abstract "pictograph-like" shapes as a basis for her multi-layered monoprints.