

HEIGHTSARTS

EKPHRASTACY

artists talk +
poets respond

RUST

SPOTLIGHT: JESSE RHINEHART

February 17, 2022

BROUILLARD

YUSKO

MEYER

DESJARDINS

MAYER

COSTELLO

PASTORIC

ALBRIGHT

FULLER

MILTNER

DOE

MCNIECE



ABOUT THE EXHIBITIONS

RUST Curated by Sharon Grossman

The Rust Belt refers to an area of states near the Great Lakes that grew to prominence in the late 1800s as the country's "industrial heartland" but which has experienced a decrease of manufacturing and heavy industry dating to the middle of the 1950s, as that original infrastructure aged and corporations moved their production first to southern states in the US, then to other countries, following cheap land and cheap labor. In cities like Cleveland, Detroit, Youngstown, and Pittsburgh, abandoned factories and machinery were left to rust, and many jobs were lost. Because we had the lakes, canals, rivers, and railroads for shipping, this region had been perfectly located for success. But things changed. Yet, as we all know here, Cleveland is tough. Our artists, a resourceful lot, have embraced the situation.

Many artists use metal refuse and scrap, resourced wood, found objects, used clothing as the material for their work, both because it is ecological and often cheaper than new materials. It also has a certain patina and personality because of its history. Some artists use the history and social context of the Rust Belt as inspiration for their work. Many photographers see beauty in the rust and years of built-up grime that coats the old bridges and stonework, and painters and printmakers mine the same resource for their own production. Ceramicists and glassmakers carry on the region's long traditions in these media to create work that continues to inspire.

This exhibition embodies an esthetic of reuse and reclamation that celebrates the Rust Belt's layers of character—the muscularity, the refinement, the resilience, the patina of age, and the energy of reinvention

-Grossman

Spotlight: Jesse Rhinehart

"On one hand my work is a simple homage to the elements of design and the deep rooted beauty therein, but this is more of a tool to reach a deeper psychological content in my paintings. What that content is I have never been able to completely express to my satisfaction. I do know it is not just a sentimental ode to things old and decrepit, (for that I have a mirror). Not all of my paintings have age or decay as subject matter but they still possess the same subliminal draw. I find kinship in the words of David Byrne who once said that the purpose of art is to elevate the mundane to the sublime. I don't know if my paintings accomplish such lofty goals. Only you the viewer can be the judge.."

-Rhinehart

PROGRAM

Rachel Bernstein
Sharon Grossman
and John Burroughs

Stephen Yusko
Molly Fuller

Pamela Pastoric
Robert Miltner

Jesse Rhinehart
Andrea Doe

William Broulliard
Ray McNiece

Linda Mayer
Molly Fuller

Matthew Albright
Robert Miltner

Introduction

Artist Remarks
"Murmuration"
After Stephen Yusko's
Elevate

Artist Remarks
"Documentary Soundtrack"
After Pamela Pastoric's
Bridge

Artist Remarks
"Speaking of Bulldozers..."
After Jesse Rhinehart's
Excavator

Artist Remarks
"Worm Gear Ikon"
After William Broulliard's
Worm Gear Ikon

Artist Remarks
"Assemblage"
After Linda Mayer's
Curious Theater

Artist Remarks
"Shiny New"
After Matthew Albright's
System 002 and/or 03

PROGRAM

Andrea Doe

"Map House"
After Linda Mayer's
The Map Room

Ray McNiece

"Abandoned Manufactory"
After Jesse Rhinehart's
From the Parkview

Doug Meyer
Molly Fuller

Artist Remarks
"Curio Hoop"
After Doug Meyer's
Hoop Curio

Robert Miltner

"Seagulls"
After Doug Meyer's
Bar Cart

Adrian DesJardin
Andrea Doe

Artist Remarks
"107: Opportunity"
After Adrian DesJardins's
107

Ray McNiece

"A Guardian Speaks"
After Pamela Pastoric's
My Guardian

PROGRAM

Molly Fuller

"What's Left of the Old World"
After Doug Meyer's
The Tower

Robert Miltner

"Drifting Continents"
After Adrian DesJardins's
Unhinged

Micheal Costello
Andrea Doe

Artist Remarks
"Blue Cornerstone"
After Micheal Costello's
Blue Stone Angle

Ray McNiece

"Dead Poets Speaking from Dreams"
After Linda Mayer's
Favorite things

EKPHRASTACY

Ekphrastic poetry is a time-honored art form in which the writer is inspired by and responds to a work of art in another discipline such as the visual arts, sculpture, dance and music. The word, "ekphrastic" comes from the Greek word ekphrasis, which means (freely translated) an 'ecstatic utterance

HEIGHTS ARTS UPCOMING EVENTS

EXHIBITION OPENING:
MARCH 18 - Figurative/Abstract

SPOTLIGHT EXHIBITION OPENING:
MARCH 18 - Jane Alexander



POETS

Ray McNiece

Special thanks to our guest host, John Burroughs, reading on behalf of Ray McNiece. John is the founding editor of Crisis Chronicles Press and served as Ohio's 2019-2021 Beat Poet Laureate.

Ray McNiece, Cleveland Heights Poet Laureate 2020-2022

Ray McNiece is the Poet-Laureate chosen by Heights Arts through 2022. McNiece is the author of 11 books of poems and monologues, two solo theatre works, two music/poetry collaboration, and one collaborative theatre work. He started his own educational company Page to Stage Productions in 1994. He has worked as a consultant for WordForward in Singapore and for the nationally touring, Poetry Alive. He is also an adjunct professor at John Carroll University. He was recently certified into Young Audiences National Teaching Artist Roster, one of only twenty such teaching artists nationally.

Molly Fuller

Molly Fuller is the author of the full-length collections *For Girls Forged by Lightning: Prose & Other Poems* (All Nations Press) and *Always a Body* (Cornerstone Press, forthcoming); two chapbooks *Tender the Body* (Spare Change Press) and *The Neighborhood Psycho Dreams of Love* (Cutty Wren Press). She recently won the *Gris-Gris* Summer 2020 Poetry Contest. Her work has appeared in *Nothing to Declare: A Guide to the Flash Sequence*, *New Poetry from the Midwest*, *100 Word Story*, *Kestrel*, and *Pedestal Magazine*. She is the recipient of a 2020 Artist Residency from both Vermont Studio Center and Wassaic Project. You can find her on Instagram and twitter @mollyfulleryeah.



POETS

Robert Miltner

Robert Miltner's books of poetry are *Hotel Utopia* (New Rivers Press at Minnesota State University Moorhead) and *Orpheus & Echo* (Etruscan Press at Wilkes University); his collection of short fiction is *And Your Bird Can Sing* (Bottom Dog Press); and his collection of creative nonfiction is *Ohio Apertures* (Cornerstone Press at University of Wisconsin Stevens Point). Recipient of an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award for Poetry and an Ohio Arts Council Writing Fellowship at Vermont Studio Center, Miltner was Poet-in-Residence at the Chautauqua Institution in June, 2021, and he will be Visiting Scholar on Contemporary American Poetry in March-April, 2022, at the University of Paris East, France.

Andrea Doe

Doe graduated in 2020 with a B.A. in English from Case Western Reserve University. She fell in love with the written and spoken word at a young age, but got involved in the poetry scene later in college. In 2018, she published her first collection of poetry *Nightmare*. on Amazon Kindle. Along with poetry, she writes essays, articles, and short stories, posting her articles on Medium.com. She teaches English on Preply.com and teaches Spanish. Doe is a lover of languages, currently studying Spanish, Japanese, and Arabic. She resides in Cleveland, OH.



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