

HEIGHTSARTS

EKPHRASTACY

artists talk +
poets respond

IMPAGINATION

SPOTLIGHT: JACKIE MILLER

September 22, 2022

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Heights Writes Community Team

Cathy Barber, John Burroughs, Annie Holden, Ray McNiece,

Amy Rosenbluth, Catherine Wing

AND TO:

ASL interpreter: Tara Haggerty

2175 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

WWW.HEIGHTSARTS.ORG | 216.371.3457



BLOOM

BRODY

CHEN

EPSTEIN

GILL

HO

JACOBS

O'NEAL

MILLER

MORRIS

PARTRIDGE

TAYLOR

FIORE

LUEPTOW

MCNIECE

FERRI

ABOUT THE EXHIBITIONS

Impagination

Visual artists have long been fascinated by books, often as a way to distribute reproductions of original works. This exhibition is not about reproductions, but about books that themselves are one-of-a-kind works of art, designed to be held in the hands and leafed through in a narrative sequence.

Spotlight: Jackie Miller

Moments without Context

When we look at a work of narrative art, we see one fleeting moment of a story that the artist has captured. When we know the story, the moment is easily placed in context. (“Oh, David has killed the giant with his slingshot and now he is proudly displaying his head as a trophy of victory.”) But what happens when the story is not known?

As a retired psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, I have often had the experience of being presented only the middle of a story without knowing for some time what proceeded or later ensued. In that moment, missing the bigger picture, I would naturally feel confused and depending on the situation experience other emotions as well. Automatically, I would begin to imagine a larger context for the story even though one had not yet been revealed.

In this work, I am interested in that overpowering pressure of the mind to make sense. To that end, the moments presented here with images of fox, rabbit/hare, crow-ish bird, and pawn encountering one another in unlikely situations may evoke associations to dreams, fables or various cultural symbols. Each observer is left to make their own sense of the nonsensical. It is my intention in placing these narratives on the surface of a “sensible” object, the dish, to create a dialogue between that which we think we know and that which we are left to create.

– Jackie Miller

PROGRAM

Diane Vogel Ferri

"Nameism?"

After Melissa Bloom's

Hello, My Name Is

Diane Vogel Ferri

"It's a Gray Area"

After Phyllis Brody's

The Eyes See and the Mind Conceives Unity

Ariel Alexander Fiore

"Lesser Path Given, He Ran The Highway"

After Phyllis Brody's

Finding the Way

Ray McNiece

"The Velocity of Velleity"

After Yiyun Chen's

Velleity

Gene Epstein

Artist Remarks

Ariel Alexander Fiore

"Jenny Keely Will Be Condemned"

After Gene Epstein's

Wood Veneer Book

Diana Lueptow

"Journey Cento"

After Gene Epstein's

The Journey

PROGRAM

Diane Vogel Ferri

"Stardust"

After Gene Epstein's

Thoughts on the Death of Parents

Michael Gill

Artist Remarks

Ray McNiece

"Delivered by Fire"

After Michael Gill's

*Elementary Science (dedicated to
David A. Cornicelli)*

Jeanetta Ho

Artist Remarks

Diana Lueptow

"Blue is Not Here, Not Exactly"

After Jeanetta Ho's

Spirit Book

Ariel Alexander Fiore

"She Saw The Exile of Great Angels"

After Jeanetta Ho's

From My Garden

Juli Edberg

Artist Remarks

Diana Lueptow

"Three Poems"

After Juli Edberg's

2020@2200

Diane Vogel Ferri

"A Map Makes the World So Small
but It's Such a Long Journey"

After Amy Jacobs's

In the Layers

PROGRAM

Diana Lueptow

"Creatures of the Air Feeding from
Fruits of the Grass"

After Karen Koykka O'Neal 's
Wasps Making Books

Ariel Alexander Fiore

"They built great machines, they built
great giants"

After Rachel Morris's
Art History from A to Z

Emanuel Wallace

Artist Remarks

Ray McNiece

"A Drop of Sweat"

After Emanuel Wallace's
Talent in the City

Wendy Partridge

Artist Remarks

Diana Lueptow

"Go, Little Book"

After Wendy Partridge's
Leave the Leaves

Ray McNiece

"Blood Moment"

After Zoe Taylor's
Collection of recent bloody moments

Jackie Miller

Artist Remarks

Diane Vogel Ferri

"Crossfox"

After Jackie Miller's
Two Fox in the Woods

PROGRAM

Ray McNiece

"In the Mind of a Caterpillar"

After Jackie Miller's

*The Pawn: In the Mind of a Caterpillar
nibbling a leaf*

HEIGHTS ARTS UPCOMING EVENTS

ARTbar

September 29th, 7pm-9pm

We will again mix cocktails, music, and art in our beautiful space on Lee Road with our next ARTbar on September 29th. This event will feature renowned local pianist Jackie Warren with Sammy DeLeon on percussion, and Patricia Bussert on vocals. They will perform Latin jazz, including Cuban, Puerto Rican, and Venezuelan music. Our curated cocktails will liven up the evening as guests enjoy latin drinks to enhance the theme of the evening.

\$25.00 General tickets

\$20.00 Heights Arts Members tickets

2022 HOLIDAY STORE

November 4th - December 30th

The Heights Arts holiday store will be engaging over 100 local artists in multiple disciplines as our year-round store expands to fill the entire gallery space. Every gift you purchase through our holiday store will be finding its way from a local artist's home, to the home of your loved one. That's why Heights Arts is where perfect gifts and local artists are discovered.

EKPHRASTACY:

Ekphrastic poetry is a time-honored 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.



POETS

Ray McNiece

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. Ray McNiece is the Cleveland Arts Prize Lifetime Achievement Award winner for 2021.

Ariel Fiore

Ariel Alexander Fiore is a Cleveland based poet currently in search of himself. Hopefully one day they will meet. With 20 years of writing experience, life is a story to be written.

Ariel was a part of The People Poetry Slam scene and has read for The Hessler Street Fair's 50th anniversary celebration.

He is currently working on a new collection "Where the Tide Rises Up" that will be available in 2022-2023.

Diana Lueptow

Daughter of an art teacher, Diana Lueptow loves the arts in all their forms. Her plays have had staged readings at Talespinner Children's Theatre and Playwrights Local; her poetry has received two Individual Excellence awards from the Ohio Arts Council. Publications include the Wick chapbook Little Nest (Kent State U. Press) and journals FIELD, The Stinging Fly, Arion, and Beloit Poetry Journal. She has an MFA from the Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College. She has sailed Erie, rowed Cuyahoga, and always lived in the Great Lakes Midwest.



POETS

Diane Vogel Ferri

Diane Vogel Ferri spent her career as a teacher of special needs children. Now she is a volunteer tutor, poet, and writer living in Solon, Ohio. Her latest novel is *No Life But This: A Novel of Emily Warren Roebling*. Her essays have been published in *Scene Magazine*, *Raven's Perch*, *Yellow Arrow Journal*, and *Good Works Review* among others. Her poems can be found in numerous journals such as *Wend Poetry*, *American Journal of Poetry*, *Rubbertop Review*, and *Poet Lore*. Her previous publications are *Liquid Rubies* (poetry), *The Volume of Our Incongruity* (poetry), and *The Desire Path* (novel). Her poetry collection *Everything is Rising* is forthcoming from Luchador Press.

DID YOU KNOW...

Heights Arts has the longest-running poet laureateship in the state. We are excited to begin the selection process in November for our 11th Poet Laureate, and to determine which poets will participate in our 2023 season.

Join our mailing list at www.heightsarts.org to learn about upcoming calls for poets, musicians and artists to participate in programming for our upcoming season.

WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED?

We have a long history of inviting the community to share their passion and expertise to help us develop and present our programming. Three ongoing Volunteer Community Teams are charged with facilitating the strategies and action plans for Heights Arts core programming in the literary, musical and visual arts disciplines.

The purpose of Heights Arts' community teams is to expand community engagement in developing and presenting the programs of the organization and to tap the significant expertise that resides in our community. We invite poets, musicians, artists and other members of the community to work with us to select and showcase the region's visual artists, poets and musicians in our literary, musical, and exhibition programming.

To learn more, visit us at <https://www.heightsarts.org/volunteer-community-teams/>



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