

HEIGHTS **ARTS** **RUST**

January 14 – March 13, 2022

CURATED BY Sharon Grossman

**WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO THE
EXHIBITION COMMUNITY TEAM:**

Team leader: Greg Donley

Team Members: Sharon Grossman, David King, Helen Liggett,
Michael Weil, Leslye Arian, Katie Mongoven, Mary Ann Breisch

Team Interns: Eryn Lawson, Josie Naypauer

CONTRIBUTORS:

William Brouillard

Stephen Yusko

Doug Meyer

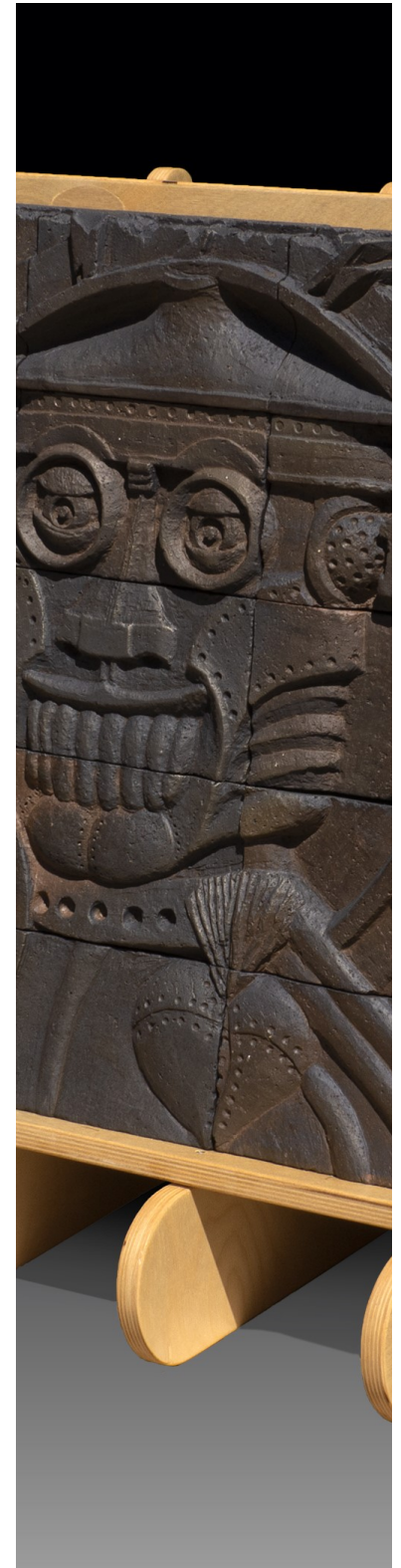
Pamela Pastoric

Matthew Albright

Linda Mayer

Adrian DesJardins

Micheal Costello



2175 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio



ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

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.

RELATED PROGRAMMING

EKPHRASTACY: Artists Talk + Poets Respond

February 17th, 7PM

The *Ekphrastacy* literary program is a series of artist talks and poetry readings held regularly in conjunction with our special exhibitions. Hear the exhibition artists and Cleveland-area writers Andrea Doe, Molly Fuller and Robert Miltner, selected by Cleveland Heights Poet Laureate Raymond McNiece, share poems and speak about ideas and processes behind *Rust* and *Spotlight: Jesse Rhinehart*.

William Brouillard

ARTIST STATEMENT

These works are from a group of retro-futurist ikons completed in 2021. They are the results of collaborative efforts that included Ohio ceramic artists and The Belden Brick Company in Dover Ohio. Belden Brick supplied materials and firing. The bricks were carved while still wet and then fired in a turn of the century Beehive kiln.

The "Steam-Punk Ikon Series" are a continuation of earlier works done in majolica on earthenware. They

reference eastern orthodox religious ikons and turn of the century technology used to illustrate our current reverence for technology in place of traditional religious beliefs.

BIO

I began my work in clay, studying with John Perri at the State University of Wisconsin, at Menomonie, Wisconsin. After serving in the armed forces I returned to Wisconsin to study with Don Reitz at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. I completed a MFA at Alfred University in 1976 and traveled to North Carolina and was a resident craftsman at the Penland School where I worked and taught until 1980. I currently live in Lakewood, Ohio and have a studio in the old steel-making district of Cleveland.

Worm Gear Ikon, Manganese fumed ceramic bricks from Beldon Brick Co., deep relief carving in wet bricks, plywood and steel fabrication on the easel, 26" x 24" x 16", 140 lbs., 2021, \$3,300

Armored Ikon, Manganese fumed ceramic bricks from Beldon Brick Co., deep relief carving in wet bricks, plywood and steel fabrication on the easel, fired to cone 9, 26" x 24" x 16", 140 lbs., 2021, \$3,300

Hand Work, Manganese fumed ceramic bricks from Beldon Brick Co., deep relief carving in wet bricks, wood and steel fabrication on base, fired to cone 9, 12" x 13" x 8", 20 lbs., 2021, \$425

Air, Low temperature earthenware, fired to cone 04 oxidation, slab and cast construction, 24" x 18" x 18", 35 lbs., 2019, \$1,600

Twin Engines Ikon Tile, Commercial tile with drawing in under glaze pencil mounted on 3/4" plywood with pine frame and sanded grout, 26" x 24" x 2", 20 lbs., 2021, \$825

Homo Ecco Ikon Tile, Commercial tile with drawing in under glaze pencil mounted on 3/4" plywood with Pine frame and sanded grout, 26" x 24" x 2", 20 lbs., 2021, \$825



Stephen Yusko

ARTIST STATEMENT

The objects I make are the result of my appreciation and fascination with materials — especially with steel. Whether used alone or with other materials, I am drawn to steel's industrial history, working properties, methods of joinery and range of finishes. When heated in the forge, steel moves like clay, allowing this tough material to be transformed into graceful shapes. I am inspired by the structure of things; architectural elements, tools, and equipment inform my work, which expands on this visual vocabulary by exploring themes of balance, distance and concepts of home.

BIO

Stephen Yusko's studio is located in Cleveland, OH, where he creates sculpture, furniture and vessels, using mixed materials combined with forged, machined, and fabricated steel. Yusko has taught at several schools and universities, including Haystack School of Crafts (ME), Penland School of Crafts (NC), and SUNY Purchase, where he was a Windgate Artist-in-Residence, and served on the Board of Trustees for the Haystack School. He is currently on the Board of Trustees for La Caravan Escuela. Yusko exhibited his work widely including he Metal Museum (TN) and the Ruthin Craft Centre (Wales, UK) and has received three Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Excellence Awards and a Cuyahoga County Creative Workforce Fellowship Award.

Rift, Steam-bent white oak, steel, 5" x 36 1/4" x 2", 2021, \$8,000

Confluence, Steam-bent white oak, steel, 4 3/4" x 34 1/4" x 2", 2021, \$8,000

Elevate, Steel, wood, silver leaf, paint, 12" x 14 3/4" x 7", 2022, \$4,500

Drift: 4-Way, Steel, wood, silver leaf, paint, 85 1/2" x 5" x 5", 2022, \$5,000



Doug Meyer

ARTIST STATEMENT

Cabinets, shelves, desks, and other items destined for the scrapyards are cut up for their useful parts and then patched together in a process I call "segmenting." The segmented panels are stretched across my frameworks; made with hand-pulled bends and similarly segments material in a way that allows me to use 98% of my materials. The result is a holistic aesthetic which transmits the beauty of recycling, efficiency, and collective strength.

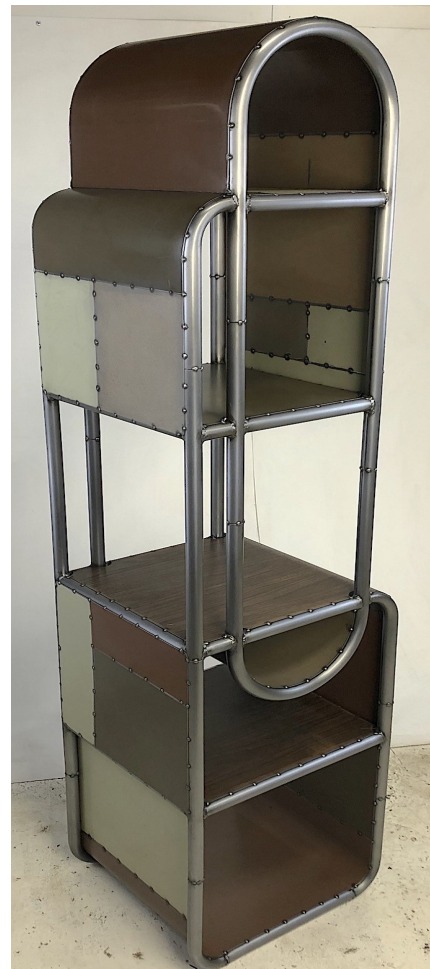
BIO

Doug Meyer fell in love with sculpture in his 9th grade sculpture and ceramics class. Unable to afford art school, he eventually enrolled in the Job Corps welding program, graduating with a combination welder certification in 1998. Soon, his work moved from sculpture and painting to functional items like bicycles and furniture made from scavenged materials. He hit the road in 2006, taking his work to antique shows and flea markets, eventually landing an article in the New York Times. The article helped him push forward with his business, and he went full-time in 2009. He continues to make his work in his Warren, Ohio studio.

Hoop Curio, Reclaimed sheet metal and pipe, 30" x 20" x 51.5", 2019, \$1,400

Tower, Reclaimed sheet metal and steel tubing, 17" x 16" x 70", 2020, \$1,600

Bar Cart, Reclaimed sheet metal, steel tubing, rod, casters, 30" x 20" x 36", 2021, \$2,000



Pamela Pastoric

ARTIST STATEMENT

Pam Pastoric has been a metalsmith since receiving a BFA degree from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1977, and was awarded the Agnes Gund Memorial Scholarship upon graduation. She is also proud to be a second generation CIA graduate following her father 30 years later. Her jewelry and metalwork has been exhibited throughout the United States and in Canada through exhibitions, galleries, and art fairs. Officially empty nesters, Pamela lives in Willoughby, Ohio with her husband and a new daschund puppy. She has been a goldsmith with area jewelers for over 40 years, maintain a private studio, and also works on commission. Pamela's work is primarily in sterling silver, 14k gold, or a combination. Work emphasizes ancient, classical East Asian, architectural, contemporary, antique elements, as well as nature, sea, and everyday life around. After a design is settled upon, a piece is hand fabricated in metal, hand carved in wax to be cast, or the techniques combined. Techniques such as roll printing, stamping or hand engraving textures help to bring out the imagery. The addition of gemstones, pearls, beads, or objects may be included in a piece, then polished or oxidized with a brush finish at completion to convey an idea or feeling. Newer work in the 'AntiQue' and 'Le Fleur' Flower series have been fun to develop. Enjoy!

BIO

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, the middle kid, only daughter of an artist, and a receptionist/housewife. My earliest recollections of the 'Rustbelt' of Cleveland was as a very young girl. I remember visiting my Godparents home, and after a dinner, my Godfather would drive us downtown to the flats to go see the boats docked along there. As the apple of dad's eye, I was the one that would go along with him to the Cleveland Institute of Art Alumni sale that was set up in a huge tent on Shaker Square. He would take me to various venues, and I would sit and draw. I remember a strawberry plant drawing in particular. I majored in Art in high school, and went on to graduate from the Cleveland Institute of Art majoring in Metalsmithing in 1977, following my dad who graduated in 1947. I was fortunate to receive the Agns Gund Memorial Scholarship at graduation, and with it traveled to Germany, and later to England. Early on I had taught at some of the Art Centers around Cleveland, and have also worked for over 40 years for various jeweler in the area as well. The last of which was for Antrobus Design, local to the Heights, and special to me. I have shown work in several states in the Us and Canada, in both Museum Exhibitions, galleries, and Art Festivals as well as upon commission. Current work is predominantly jewelry that seem like miniature sculptures while working on some pieces. I'm enjoying newer 'AntiQue' and 'Le Fleur' flower series, and one of a kind pieces. I live in Willoughby, Ohio with my husband, and new dachshund puppy. Our grown scientist daughter, long left the nest, but would take me to any Museum in the world.

Bridge Necklace. Sterling silver, 3 section bridge, pierced, hand engraved, riveted, cable chain, with grey glass beads, oxidized & brushed finish, 18" long, 2021, \$1,800

My Guardian' Fibula Pin/Pendant, Sterling silver, soldered, riveted, hand engraved, oxidized & brushed finish, with forged detachable fibula pin, 3" x 2 1/8" x 1/4", 2021, NFS



Matthew Albright

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am passionate about the process of designing and creating. My sculptures with a final destination in mind and I figure things out as I move through the process. I am an engineer by trade and art gives me an outlet to work outside a rigid system. Metal is my passion, and I operate by one guiding principle or rule... "there are no rules!"

BIO

Matthew Albright is a northeast Ohio artist based on the east side of Cleveland, who was forged out of a manufacturing environment. The rules and structure of the system compelled him to create a world where the rules are bent, and structures exploited to serve a different purpose. His primary medium is metal, and he has been designing and creating both public and private sculptures for the past 10 years.

The System, Carbon steel frame and random industrial scrap components, 51" x 15" x 2"; 2021, \$1,600 set

The System – 01, 02, 03, 04 12" x 15" x 2" \$400 each



Linda Mayer

ARTIST STATEMENT

Several years ago I was designing a unit for my high school students based on shadowbox assemblages. I began with Joseph Cornell and before I knew it I had discovered the centuries old tradition of miniatures. I was captivated by room boxes, dioramas, 19th century toy theaters, cabinets of curiosities, paper peep shows and Dutch perspective boxes. Somewhere between these influences my theater box assemblages emerged. Each theater box is custom-made from new, found and salvaged materials. I assemble most components and props from scratch using materials that would have been used for centuries, i.e. glass, wood, metal, paper, ceramic. Most materials (old barn wood, picture frame molding, vintage book pages, jewelry findings, watch parts, seashells) have had a previous life before inhabiting my little theaters. If you look closely you might see an antique drawer pull serving as a window cornice. Vintage jewelry findings might now grace a tiny glass vessel sitting on a shelf. Discarded pocket watch parts corroded with age occupy pride of place as page from old books and other ephemera. Strategically placed LED lights breathe life, drama and magic into each fantastic little world. As you view the work I hope it will spark a bit of fantasy. Imagine the performance that is about to take place, invent the narrative and compose the music filling each curious little theater.

BIO

Linda Mayer is an award-winning artist and art educator based in Northeast Ohio. Ms. Mayer completed fine arts coursework at Cuyahoga Community College, Kent State University, and Fontbonne University in St. Louis, Missouri. She works in a variety of mediums including encaustic and found object assemblage. Her work has been published and can be found in private collections across the United States as well as the permanent collection of the Museum of Encaustic Art in Santa Fe. Ms. Mayer has been featured in the Winter 2015 issue of Encaustic Arts Magazine. Her marsh painting, *Simple Pleasure*, was chosen Best of Show for the Encaustic Art Institute's 2015 Juried Exhibition. Most recently, Ms. Mayer's theater box assemblage "Library Scene" was awarded Best in Show at Valley Art Center's 49th Annual Juried Exhibition. In addition to teaching art at the high school level, Ms. Mayer also teaches adult art workshops. When not scrounging flea markets and thrift stores for bits and pieces for her assemblages, she enjoys spending time with husband, Mark, and their dog, Oliver.



Favorite Things, Mixed Media, 11" x 10.5" x 7", 2021, \$1,200

Highland Lodge, Mixed Media, 11" x 9" x 6.5", 2021, \$900

The Study, Mixed Media, 11" x 9" x 6.5", 2021, \$750

The Map Room, Mixed Media, 18" x 6" x 5", 2021, \$750

Curious Theater, Mixed Media, 32" x 17.5" x 8", 2019, \$1,700

Adrian DesJardins

ARTIST STATEMENT

I work with acrylics on wood panels that I build myself. Finding inspiration in minute details that make items interesting and unique. Textures are very important to my work, as they bring a dimensional quality that you see and feel in everything that surrounds you. Art has become my outlet for my imagination, which rarely rests. Creating art for others has become my passion. Crafting a piece that suits an individuals taste is certainly a privilege that I have come to cherish.

BIO

Adrian DesJardins is a self taught, rouge creative currently living on the west side of Cleveland. He, his wife Lindsay, and Daughter Elaina have lived and worked in Florida, Georgia and Colorado before landing in NE Ohio. His inspiration comes in many forms ranging from impressionist artist such as Monet to dusty boxes of keys. Primarily an abstract artist working with several mediums, including acrylic painting, unique mixed media wall sculptures, and brazed metal sculptures. Many years of working in construction has given Adrian exposure to countless building methods and materials. These are regularly used in unconventional ways to create truly unique art with a distinctly industrial vibe. Having the ability to construct oddly shaped wood panels gives him freedom from the limitations of traditional canvas. Frequently reanimating vintage hardware, giving it a new narrative that evokes intrigue and curiosity.

Unhinged, Mixed media on wood panels, 36" x 24", 2020, \$1,600

107, Mixed media on wood panels, 16" x 20", 2019, \$600

Cooler, Mixed media on wood panels, 12" x 18", 2019, \$500



Micheal Costello

ARTIST STATEMENT

The idea of combining the unique strength of steel and the inherent beauty of stone came to me while living by Luce Creek in Hunting Valley many years ago. When I moved into my current studio space in Slavic Village I looked at the idea once more. I asked the same question all sculptors deal with, how will I use a base as part of the 3D design. That's when I decided to work with the concept of making the base something more than a place to simply sit a piece of art. So, the table is the sculpture.

BIO

January 2015—Current part-time Glazier at Whitney Stained Glass Studio

Recent Shows: Slavic Village, Festival 2021; May Show, Lakeland College, 2021; Stella's Art Gallery, Willoughby OH, 2021; Annual Juried Exhibit CVA, Chagrin, OH 2018; 42nd Annual Fairmont Art Exhibit, 1st place sculpture award, 2018.

www.claystoneandsteel.com Cleveland, OH 2014—present

Glass Angle, Stone, steel, glass, 32" x 14" x 12", 2018, \$888

Blue Stone Angle, Stone, Steel, 32" x 14" x 12", 2021, \$999



VOLUNTEER FOR A HEIGHTS ARTS COMMUNITY TEAM

Heights Arts has a long history of inviting the community to share their passion and expertise to help the Organization develop and present its public 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 read more about our community teams and submit an application, visit www.heightsarts.org/volunteer-community-teams/

BECOME A HEIGHTS ARTS MEMBER

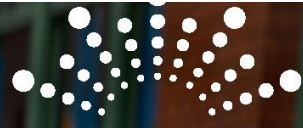
The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the arts, and now more than ever we appreciate your consideration to give to Heights Arts by becoming a member. As a member of Heights Arts, you receive discounts, special invitations, members-only events plus perks from our community partners. Your membership is tax-deductible and you have the opportunity to brag that you are helping to support local artists, musicians, creative writers, and public art in the community. You'll have your finger on the pulse of all things Heights Arts. What are you waiting for? Join us today!

Membership information can be found on our website at www.heightsarts.org

JOIN US FOR A HAIKU HIKE

Join Cleveland Heights Poet Laureate Ray McNiece on a seasonal morning ginkgo (haiku walk), through Cain Park learning and creating poetry according to centuries-old traditions. These customs cultivate a seasonal awareness that improves one's powers of poetic and natural observation. Hikes will begin with a formal introduction to haiku, continue with 4 stops along the way, then conclude with a final sharing. Sign up for one session or all four seasons in a series we're offering in celebration of Cleveland Heights' centennial anniversary. All Hikes will take place between 10:00am and 12:00pm (limit 15 per hike). Tickets are non-refundable unless hikes are cancelled. We meet at box office; bring a notebook and something to write with.

Session 4 - Saturday, April 23, 2022 Fee per session: \$20.00 General \$15.00 Members



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