



OBJECT GUIDE

1 MICHAELA NICHELLE

Home as... disarray

acrylic, archival photos, archival documents, inkjet on archival quality paper
On loan from Michaela Nichelle

This shadow box uses an archival map of the 1929 City Plan of Kalamazoo distributed by the City Planning Commission and City Council.

2 PATRICK HERSHBERGER

Paint Bates Alley

digital collage

On loan from Patrick Hershberger

Paint Bates Alley is the transformation of a service alley into a redesigned public space. Artist Patrick Hershberger (GOBONUSSAVES) created the design and partnered with Downtown Kalamazoo, Inc. and the City of Kalamazoo to reimagine the surface of the alley in 2018. The 2021 and 2024 resurfacing projects were led by the artist, the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, and the City of Kalamazoo. Shown within the image in the NW corner is the original submission for the alley artwork, leading into guidelines for volunteers to follow, the first volunteer paint session in 2018, and subsequent resurfacing in 2021 and 2024. The lower half of the image shows some of the 100+ volunteers who have helped paint, repaint, and paint the alley again! The frame is one of my grandmother's—she believed in my art, and I wanted to include a piece of her with the project.

3 JFK standing at Kalamazoo City Hall in 1960

photograph

On loan from Jane Kiel

My dad, Tom Carey, is on the far right. He was running for prosecuting attorney on the Democratic ticket. I feel like, in this age of fractured politics and unfounded nostalgia for “the good old days”, it's good to be reminded of the fights we've been waging for decades that are still ongoing. I'm proud that my dad was part of that fight.

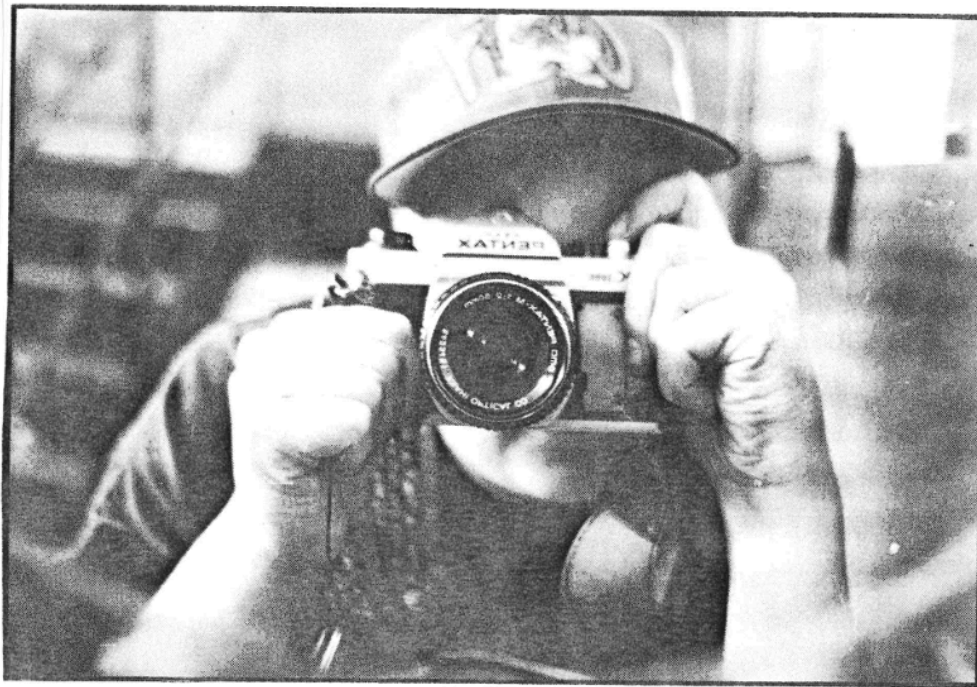
4 Mixed media including a photograph, a pen, and a copy of the bill passed

On loan from Anne Lipsey

The piece commemorates the first state bill sponsored by Kalamazoo's first African American State Representative, Alexander Lipsey.

- 5 JEFFRY LUCHIES
Various Photographs
On loan from Jeffrey Luchies

I have a collection of photographs I've taken of Kalamazoo. I got a scholarship from the KIA in middle school and took photography through a school program. I have the newsletter and art from that class along with a portfolio I put together circa 2002 with lots of photographs of downtown Kalamazoo inside, including the Koopsen's building as it was being built into condos.



"Me and My Camera" by Jeff Luchies, 1994

- 6 COLLEEN WOOLPERT
Origin Story, 2025
interactive installation
On loan from Colleen Woolpert

Stereographs are, to my mind, the little rebels of photography. Defying categorization, they're at once photographs and interactive art objects. Dating back to the dawn of photography, these twin images were the first documentary photographs and the progenitors of virtual reality. I love that stereographs are playful yet also scientific in how they mimic binocular vision, the brain's ability to perceive depth by fusing the two shifted perspectives from our eyes. For my last birthday, I splurged on this 1880s stereograph of Kalamazoo by the city's first photographer, Schuyler Baldwin. To view it in 3D, remove my handmade TwinScope Viewer (black stereoscope) from the wall bracket and use it like binoculars at a near distance of 6-8 inches from the stereograph. The second stereograph in the red frame accompanies my personal story. I hope to spread awareness that for people with strabismus, like my twin sister, vision therapy can restore depth perception. I recently learned that my first stereoscope (the red one) was part of a 1920s vision therapy kit.

- 7 DOUGLAS DYKEHOUSE
Milham Park Concession Stand
oil on canvas
On loan from Douglas Dykehouse

- 8 KATHRYN HODGMAN
Still life
oil on canvas
On loan from Jennifer Sanderson

This painting was made in 1968. Katy Hodgman was well known at the KIA, and for a time was art chair at Kalamazoo College. This painting is important to us because we chose it at a show and the artist gifted it to us as our wedding present. I knew Katy because I had posed several times for her and her artist friends.

- 9 CLEOPHIA PALMORE
Floating
digital photograph
On loan from James C. Palmore

- 10** PAUL MAY
Wolf Lake Reflections
photograph
On loan from Paul May

This photo was taken in the early morning light at Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery.

- 11** JAMES C. PALMORE
Misty Morning
digital photograph
On loan from James C. Palmore

This work shows the unintended consequences of growing crops and its effect on the environment - an ironic aesthetic.

- 12** SUSAN SIEKLUCKI
Summer of 1968
acrylic on paper
On loan from Susan Sieklucki

This painting represents my introduction to Kalamazoo. It was the summer of 1968 when I was uprooted from my childhood home in Detroit and moved to Kalamazoo. The move left me with time to fill before starting classes at the old Kalamazoo Central High School on Westnedge Ave. I have always had a passion for hands-on art, and my parents supported my artistic side by enrolling me in a youth class at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. I rode the city bus down West Main from the west side of Kalamazoo to attend class and explore downtown. I would shop for art supplies at Labadies on West Michigan and treat myself to ice at the Chocolate Shop on South Street. Fifty-seven years later, I continue to take classes at the KIA. Since 1968 the KIA has been my "happy place". Thank you, KIA, for being such a big part of my life.

- 13** BETTY DERRICK
Pin-up Girl
pencil drawing
On loan from Sharon VandeStreek

This drawing was done by my mother, Betty Derrick, sometime during the 1940's, during the World War II era, when she took drawing classes. I wanted to share it to show how great her drawing skills were with very little instruction. I like to think her creativity was passed on to me and how I sketch my rough ideas for jewelry & felting designs.

14 UNKNOWN ARTIST

Jenny at 7

ink brush wash drawing

On loan from Jennifer Sanderson

This brush drawing was done at the Clothesline Art Show, as it was then called. I remember sitting still, and seeing the portrait take shape. The artist, whose name has never been known to me, started so lightly and then added more ink for a darker gray, until he finished with full-strength India ink on his brush. It really struck me to see his portrait grow and be finished. Perhaps he began my own love of making art.

15 HELEN VAN WYCK

Portrait of Jennifer Sanderson at 17

Oil painting

On loan from Jennifer Sanderson

This painting was the result of a demo by Helen Van Wyck presented by Suzanne's Art Centre for the art supply company Grumbacher. I was a first-year art student at Kalamazoo College. When I heard about the demo my father took me to see it. When the artist asked for someone to pose I remember locking eyes with her and being chosen. I think it was on the stage at Chenery Auditorium.

16 BETH PURDY

Can I Try Yours?

chalk pastels

On loan from Beth Purdy

This is a chalk pastel drawing of my daughters enjoying suckers at Opal Beach in Saugatuck, MI. One thing we love about Michigan is the summers. Lake Michigan calls to us. I chose this submission because it is really about the relationship between two sisters, but the setting is Southwest Michigan in the summer.

17 KATHRYN HODGMAN

Portrait of Jennifer, ca. 1960s

oil on canvas

On loan from Kalamazoo College

Jennifer Sanderson posed for Katy's KIA painting group back in the late 60s when this was created. At Kalamazoo College, it used to hang in professor and administrator Wen Chao Chen's office, and is now kept in their archives. Kalamazoo College keeps it as a sample of Kathryn Hodgman's work, because she taught at the college.

- 18** Photograph from Kalamazoo's 4th of July parade in 1909.
On loan from James Kuch

This photograph depicts Mary Ellen Read and her younger sister, Josephine. On the back is written "Josephine insisted on being in this picture though she was not in the parade". That's as good a title as any. I don't like the expression "a simpler time". There is no such thing. However, I can't help thinking of Meredith Wilson's "The Music Man" in this photo. Mary Ellen Read became an English teacher at Kalamazoo Central High School and Josephine Kuch became a librarian in the children's department at the Kalamazoo Public Library. What became of the goat is unknown.

- 19** REGINALD GAMMON
Five sisters at a Christening
oil on canvas
On loan from Paula Johnston

This piece is by celebrated artist Reggie Gammon. He was a professor at Western Michigan who was pivotal in promoting and supporting black artists. His works are in permanent collections around the country, including the KIA. He was one of my dad's best friends, and they sometimes traded artwork. I believe this was acquired in a trade. It's been in my family since the early 1970s and has long been a favorite of mine.

- 20** MARY WHALEN
Ava and Lena Portraits
photographs
On loan from Linda M. Mah

At the time the photo was taken, Ava and Lena were 6 or 7. They were pretty well known in Kalamazoo given that my husband and I wrote for the Kalamazoo Gazette and I wrote about them a lot. People still remember the twins. They are 25 now. They represent the tremendous opportunities for families and children in Kalamazoo. To look at this picture is to look back at a time when The Kalamazoo Promise was still new and to see the potential that our children have. Mary Whalen snapped this photo at the tail end of a two-hour photo session - during which they ran around like banshees. At the end, Mary said, "Can you let me get one more picture? Maybe you can just act like you like each other." They just held hands and then quietly reached toward each other.

- 21** DOUG NEAL
Kim Loftus and Peter Madison Loftus, 1990
photograph
On loan from Kim Loftus

In 1990, we lived in Kalamazoo and our eldest was born when I was the Gallery Shop Manager at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. I worked with Doug Neal, one of the photography instructors, and I asked Doug to take photos of our newborn every few months during his first year. The first photos were when Peter Madison was three months old, and I wanted them to be timeless. So, they would be black and white, and I wore a strapless bathing suit top while Peter Madison wore a diaper. We loved this one so much because Doug captured our baby's curiosity with his direct gaze at the camera. Doug entered the photo for Planned Parenthood's 1992 calendar contest with the theme "Every Child a Wanted Child," and it won the grand prize cover spot.

- 22** *A Father and His Daughters*
photograph
On loan from Maria Scott

My grandma had this image made, I don't know when. It shows my mom and aunt with their father. My grandmother was 6 weeks pregnant with my mom when he died in 1929, from a ruptured appendix. My aunt, on the right, was about a year old when their father died. My mother is on the left.

- 23** Dr. JAMES CARTER
Kalamazoo Mall, 2011
photographic print
On loan from James Carter

This photograph was taken on an early morning in July 2011 as part of a project to document Kalamazoo for our sister city, Numazu, Japan.

- 24** LEE KLADE
The Zoo
traditional glass staining method on fused glass, with lead came and hot molded glass border
On loan from Lee Klade

The Zoo is a collage of images serving to represent the diversity of life in Kalamazoo. Some of the places depicted are ordinary, some iconic. All of the images invoke different meanings or memories for each person viewing the piece. This is, in turn, a manifestation of the diversity of the shared experience which is life in Kalamazoo.

25 ELLEN VANDERMYDE

Till There Was You

acrylic on canvas

On loan from Ellen VanderMyde

This painting depicts my parents standing in the backyard of my recently paid-off childhood home in Milwood. A frieze-like band across the top of the painting includes narrative and symbolic images from their relationship of many decades. Underneath the feet of the central figures is a map of downtown Kalamazoo which serves as a record of their first walk together after a chance meeting at a jazz bar called "Chaps On Main."

26 (clockwise from top left)

Photo of Dione Fayling Miles and Richard Miles. Richard is leaving for World War II from Kalamazoo College. These are the grandparents for Lynne Miles-Morillo

Richard Miles's K College diploma, 1943

Raphael Morillo K College diploma, 2024

Photo of Raphael Morillo Son of Lynne Miles Morillo

Photo of Delia Reich Miles (1883-1965) Delia was a pianist and seamstress and great grandmother of Lynne Miles Morillo

Delia's Doll

Photo of Abram Clinton Faling (1845-1908) Kalamazoo resident from the early 1850s. He worked for Michigan Central as a railroad telegrapher. He was a bibliophile and great grandfather to Lynne Mile-Morillo. The stuffed alligator is still in the family.

On loan from Lynne Morillo

27 Classroom Story Quilt (inspired by the art and literature of Faith Ringgold)

On loan from Northglade Montessori Magnet School

We are currently presenting an art unit exploring the art, literature and life of Faith Ringgold to our pre-k/kindergarten students at Northglade Montessori Magnet School. We are reading some of her children's books including *Tar Beach* and *Cassie's Word Quilt*. Our students are creating their own Classroom Story Quilt featuring their self-portraits surrounded by colorful patterns inspired by Ms. Ringgold's own story quilts.

- 28 MICKEY WILLIAMSON
Don't Be A Stranger
digital 2D Elevator Simulation
On loan from Mickey Williamson

This simulation was developed in 2023 while living in the Skyrise building downtown Kalamazoo. It was published as part of the 20 Second Game Jam, each submission required no longer than 20 seconds of gameplay. Each second is represented by ascending another floor in the elevator. Don't Be A Stranger is a self reflective simulation inspired by The Doors song 'People Are Strange' and my daily experiences of taking an elevator to and from where I called home. There are over 100 questions that are meant to stick with you after you play to add moments of introspection to your day. The elevator music is an 8-bit remake of 'People Are Strange' by The Doors.

- 29 (top, left to right)
Rustic Camp by Leah, Parents by Katelynn, Park Day Downtown, by Leilani
(middle, left to right)
The Abyss of Space by Adrienne, Big Heart by Karlina, Moonlight by Aniya
(bottom, left to right)
The Blue Bear by Jerry, A Little Bit of Light by Jackson, Watching A Sunset by Jesenia

These works of art were created by participants of Big Brother Big Sisters of Southwest Michigan. For information on how to participate visit: <https://thinkbigtoday.org/>

- 30 CARL WYMAN
Self Solace
acrylic on canvas
On loan from Carl Wyman

Self Solace is a piece that represents my time in Kalamazoo, the hardships I've faced, and the love I still hold for myself and this city. With vibrant and striking colors, and abstract depth and motifs, it is all done with intention. It is about healing and finding love and peace within the city and community of Kalamazoo. I found solace in Kalamazoo, as well as myself through this piece, and am grateful for the network and services my city has provided to me. This is the first piece I was able to exhibit in Kalamazoo at MWJ Studio, further cementing its ties to Kalamazoo. This piece is a great reminder to me of the love I have found to hold for myself, and the home I am able to find in my city.

- 31** TAYLOR SCAMEHORN
Passage of the Marigold
silver gelatin print
On loan from Taylor Scamehorn

Models: My Parents

Era: Pandemic

This is a variation on a piece I was asked to create for an article about end-of-life doulas. It can be hard to talk about death with your loved ones, especially during a pandemic, especially in the Midwest.

- 32** NORMAN ROCKWELL
A Century of Caring framed poster
On loan from Janet Thieme

A job at The Upjohn Company brought my husband and I to Kalamazoo in 1979, and when the company celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1986 we were both working there. The KIA marked the event with a special exhibit, and this poster has been proudly hanging in our home ever since. Rockwell produced 8 paintings for The Upjohn Company.

- 33** PICASSO exhibition poster, 1984
On loan from Victoria Bronson

- 34** ROY W
Rainbow of Roy
mixed media
On loan from Roy W

Rainbow of Roy entices viewers to see the world through his eyes with his signature style, using bold colors and organic shapes. Roy's work aims to brighten our world through his use of oil pastels and colored paper, which highlight his unique drawing style and bring his characters off the page with expressionism. Roy loves working with large-scale drawings, or "big ones", as he calls them, to create a whimsical world and prompt self-reflection in his viewers through themes of identity and the natural world. Roy shines his light into the world each day through song and dance. He captures the joy he brings to those around him through self-portraits that reflect a spectrum of emotions.

Roy is one of 90 artists at MRC artWorks, a program designed for individuals living with mental and developmental disabilities to learn skills, creative self-expression, and have the opportunity to sell the artwork they create. Roy's work shows us a glimpse of many of the people and places that make Kalamazoo vibrant and beautiful through his "Rainbow of Roy".

35 GAY WALKER

Remembering Fifty Years Together (Gay and John Walker)

weaving, mixed media and photos

On loan from Gay Walker

I wanted to honor and make a tribute to my 50-year marriage to John with this piece. I decided to make a weaving of our time together to tell the story. This was an emotional experience for me, and I could only work on it in small bits at a time. I started weaving with threads of colors that characterized certain times in our lives. We met at Michigan State, so the green yarn characterized that. I wove a small piece of my wedding veil into the piece to honor our wedding. We lived and did design work in Japan for 2.5 years so some of the trinkets represent that time. Then we spent a year in Denmark working in design. After that we toured Europe for 6 months and visited every art gallery or museum we had studied in art history. I knew the buttons, pins, and money we collected needed to be in the piece.

When we returned to the States, we had our first child, Kris, then a daughter Heather, whose baby teeth are both on the round button. We built a contemporary house in Pennsylvania where we lived holistically and did design work before moving to Michigan, full circle from when we met. I got a degree in Art Therapy from Antioch College, worked for hospice as an art therapist, and then taught holistic health and art therapy at Western Michigan University for the next 28 years. John taught Industrial design at WMU after getting his Masters at MSU.

In 2016 he was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer as I was retiring from WMU. We had a magical 50th-anniversary trip to New Orleans (where we also had our honeymoon). The Mardi Gras button is from that trip. John died less than 6 weeks after his diagnosis. There is a small vial with John's ashes in it and a metal tag from his cremation package. The photos at the top are from different periods in our lives. The last one is a church portrait of us with our puppy Nola, followed by an empty spot, then a photo of just me with the puppy alone. In the background is the phrase "forever and all time always", which was engraved on the inside of our wedding rings. John's ashes are in the paint. This memorial was a way for me to remember and honor our life together.

- 36** SAGE LEE
New Chapter
digital print
On loan from Sage Lee

I took the photo that inspired this drawing in October 2022. I was almost 13 and just starting to realize I wasn't a girl. This moment depicted was the moment I realized I needed to start focusing on myself instead of an unhealthy relationship. When I heard about this show, I immediately thought of the photo and decided to draw it. The realistic shoes and adjacent leaves represent how static I felt compared to a fast-moving and abstract world. Nowadays, after I began transitioning to male and surrounded myself with good people, I feel more in sync with the falling leaves of my life.

- 37** HEATHER PALMER
Untitled (abstract painting)
mixed media
On loan from Heather Palmer

I have come to painting and art in the past few years, I am now 51, and it is my therapy. I find painting almost a meditative practice.

- 38** ERIN BROTT
Stay Close
watercolor and gouache on wood panel
On loan from Erin Brott

This is a painting of my partner walking along a hiking trail on New Years Day 2025 at the Lillian Anderson Arboretum, which is a nature preserve here in Kalamazoo. Her figure invites you to follow the snowy pathway winding through the tall pines ahead and deeper into the forest. I created this painting as a reminder to stay close to nature and one another when life gets hard.

- 39** IRIS LUBBERT
Serene
acrylic painting
On loan from Iris Lubbert

This painting is very personal to me as I view it as the catalyst of my self-care journey. I created this piece on a Friday night in 2022 after a long and stressful week at work. I hadn't painted in years but something compelled me that night to dig out my brushes. I poured myself a glass of wine and turned on some soothing music. I just wanted to escape, to pour myself into creating a version of myself that I so wished to be. This is the first time I painted with the desire to heal; I found serenity in her.

40 MICHELE BOUDREAUX

Elevated Serenity: A Paper Symphony of Blooms & Balloons

hand-quilled and embossed paper artwork incorporating quilled flowers, embossed hot air balloons, and a layered paper mountain landscape

On loan from Michele Boudreaux

This piece reflects the magic and inspiration I feel when I see hot air balloons gracing the skies above Kalamazoo. While the landscape in the piece is more imagined than specific, the hot air balloons are a direct homage to a sight that feels quintessentially Kalamazoo. Their graceful journey above reminds me of the city's unique charm and its ability to spark awe, adventure, and connection. This piece is my way of honoring that beauty and celebrating the vibrant spirit that makes Kalamazoo so special.

41 PAT KRUEZER

Collage Figure Series

mixed media

On loan from Pat Kruezer

42 GAY WALKER

Tiger Totem: Memorial to John Walker

acrylic and ashes

On loan from Gay Walker

My husband John, died in December 2016. During our 50 years of marriage, John studied a form of karate that had the tiger as its animal totem. He died just shy of 6 weeks after a rare and unusual cancer diagnosis and his first chemo treatments. This happened right when I was retiring from the WMU. Painting this brought me closer to John and his essence. I painted this in his honor, and incorporated the Japanese calligraphic symbol for tiger in the stripes of the face (also tattooed on my forearm). I incorporated some of his ashes in the paint.

43 GAY WALKER

Dottie's Light

acrylic paint and colored hot glue

On loan from Gay Walker

My painting is based on an impression of an award-winning photo my husband John took of the sun glowing from behind a tree as my Mom was dying at age 98. This image is a symbol I used to represent my husband of 50 years after his death from a rare and aggressive cancer, on his memorial service cover, cards, even on an album cover for hospice music. I feel the glow of his love for me even though he is in a different dimension. I experimented with a new technique using acrylic paint with colored hot glue on top for the texture. This has allowed me to explore new methods and also symbolizes the new ways I am living my life now that I am alone.

- 44** JULIE ZAGER
Eulogy for James Robinson
photograph
On loan from Julie Zager

This is a reference photo of my loving companion, James Robinson. He passed away on May 17, 2024. He spent his time in the children's program at the YMCA here in Kalamazoo from 2014-2023, assisted with the Dutton Street garden from 2015-2018 and walked all over town. He was a very camera-shy individual who didn't like a lot of attention but allowed me to photograph him once for reference photos for my artwork. He was quick to help others and I am honored to have been so close to him. This photograph reminds me of just how close I wish I could be to him today. He is so missed by his friends and family.

- 45** JAMES CARTER
Untitled (Youth Hockey)
photographic print
On loan from James Carter

This is a photo of my son after a Kalamazoo Optimist Hockey Association youth hockey game in 1987. It won a 1987 Kodak International Newspaper Snapshot Award Certificate of Merit.

- 46** HANK MATTSON
Working Artist
mixed media
On loan from Hank Mattson

This linocut print titled 'Working Artist' and a receipt of all that was done during one 9-hour shift as a prep cook at Crow's Nest, accompanied by a translation of the kitchen shorthand used in the receipt.

I moved to Kalamazoo as an artist-in-residence at the KIA. By the end of my first week in town, I was also a prep cook at Crow's Nest. Throughout my residency and beyond, I worked three or four 9-hour shifts per week. Between these two institutions, I can make some connection with pretty much everyone I meet in Kalamazoo. Through them I've made dozens of friends and felt a part of the community. The title "Working Artist" is a play on words. People always ask, "are you a working artist?" Well, yeah. I've made peace with the fact that to pursue art is to work, sometimes on art, and sometimes to pay for being an artist. I wrote the accompanying receipt during my last shift at Crow's Nest, as a memento of a day's work.

47 STEPHEN MORILLO
Richard Phillips: Separate Diversity, 2025
oil on canvas
On loan from Stephen Morillo

48 DOUGLAS DYKEHOUSE
Local coffee shop
oil painting
On loan from Douglas Dykehouse

49 DOUGLAS DYKEHOUSE
A Local Gathering Place
oil painting
On loan from Douglas Dykehouse

50 ELISE HEAD
Problems that Fix Themselves
oil on canvas
On loan from Elise Head

This is a piece of the brick wall of Fourth Coast Cafe & Bakery (816 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo).

51 Brick from the foundation of the Draper/Siedschlag Hall at Western Michigan University
On loan from Olivia Ford

I obtained this brick during the tear-down of the historic hall in 2021. Originally built in 1950, Draper/Siedschlag Hall housed four generations of my family, including myself, while attending Western. It only felt right to keep a part of it with me as a physical reminder of my family's connection to the city of Kalamazoo and to the college.

52 MARISSA KLEE-PEREGON
Shove I
digital photograph of satin bricks in a wall at 430 N Church St
On loan from Marissa Klee-Peregon

This is part of a project that relates to the built environment of Kalamazoo and its changes over time. This wall is part of the building that used to stand across the street from my studio at the Park Trades Center. Shortly after it was taken, the building was knocked down.

- 53** Kris Walker
Tessellated Odyssey
digital photographic illustration
On loan from Kris Walker

This is a photograph of the Radisson downtown that has been digitally manipulated into an abstract work.

- 54** Colleen Woolpert
Papermaking with the Ghosts of Paper City, 2023
laminated handmade paper, video
On loan from Colleen Woolpert

I have a somewhat romantic view of industry, despite my time operating a drill press during a factory job in my twenties. On my studio walls are black and white photos of early stereoscope makers that inspire me as I make my own. In 2022, I jumped at the chance to explore the former Lee Paper Company mill at the Prairie Ronde Artist Residency in southern Kalamazoo County. At the nearby Vicksburg Historical Society, I scanned early 1900s photos of mill workers—young men working barefoot on the wet floors of the machine room and the “rag women” removing buttons from cotton clothing before it was beaten into paper pulp. Onto vintage paper from the mill, I laser printed the images and then dragged the sheets through more cotton pulp at the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center in 2023.

Working alone at night in the KBAC’s Paul Robbert Papermaking Studio, I was reminded of the man who taught my first art class at WMU and of another influential professor, Eve Reid, whose papermaking apron I wore as my hands went through the wet pulp and drew out the collective guidance of the ghosts of Paper City.

- 55 STAN SOCHA
My parents with Snow Shovels
watercolor
On loan from Stan Socha

This painting shows the 30" Kalamazoo Snow of 1967. It was inspired by a photo taken by a family member. The snowstorm was historic and paralyzing.



Kalamazoo Mall, January 26, 1978. *Kalamazoo Gazette* photo

- 56 IVY ZAROFF
An Ode to Grand Mere
acrylic on canvas
On loan from Ivy Zaroff

This painting is a manifestation of my gratitude to the place that always felt like home growing up. Having access to this park connected my spirit to nature, which is a deep part of me as an adult.

- 57 Henry Black
Red-bellied woodpecker
digital print
On loan from Henry Black

This photograph was taken at a local park in Kalamazoo during the fall. Birds are a treasured part of my daily life, bringing me joy and comfort wherever I go. To imagine a world without birds leads to a much lonelier and quieter place. To me, this photo stresses the beauty and importance of nature and the environment.

- 58** JAMES SCHLAGE
Crabapple Blossoms
acrylic on stretched canvas
On loan from James Schlage

While growing up in Kalamazoo one of my favorite signs of Spring was the fruit blossoms. My childhood home had crabapple trees that lined our driveway on one side. The early blossoms added vivid colors to the drab monotone colors of the Michigan winter.

- 59** Upjohn glass sculpture on mirrored oak base
On loan from Marcia V. Stucki

This piece was created in the specialised "glass shop" of The Upjohn Company's research laboratories in downtown Kalamazoo. Symbolizing the creativity of scientists in its combination of scientific vessels with fanciful elements of nature, it was presented to my father, Jacob D. Stucki, Ph.D., on the occasion of his 1989 retirement as Vice President of Research & Development at the company.

For well over one hundred years, Upjohn facilities and the increasing number of employees who worked there were a vital part of the life and economy of downtown Kalamazoo. The company had celebrated its centennial in 1986, and plans were well under way for additional downtown construction.

After the acquisition of Upjohn (by then a part of Pharmacia) by Pfizer in 2003, the research division was disbanded, and large-scale demolition of former Upjohn buildings soon followed. The iconic research "tower" (Bldg. 25), designed by Detroit-based, internationally known architect Albert Kahn, was torn down in 2005.

- 60** ROBERT STUUT
Wooden stool, ca. 1920
On loan from Nancy DeShong

My grandfather, Robert St uut, came to the United States from the Netherlands in 1909 when he was 19 years old. He built this stool in the early 1920s. I have a photo of him sitting on it. He died in 1952, 7 years before I was born.

- 61** *Fell in Love in Kalamazoo* - wedding dress, Melanie by Maggie Sottero, lace overlay with champagne slip purchased from Memories Bridal in February 2017.
On loan from Megan Osetek

On June 3, 2017, the bride and groom celebrated their love at the historic Henderson Castle after meeting more than a decade earlier while attending WMU. Kalamazoo is our home, where we fell in love and began our family. We were determined to showcase all things Kalamazoo on our special day. Everything from the pre/post venue events, catering, dress, wedding bands, DJ, and the lovely Entrada Photography was Kalamazoo.



- 62** MARY REED
Demeter and Persephone
wheat weaving
On loan from Mary Reed

I love reading. Greek mythology is one of the many genres I enjoy. As a wheat weaving folk artisan, this was an opportunity for me to unite a variety of interests. This display was created for the Portage Public Library.

- 63** Vintage books
On loan from Janine Kennedy and the Friends of the Kalamazoo Public Library

These are treasured books that have been donated to the Friends of Kalamazoo Public Library from the Kalamazoo community.

- 64** Comic book placemat, encased in plastic
On loan from James Denison

This is a placemat my mom had made for me a few years ago, one of a group of several similar ones. I've chosen to submit it for sentimental reasons - my Mom had made it for me from comic books from the fifties and sixties. The comic books were my uncle's from when he was a kid, and in part the project was an effort at cleaning some old things up after my grandmother passed away. But it was also a very thoughtful gift - my mom got the idea to give me these placemats after I started studying pulp fiction magazines, which were the precursors to comics in the realm of inexpensive popular fiction and helped pioneer sci-fi and other fantastic genres. So, when I use these placemats, it always reminds me of my mom's thoughtful gift, and my uncle's childhood passion for comics, and my own fascination with popular fiction magazines and their colorful covers like this one, and my love of sci-fi stories. Taglines like "BIRTHDAY CAKE FOR A CANNIBAL ROBOT" are a bit silly but a lot of fun.

- 65** Book of the ExEx 1838 - 1842
On loan from David and Barbara Brose

Supported by the U.S. Navy and promoted by merchants looking for new whaling grounds, Congress approved an American Exploring Expedition. It took 10 years to put together crews, artists, scientists and vessels before the gallant naval squadron of six small ships explored the world. They sailed, surveyed 280 islands and constructed 180 maps. (Their accurate charts of southern oceans would be used by the U.S. during WWII, 100 years later.) The ExEx as they called it, also mapped 800 miles of Oregon territory coast. They were the first people who mapped the coast of Antarctica coast, proving there is a 7th continent. They sent back trunks filled with specimens: from pickled fish to growing plants to art from all parts of the globe. These were sent to the Smithsonian and that's how it became the National Museum of the United States.

Commodore Charles Wilkes, leader of the ExEx published the first book about the ExEx in 1845. He continued to appear in American history: his infamous Trent Affair was a diplomatic crisis with England during the Civil War. But that is another fascinating story.

- 66** *I've Got A Cook in Kalamazoo!* and
*House Specialties, More House Specialties, Even More House Specialties, and House
Specialties Encore* (Four cookbooks by Deanna House)
cookbooks
On loan from Janet Thieme

First published in 1978 by the Junior League of Kalamazoo, *I've Got A Cook in Kalamazoo!* has been enjoyed and used by Kalamazoo area residents and their friends and relatives for decades.

Home economist Deanna House (1939-2022) was known and loved by thousands of women in the Kalamazoo area for her down-to-earth, fun, and informative cooking demonstrations and classes and the four cookbooks that she published from 1981-1997. Many of her recipes are on my "forever" list of reliable standbys. She lived in Portage from 1971-1990 and in Kalamazoo from 2017-2022.

- 67** DEMARRA WEST
Me Too: A Therapist's Journey to Heal, Find Liberation, & Joy
signed hardcover book
On loan from Demarra West

Me Too: A Therapist's Journey to Heal, Find Liberation, & Joy is a deeply personal memoir and guide to healing. Born and raised in Kalamazoo, Demarra is a licensed therapist, holistic practitioner, and wellness advocate who shares her powerful story of confronting childhood trauma and reclaiming joy through holistic wellness practices. The book blends her personal journey with practical tools, thoughtful reflections, and prompts to help others explore their own path to healing and liberation. We chose this submission for *Sourced from the 'Zoo* because it embodies the exhibition's mission to connect people through shared histories/experiences and to foster meaningful conversations about themes that resonate with the community. For more than twenty years, Demarra's work has uplifted not only individuals impacted by trauma and the professionals who support them, but also the wellbeing of countless institutions - making it a vital contribution to Kalamazoo's community.

- 68** *A Century of Caring: The Upjohn Story* book by Robert D.B. Carlisle
On loan from Janet Thieme

Published in 1987 in honor of the 100th anniversary of The Upjohn Company in 1986, this book relates the company's history. As employees of the company at that time, my husband and I received copies.

- 69 MARY REED
Beauty in a Bag
mixed media
On loan from Mary Reed

Stylist and creator Mary Reed uses traditional materials to reflect beauty as a basic necessity with some collateral effects. Patrons of all ages and communities will find familiar objects that will trigger a full spectrum of memories and emotions. "Beauty is big business in Kalamazoo and globally. I care about the environment... [and] the health of service providers and think beyond the dollars. My mission is to generate awareness in people when they make choices as I make my living trying to balance those desires."

- 70 HOLLY FISHER
AIDS Red Ribbon Candleholder
metal
On loan from Community AIDS Resource of Southwest Michigan

I am submitting this on behalf of Cares (Community AIDS Resource of Southwest Michigan). We provide HIV case management and HIV/STI testing and treatment as well as medical care in Southwest Michigan. Our offices are in Kalamazoo and Benton Harbor. We have been serving the community for 40 years. This is a metal AIDS ribbon candleholder that metal artist Holly Fisher created for Cares. This candleholder is used at every all-staff meeting where we remember those who have passed from AIDS with a moment of silence and honor those living and affected by HIV. Holly created a small number of these for one of our auctions and it is a beautiful piece for us to honor our history as an organization.

- 71 OLIVER HOWELL
West Lake in Hangzhou, China, 2010
digital print
On loan from Oliver Howell

The West Lake has influenced design in the rest of China as well as Japan and Korea over the centuries. It testifies to the cultural tradition of improving landscapes to create a series of vistas reflecting an idealized fusion between humans and nature.

72 ANDREW FRANCISCO

This Land

video

On loan from Andrew Francisco

This Land is an experimental video work inspired by the vast agricultural lands around Kalamazoo County and the geometric paintings of Sol LeWitt. I collaborated with a friend and drone operator in Cooper Township to capture bird's-eye footage of the massive fields near where he lives. I then arranged and composited these clips and paired them with a "time-stretched" version of the folk classic "This Land is Your Land" (which renders it an unrecognizable polyphonic drone). The result is an entirely new experience from an otherwise very familiar environment, provoking viewers to interrogate the nature of "natural" landscapes. This work was originally created for *26 Years*, an exhibition that explores the limits of human perception, specifically regarding climate change.

Andrew Francisco is a filmmaker and artist. He has previously designed a room-sized video installation about capitalism and frustrated desire ('You Can't Always Get What They Want You to Want'), which was presented in the offices of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo and traveled to venues in Chicago and Philadelphia. He has also directed documentaries and enjoys studying languages.

Nate Hartmann is a drone pilot and aerial photographer based in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Nate has been flying recreationally since 2017, and professionally since 2019. He still gets excited to see a familiar place from 400 feet above. His photos and videos have been featured in Kalamazoo-area musicians' videos, as well as print and television coverage of environmental topics such as sediment deposits in the Kalamazoo River - where he enjoys kayaking - and the ecological impact of commercial development near Asylum Lake Preserve.

73 MARY SPRADLING

Weather Blanket, 2022

yarn

On loan from Mary Spradling

This is a blanket knit in 2022. One square is knit each day. The color of each piece is determined by the high temperature for the day. Ten colors were selected and each represents a 10 degree spread, from 0 to 100 degrees, so that by glancing at the piece one can easily see temperature trends for that year. Each row represents two weeks, and months have been spelled out, as well as special blocks for holidays, first snow, weather trends, and so on. Every block is different and there is a "key" at the bottom indicating what each color represents. Each block is 3x3".

74 ELAINE UNZICKER

Legacy

anodized aluminum chainmail, stainless chainmail, wood, paint

On loan from Elaine Unzicker

The inspiration for *Legacy* stems from the quilt squares my Grandmother Minnie stitched into quilts. It consists of three wooden panels painted and draped with stainless chain mail. Anodized aluminum chainmail is layered over the stainless chain mail creating multiple textures and layering for effect. As a new transplant to Kalamazoo; it seemed like a great way to introduce my art and share part of my family background.

75 OLIVER CORPORATION

wood patterns for casting tractor parts and gear

On loan from Julie Devers

This is a well-crafted form, with unique historical significance. The Oliver Corporation had plants in Battle Creek and South Bend, Indiana. These pieces were surplus from the plant when they closed in 1985.

76 MORRIS BROSE

The Walls of Rome

lost-wax bronze sculpture

On loan from David Brose

After teaching sculpture at the Cranbrook Academy of Art, my widowed father, Morris Brose, enrolled my young sisters in a Swiss girls' school, and opened a small sculpture studio near Campo de Fiori in the heart of Rome. Following college graduation, the next winter I took a fellowship to study renaissance philosophy in Italy, but soon realized I was interested in more than libraries. Between months with backpack and banjo crossing western Europe in trucks, trains and boats, I explored studios and art foundries in the narrow streets behind Rome's ancient monuments and Medieval churches. By summer's end I had enough Italian to be a good family tour guide, but returned to Ann Arbor for graduate school. There I met my future wife, Barbara. Soon I was drafted, having lost student deferment status while in Europe.

By the time I returned from the Army my father had opened a new studio in downtown Detroit and was teaching sculpture at Oakland University. Then, after we had married, he gave Barbara this sculptural plaque he had cast in Rome during that same fall I had sailed for home. As we worked for colleges and museums in Ohio, Georgia, Ontario, North Carolina, and, once again Michigan, these Walls of Rome have hung in our home.

77 Photograph of Ethiopian church
On loan from Jack Michael

My wife and I visited Ethiopia about six years ago. We traveled to a remote mountainous region where there are eleven 800-year-old medieval monolithic rock churches that were carved down into a plateau. This photograph was taken inside one of those rock churches and has not been altered or enhanced in any way. Christianity came to Ethiopia almost 2000 years ago. The people of Ethiopia are predominantly orthodox Christians, and they go to church 7 days a week. These rock churches have been used continuously since they were built. In recent years it was discovered that, at a certain time of day and year, if you stood in one place and used an iPhone camera to take a picture, then the light from the window would reflect off the lens to put an image of a cross in the picture that is not visible in the room. The thing that is so intriguing to me about this is that a church built 800 years ago, combined with the modern technology of an iPhone, merged to place this image of a cross in a photograph.

78 Original photos of the 1915 SS Eastland Disaster
On loan from Patty Smetana

Our family moved to Kalamazoo from Chicago. One of our family heirlooms is a collection of photos taken by my father's uncle of the *SS Eastland*, which rolled over in the Chicago River on July 24, 1915. 800+ people perished in the accident. Frank and Ann Barta arrived late due to heavy traffic between the city and their home in Brookfield, IL. Upon arrival they saw first responders scrambling about the overturned ship they would have been on had they arrived 30 minutes earlier. Frank captured the moments in a series of photos taken from above the dock. In 2001 we presented the collection to the Chicago Maritime Society, though we kept three duplicates. I selected these for a submission because of the unique circumstances surrounding their origin, and because such photos are rarely seen outside a museum collection.

79 Hair wreath

On loan from Pamela Obed

In the 19th century women would often collect hair from brushes and save it in a hair receiver. Itinerant artists would use the hair to make an ornamental object. This is a floral hair wreath with central initials and a date (1895). Below Anna Murray Tichborn is pictured.



carved wood inlaid with mother of pearl (and possibly other shell fragments), and pigment.

Textile, pre-20th century
silk with gold weft
On loan from Mary-Lousie Totton

This is presumed to be a ceremonial textile hanger from south Sumatra island, Indonesia. It would have been used as the backdrop support for the married couple or chieftain—the star(s) of the event. Bird imagery on either end appear as though they are flying with the textile.

This textile is from a Sumatran community, the Minangkabau people, in the village of Panda Sikek. I bought it in 1995 from an elderly woman who wanted me to have it as I am a teacher... not an art dealer. It is a very fine sarong made of silk with gold supplementary weft: a technique called songket. The 'head' of the piece, displays a pattern of isosceles triangles, one of the oldest motifs, commonly referred to as bamboo shoots (pucuak rabuang)—these triangles are placed base to base to form diamonds or lozenges that appear stretched. This would have been worn as a skirt by a woman for important ceremonies.

81 HANS MICHKELSEN
turned wooden bowl
On loan from Sarah Nason

My great-grandfather, Hans Michkelsen, was a Danish immigrant and lived in Pontiac. He was part of the Polar Bear Expedition in WWII, which was rough. Later in his life, he taught himself woodworking and ended up making all kinds of stuff for the family, including these beautiful wood-turned bowls.

82 PAUL MAY
Alone Together
mesquite, walnut, maple, chatke-viga
On loan from Paul May

This piece was inspired by Southwestern ollas (pots). In the throes of the pandemic we were banded both alone and together in our new daily life.

83 Belly dance belt with Pakistani, Afghani, & Iranian Kuchi amulets and coins

On loan from Sarah Schneider

This belly dance belt allows the dancer to become part of the music by simply moving her hips! It is worn by Sarah of Boheme Belly Dance during dance classes and for performances. The amulets and coins were created by Kuchi artisans, who primarily reside in Afghanistan, Pakistan, & Iran. The word "Kuch" translates to "migration". Each metal amulet is adorned with small bits of colorful glass set in wax.

84 DAVION RODGERS

Calculated Passions series

acrylic on canvas

On loan from Davion Rodgers

Calculated Passions explores the intricate relationship between logic and emotion, embodying the harmony found in the intersection of numbers and feelings. This series is a reflection of my own quantitative mindset, where passion is not just an abstract force, but something that can be mapped, understood, and expressed through form and color. Each piece seeks to illustrate how both philosophical ideas and personal experiences, whether moments of clarity or confusion, can be distilled into patterns, much like solving an equation.

The work uses red, blue, yellow, and green to symbolize the complex emotions we encounter at life's many intersections. Red represents urgency, blue evokes introspection, yellow captures optimism, and green symbolizes balance, all woven together in a dance of visual tension and harmony. The medium of acrylic on canvas allows for a rich interplay between structure and fluidity, inspired by the geometric precision of Bauhaus, the clean lines of Piet Mondrian, and the vibrant ornamentation of Art Deco. These influences converge to create a visual language that speaks to both the rational and the emotional, illustrating that, in life's unpredictable journey, there is a kind of calculated beauty in our passions.

85 Locally picked morels

On loan from Egle, Brett, and Aviana Gornick

Brett and I grew up 4,400 miles away from each other but we both spent a lot of time mushroom hunting with our families. We loved it! In spring, Brett looked for morels – a prized mushroom in Michigan. In fall, I looked for prized mushrooms in Lithuania –boletes. Even though we grew up in different countries and cultures, we share a love for the outdoors and mushroom hunting, and we continue this beautiful tradition with our daughter Aviana.

86 *The Rope Project: A Community Connected*

mixed media

On loan from KRESA (Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency)

The Rope Project began in 2017 as an alternative arts initiative through KRESA's Education for the Arts. The idea was woven together by KRESA's Education for the Arts program's visual teaching artists, whose hope was to bring alternative and special education students across the county together to experience a series of workshops where students share stories celebrating their community and unique experiences. The stories are written on fabric and tied together to form a community rope using a rope-making machine. *The Rope Project: A Community Connected* reminds us of the strength that can result from sharing our stories and experiences to unite the community.

87 ROBERT JOHNSTON

Untitled

Dollar Bill print and Scratchboard picture of dollar bill with George Washington

On loan from Paula Johnston

Scratch board is an uncommon technique that is made from scratching the picture from paper that's dipped in a heavy coat of ink. It creates a beautiful effect with visible lines. My dad Robert Johnston, who made this work, loved this method of making semi-abstract drawings. Robert Johnston was an art historian and professor of Fine Arts at Western Michigan University. He has several works in the permanent collection of the KIA, and has shown his works in galleries around the country. He worked and taught in every medium, with prints being a particular favorite. As a historian, politics and its effects on the art world was often a subject of intense interest for him.

88 LEASIA POSEY

The Fool

digital print

On loan from Leasia Posey

This image features the last copy of my BFA thesis exhibit "I Warned You", in which lighting and imagery are used to represent points in a narrative of my personal life in the titles of Tarot.

89 SUZANNE KERR

Old Man in a Turkish Market
terra cotta sculpture
On loan from Alice Kemerling

This was made by my mother, Suzanne Kerr, who lived in Kalamazoo for 6 months each year from 2008 until she died in 2018. She was self-taught. Working in clay at the KIA almost every day was her joy and helped her to establish her own identity (rather than just being "Alice's mother") and to make new friends in Kalamazoo.

90 IAN DAVID PATRICK LOFTUS
Embracing Winds and Inner Anger, Summer 2020
oil painting
On loan from Ian David Patrick Loftus

2020 was a difficult year because of the pandemic and it was my 21st birthday that year. Like so many others, celebrations and gatherings were interrupted and college classes were all taught virtually, which I did not like. It was also my first year living with roommates and we were all young and trying to adjust to this major change. That first year of the pandemic made me feel very isolated and angry, and one of the activities I tried was painting to help me deal with it. In this one I experimented with color and shape and just let my mood guide me as I thought about how to embrace the "winds of change."

91 *World Map Reimagined*, ca. 2009
framed decoupage
On loan from Cindy O'Donnell

Thirty 7th graders, each interpreting a segment of a Rand McNally map, created this submission during a single class period for an auction to benefit the public school to which my son had just transferred. After volunteering to oversee this project as an opportunity to meet his classmates, I fell in love with them and their masterpiece, determined to become the highest bidder. The project was inspired by UK artist Chris Kenny, who had just unveiled a wall-sized collage using materials found on the streets of London. Confident that parents would not want their children scrounging around Chicago's gutters, I supplied all materials and lightly decoupage each segment to its neighbors to maintain the integrity of each student's work.

92 CASSANDER ENGLISH

Wedding Quilt

On loan from Cassander English

This quilt is made entirely from napkins used in our wedding in October of 2016. It was machine-pieced and hand-quilted during the pandemic while we cared for our twins who were born 6 days before lockdown. We wanted to create a keepsake from our wedding that would embody our value of reusing things instead of creating waste. We now also have a reminder of the resilience of joy. Maybe it will become a family heirloom, or maybe we will snuggle in it until it is filled with holes and asking to be made anew.

93 *His Name is Leander*

handmade doll with clothing; linen, cotton, wool, silk, buttons, metal snaps

On loan from Peter Robertson

Inscription on tag: "I couldn't decide on a name for him. I guess it is up to you! He is dressed [in the style of the] late 1830[s] - early 1840[s]."

My sister made this for me after I saw/played with others she had made for her children. She included his daily clothing, a smoking jacket, sleeping cap, and sleeping shirt.

94 EASTON, 5th grader

Mona Lisa Cat

chalk drawing

On loan from Erin Visscher

Easton is a 5th grader at K Christian. He is new to art. He loved this picture and gave it to me to hang in my office at work.

95 LINDA K. JUDY

Untitled (pottery with Art Nouveau background)

watercolor

On loan from Linda K. Judy

This painting was completed in 1989, as part of an exhibit of paintings by me at one of the earliest Art Hops at Kingscott Associates on W. Michigan Avenue. It was sold and displayed at The College of Education at Western Michigan University. Over 20 years later, I was contacted by WMU when Sangren Hall was under renovation. No one claimed ownership of the painting so it was going to be put in the trash. Someone recognized my signature, found out I worked at WMU and offered to give it back to me. It was a total surprise to have my painting "come home" to me after over 20 years!

- 96** DAVION RODGERS
Untitled
acrylic on canvas
On loan from Davion Rodgers

This series of acrylic on canvas works explores humanity's quest for profound inner growth, particularly during times of global transformation. Through symbolic motifs and expressive imagery, the pieces capture the emotional and spiritual journey of self-discovery and resilience. Drawing influence from the clean lines and geometric precision of Bauhaus, alongside the intricate illustration styles of Erté and George Barbier, the works blend modernist abstraction with elegant, figurative elements to evoke a timeless narrative of human evolution. These visual dialogues reflect both the internal and external forces shaping our collective and individual experiences, offering a space for reflection in an era of change.

This piece is a reflection of my own growth in trying times. As I think about all of today's issues and global changes, one can only find ways to be fluid and adjust, allowing oneself to grow in unforeseen circumstances.

- 97** MANDY WEISS
Mira
inkjet digital print
On loan from Mandy Weiss

Mira is a trans woman captured in a natural way, feminine and unapologetic.

- 98** TERRANCE BURTON
Untitled
oil pastel mixed medium
On loan from Terrance Burton

- 99** WENDI SULLIVAN
Where the Light Shines, April 2023
acrylic on canvas
On loan from Wendi Sullivan

This painting reflects a time after many life shifts caused by the pandemic, including working from home instead of a regular office job. Entering the depths of stillness, I found that life is not stagnant – it is filled with light.

100 CLEOPHIA PALMORE
Crisis Probe
digital photograph
On loan from James C. Palmore

101 BASIL HAWKINS
American Tourist
lithograph
On loan from Paula Johnston

This lithograph depicts men riding boxcars, presumably in the 1930s. Hard times and unemployment make the men feel disconnected from society. They are merely tourists in their own country. Basil Hawkins has art displayed in museums in several countries. I chose this piece for its statement on the effects of unemployment on the psyche, and how people are judged by their economic circumstances by others and themselves.

102 BENJAMIN KALLEWARD
Untitled
charcoal
On loan from Rachel Kalleward

Benjamin Kalleward was a local artist whose work, including this piece, have been on display in the community. Benjamin died in a car crash in 1998. We treasure his art and his memory and we would love to share it with the community again.

103 JAMES C. PALMORE
Untold Truths
digital photograph
On loan from James C. Palmore

Some truths are untold, some are denied, some are blocked, some are feared, some were forbidden to be told, some are currently being erased from history books.

104 KIM SHAW

Syd

acrylic and mixed media on canvas

On loan from Kim Shaw

This painting is from a body of work called "Nouveau: An Allied and Trans Art Inclusive Experience". I have been actively working on this project over the last year and am scheduled to exhibit it in full in the Arcus Gallery on the downtown KVCC campus in October 2025. This project celebrates and honors the unique and powerful transgender individuals in our realm. During the life of this project, I am working with trans individuals in our community to create pieces of gender-affirming art, depicting their bodies and identities through an art nouveau lens. This is a painting of Syd, a recent graduate of Western Michigan University and an INCREDIBLE musician and opera singer.

Why Transgender Participants?

My spouse is trans, which puts me up close and personal with the daily experiences that transgender individuals face and the beauty they bring to the world. I am well aware this does not mean I understand what it means to be trans. That said, I bear witness daily to the challenges, opposition, and hate my trans and gender-non-conforming students, family, friends, and community face just for existing. My goal in this project is to do my part through the lens I know best to bring joy to the trans community.

Why Art Nouveau?

The international presence of art nouveau attests to the successful tearing down of hierarchies between the arts. Art nouveau was prevalent in public places such as train stations, restaurants, and stores – public and private domains had equal ownership of the style. This highlights the unified, inclusive nature of art nouveau, an art form to be enjoyed by all. Art nouveau presented a stepping stone for modern artists, whose legacy continues to inspire and evolve today.

Historically, art nouveau projects depicted cisgender female-presenting beings. The Nouveau project series will celebrate all trans and gender-non-conforming humans! Choosing this work style comes from a deep desire to celebrate, support, love, and protect our trans community. The inclusive historical nature of art nouveau, in combination with endless artistic possibilities in identity expression, makes it the perfect inspiration for this heart work. Each participant in the project sits with me to discuss identity, color scheme, clothing, feelings about their current and/or desired body, nature, environment, and the overall aesthetic of the piece to ensure the final work feels affirming and invokes gender euphoria. Each participant will be compensated for their time, work, and beautiful contribution to this project.

105 *The Gnomes*

ceramic gnome sculptures with mixed media embellishments (red ukulele, crow, "Have you seen my chicken?" sign, mushroom hat)

On loan from Angela Barr

Five years ago my parents received a gnome sculpture from a friend. The gnome was grimacing and giving a vulgar gesture with its hand. They were NOT fans of the gnome's demeanor, and so it was "re-gifted" to my husband and I. The gnome's presence in our home became a running joke, and we became attached to the character we'd assigned to him. The following Christmas we gifted the gnome to my sister. We made some additions – embellishments that represent the year, and little inside jokes. We also wrote a poem about the year and the changes the gnome had made. This has become a longstanding tradition, and the gnome has taken on a life and story of his own. A few years back we sculpted a new hand giving a peace sign. This year, he's finally at peace with himself and the world and has gained a gnomish girlfriend. This will continue to be an unconventional heirloom in my family for years to come, and has been a strange source of joy for us all during challenging times.

106 Pine burl in the shape of a heart.

On loan from Perry Wolfe

I found this burl while trimming trees in the UP over 18 years ago about two months before my daughter was to have open-heart reconstructive surgery. I saw this burl as a sign that everything would be okay. Holly turns 19 this year and everything is okay.

107 SARA RIO

Fermenting Crock

woodfired Pottery

On loan from Sara Rio

As a ceramics artist I am inspired by the relationship between the form and its function. This fermenting crock considers the interconnection of our food to the tools we use for food preparation.

- 108** *Medieval Chess King and Queen from Scottish Isle of Lewis*
walrus ivory
On loan from David Brose

These 12th century ivory chess pieces were carved of walrus ivory for some Viking chieftain. They were part of a set found a century ago on Lewis, the most distant Scottish Isle in the North Sea. I saw them when my wife and I visited the British Museum in London on our honeymoon. At that time I had enough English money to buy reproductions of the King and Queen, but I always wanted a full set, and I often mentioned what a wonderful present it would make. My younger son offered to buy the entire set if I agreed to quit smoking. I finally did it; he presented a set for my birthday.



- 109** *Vintage arcade video game Burger Time*
wood cabinet with CRT monitor, light up marquee
On loan from Neil Murphy

42 year old arcade game manufactured for use in a public space but now part of a private collection. Objects like that have always been interesting to me. Also a good example of cabinet art representing a simple computer game designed and made during the peak of the past arcade era.

I'm not only interested in the resurgence of the classic games but also how much media has advanced in my lifetime from simple games like this one to something a million times more powerful with both positive and negative consequences for us.

- 110** Theremin and speaker built by Ben Aldrich.
On loan from Ben Aldrich

If you would like to play this instrument please follow the directions on the theremin.
This object was loaned by a member of your community, please treat it with care.

- 111** MARISSA VOYTENKO
Stela

encaustic relief sculpture (encaustic, plywood, and drywall)
On loan from Marissa Voytenko

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines “stela” as carved or inscribed stone slab or pillar used for commemorative purposes. In this relief sculpture-painting I am using plywood cut at the Kalamazoo Maker's Space. This piece celebrates and commemorates this city, which offers valuable resources to its creative inhabitants.

- 112** AUDREY DORMAN
Growing and going

acrylics on canvas
On loan from Audrey Dorman

Growing and Going attempts to show the continuous evolution and change of humans. We have the constant need and desire to explore, learn, and expand in all capacities. We make the decision to reach within ourselves to tap into our energy and channel it, consciously or subconsciously, to use it in the ways that we desire. This piece draws inspiration from the people and places who have encouraged me to grow into who I am, and to honor and look forward to the growth and changes that are yet to come.

- 113** Hand painted film positives, working proofs
On loan from Brian Moon

I visited my Uncle Ron in Albuquerque in the early 2020s. He was an artist and art collector. In the back of one of his closets were these film positives. After I expressed interest in the pieces, he insisted they leave with me in my suitcase. Ron grew up in St. Joseph, Michigan, graduated from Michigan State University, and went to Morocco in the Peace Corps. Before settling down in Albuquerque he lived in San Francisco in the 1970s. It was here that he had a relationship with a man that had worked at Andy Warhol's studio, *The Factory*, and had these pieces, which were gifted to Ron. By the time I rediscovered them the man's name and the details of his time at *The Factory* were a distant memory and lost to time. The film positives are hand-painted working pieces used as proofs or test pieces to see what the final silk screens would look like. It is not believed that they were painted by Andy Warhol himself but by one of his assistants at *The Factory*.

114 Framed Sheet Music by composer Curtis Curtis-Smith, commissioned by The Gilmore.
On loan from The Gilmore

115 *Historic Photos of Civic Theater*, ca. 1930s
On loan from Civic Theater

116 OLIVIA MENDOZA
Penny Leather By Benna EP Cover
On loan from Olivia Mendoza

This piece was illustrated for the local musician Benna to use as the EP cover for his song Penny Leather. It was a joyful collaboration between Benna and I combining my audiovisual synesthesia and his original music. Our Vine neighborhood is full of artists and musicians and every time the two can combine it's generative. Every flower chosen was selected for its symbolic meaning related to the themes of the song, with colors manipulated to emulate the tones and rhythms.

117 JAMES C. PALMORE
Untitled Abstract
acrylic on wood
On loan from James C. Palmore

118 CHRISTOPHER DARLING
The Cleveland Symphony Plays Respighi, ca. 2016
On loan from Deborah Darling

While Christopher Carlings' illustrations took many forms; these images that seem to be in motion represent the pinnacle of his style. *The Cleveland Symphony Plays Respighi* is part of a series called *Everywhere is Cleveland*. This title is taken from a quote by Tennessee Williams, "There is New Your, San Francisco, New Orleans, and everywhere else is just CLEVELAND." Christopher received a national award from the Society of Illustrators for this work. Besides being a freelance artist Christopher was a beloved professor at Kent State University. In 2018, at the age of thirty-six he lost his battle with bi-polar disorder, leaving a stellar legacy of creativity, compassion, and infectious humor. It is a comfort to his family that others are still able to appreciate his great talent.

- 119** MARY HATCH
The Secret Forest
digital print
On loan from Mary Hatch

I create prints on my computer and when I look out my window this is what I see with a little added imagination. My neighbor claimed to be the dancer wandering through the woods.

- 120** JEFFRY LUCHIES
Photograph
On loan from Jeffry Luchies

I have a collection of photographs I've taken of Kalamazoo. I got a scholarship from the KIA in middle school and took photography through a school program. I have the newsletter and art from that class along with a portfolio I put together circa 2002 with lots of photographs of downtown Kalamazoo inside, including the Koopsen's building as it was being built into condos.

- 121** MILLARD SOUTHERN
Photographs of jazz performers
On loan from Millard Southern

- 122** MICHAEL PFLEGHAAR
Piano
acrylic
On loan from The Gilmore

Michael Pflgebraar is the artist behind the abstract piano art for the 2024 Gilmore International Piano Festival. "My assignment in creating the 2024 Gilmore International Piano Festival artwork was to create an abstract image which referenced the piano without being literal," says Pflgebraar. "The original acrylic painting "Sound and Vision" was the result of a series of digital drawing sketches presented to The Gilmore during the design process. I was inspired by the way light reflects off of the glossy grand piano surface and illustrating music coming from its sound board."

123 Coprolite (dinosaur fossils)
On loan from Jack Michael

How does time affect the value of objects? It's interesting how the value of an object can both increase and decrease in value depending on how old it is. So for instance, as it gets older a car will decrease in value for some period of years, but if it gets old enough, it begins to increase in value. So what about something that started out sort of disgusting, but 100 million years later is valuable? That's the case with these objects that look like rocks, but they are actually fossilized dinosaur poop called Coprolite. The colors in the fossils are from organic foods that the dinosaur ate.

124 J. A. RICHARDS COMPANY
Printing Block / Plate
lead and wood

Steel Rule Cutting Die
wood and spring steel
On loan from Tom Richards

These were made by the J. A. Richards Co. Founded in 1900 in Albion MI as a printing company, it moved to Kalamazoo shortly thereafter. The company soon developed equipment for the printing industry and then expanded to making steel rule dies. The company went out of business in the early 2000s.

***The term "gypsy" is considered outdated and can be offensive, as it has historically been used in a derogatory manner to stereotype the Romani people. This printing block depicts a vardo—a covered, mobile home primarily used in England and Ireland by Romani.*