# **BIENNIAL 2018**





# Please mark your calendar for these exciting events coming to SAMA in 2019!

Crystal Soirée @ SAMA-Bedford January 26

> Gala @ SAMA-Loretto June 29

Garden Party @ SAMA-Ligonier Valley July 27

> Think Pink @ SAMA-Altoona November 1

#### Cover:

**Deborah and R. Jeffrey Kimball Best of Show Award** Stuart Thompson *Reality Comes and Goes*, 2018 Oil on canvas, 54" x 72" Courtesy of the artist



# **Biennial 2018**



October 19, 2018 - January 19, 2019

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elcome! Thank you for joining us for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art's *Biennial 2018*. This year's exhibition has significant meaning to me as it is my first. Only three months into my tenure as SAMA Executive Director, I was not prepared for the truly astounding pieces of art that would be submitted by artists from the region and across our state.

The Biennial is designed to showcase the creativity, talent and artistry of artists from across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This exhibition celebrates the creative spirit and artistic expression of the state's contemporary artists. The Biennial has attracted some of the best talent and offers some of the most remarkable works of any juried exhibition. I am confident that visitors to the Museum will come away knowing that creative energy, a spirit of excellence and soaring artistic ability abound in this region.

I congratulate all of the artists showcased in this year's exhibition and also highlight some outstanding pieces that have been shared. From the portrayal of daily life and ordinary items to sharing iconic cultural experiences, to the deeply personal experiences, this exhibition has something for everyone. I am positive our visitors will leave this exhibition having had a unique, thought-provoking experience.

My sincere gratitude is extended to everyone who has worked to make Biennial 2018 a memorable experience for participating artists and a noteworthy event for Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. I thank Maureen Vissat Kochanek, art history professor at Seton Hill University, who served as selection and awards juror and whose dedication to task, attention to detail and respect for the artists contributed immeasurably to the Biennial program. I also thank the Museum staff and specifically Curator Dr. Scott Dimond, Registrar Beverlie Hartnett, Site Coordinator Jessica Campbell and Facilities Manager Lee Rummel, each of whom deserves recognition for their efforts to bring Biennial 2018 to the Museum. A special thank you to our award sponsors and our Biennial patrons - Dr. Magdi and Karen Azer, Jim Cayce and Tom Dosh, Commercial Bank & Trust of PA, Glenda and Michael Forosisky, Deborah and R. Jeffrey Kimball, Eva and Michael Kranich, Dean and Paula Lemley, Marian and Dr. Owen K. Morgan, Barbara and Ed O'Brien, Barbara and Larry Savino, and Chantel Ventura - whose generosity and support were critical to the Biennial's success. Finally, the support of our active and involved community is essential to the Museum's future. The generosity and support that I have witnessed so early in my time at SAMA has been overwhelming.

Vanessa K. Houser Executive Director

# BIENNIAL AWARDS SPONSORS

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## BIENNIAL 2018 PATRONS

Jim Cayce and Tom Dosh
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Chantel Ventura
People's Choice
Award (Biennial 2016)
Diana Williams
Seafaring Textures, 2015
Oil on linen, 59" x 41"
Courtesy of the artist

# **BIENNIAL 2018 AWARDS**

Deborah and R. Jeffrey Kimball Best of Show Award (\$1,000) Stuart Thompson, Reality Comes and Goes

Chantel Ventura First Place Award (\$500)
Ron Donoughe, Elliott Shadows

**Dr. Magdi and Karen Azer Second Place Award (\$250)**Daniel C. Helsel, *Blue and White Teapot with Cherries* 

Barbara and Larry Savino Third Place Award (\$100)

Dave Hammaker, *Burning Man* 

Glenda and Michael Forosisky Third Place Award (\$100) Kevin O'Toole, 415-17

Marian and Dr. Owen K. Morgan Third Place Award (\$100) Joseph Ryznar, *Homage to Anastasi* 

Barbara and Ed O'Brien People's Choice Award (\$300)

To be determined by popular vote at the close of the exhibition. Cast your ballot at the reception desk!



Chantel Ventura First Place Award Ron Donoughe Elliott Shadows, 2014 Oil on linen, 48" x 72" Courtesy of the artist



### Juror's Statement

I want to thank Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art for inviting me to jury *Biennial 2018*. I am honored to be selected for the region's premier invitational exhibition to be displayed in such a distinctive venue. Scott Dimond, Curator of Visual Arts, and Beverlie Hartnett, Registrar, have extended me every professional courtesy; thank you for your graciousness. Special thanks to Jessica Campbell, Education Coordinator; I am privileged to "work" for a former student. The submissions presented me with an abundance of riches to view. So many strong works of art made choosing indeed a difficult task. I was deeply moved by some of the work, was joyed at the beauty of many pieces, and was intellectually challenged by several artists.

As an art historian, I am particularly interested in how art is emblematic of its moment in human civilization. Visual art is a precious cultural document, brought to life by individuals who themselves are informed by the times in which they create. When we want to know about the glory that was Greece, we study the Acropolis; when we want to experience the grandeur that was Rome, we visit the Coliseum and the Pantheon. The optimism of the Italian Renaissance is exquisitely stated in Michelangelo's heroic *David*.

Similarly, when we want to enter into an age of faith, the Gothic Cathedrals transport us to the heavenly Jerusalem on Earth while in the modern era the quest for the metaphysical is often more individual – Casper David Friedrich's nuanced landscapes and Mark Rothko's undulating rectangles are holy portals to a unity with the Divine. The American tradition of the Hudson River painters created a national identity for a young country that was soon to witness a threat to the pristine landscapes. With the coming of industrialization, America would become a world leader while the New Eden, painted by Cole, Church and Inness, vanished. When we wish to really *feel* the tumult of war and revolutions Delacroix's *Liberty Leading the People* and Picasso's *Guernica* are our visual icons. Art remains a vital link to our collective past, while contemporary art indicates our own era; the art of our own time is no exception.

Our cultural landscape is rife with political and social turmoil. The arts are a powerful voice that can be readily understood as visual symbols speaking to the many divisive issues plaguing America. We see these potent images on social media, in the news, as well as in art galleries. Visual art transcends the word (spoken and written), as it is immediate. Social art is readily grasped; it is a welcomed respite from the barrage of words assaulting us daily. The art in this exhibition speaks in many visual languages in terms of media, with a diverse range from realism to abstraction to the non-objective, with a healthy diversity in subject.



**Dr. Magdi and Karen Azer Second Place Award**Daniel C. Helsel

Blue and White Teapot with Cherries, 2016
Oil on linen mounted on board, 12" x 16"
Courtesy of the artist

The range in iconography includes landscapes of beautiful southwestern Pennsylvania, portraits, and social justice statements. The natural beauty of our region continues to inspire painters; this *Biennial* evidences the power of nature as an enduring motif to respond. Nature as a source of inspiration, a place to escape perhaps to seek some peace that transcends the daily challenges, is constant and does in fact reflect a healthy practice given our larger world. The overt social statements on violence, power, and labor are both timely and powerful. Portraiture, the desire to create the likeness of an individual, has remained constant throughout the ages; *potrahere*, from where the term portrait comes, literally means to draw forth.

Artists in this *Biennial* have crafted a range of responses to the human form in all of its complexity. We note women continuing to be both the subject as well as the object of many works, while perhaps we may note a couple of artists representing self. Realism and abstraction dominate this *Biennial*, yet there are significant examples of artists embracing the non-objective with confidence. The proficiency displayed in craftsmanship is staggering in some of the sculptures. The pure delight of spontaneity, utilizing gesture to capture the rhythm of the universe is felt in others. The wide spectrum of media employed by artists to make their mark in responding to the world in which we live is impressive.

I hope the audience enjoys the exhibition as much as I enjoyed looking at the images while making my selections. There is a wealth of talent in our arts communities - we are very rich! Art is the magnificence of humanity - it is what makes our endurance heroic. Thank you artists for visualizing our hopes, articulating our struggles, giving face to our delights, and enriching the world we share.

Maureen Vissat Kochanek Art Historian Seton Hill University

### Maureen Vissat Kochanek

is an art history professor at Seton Hill University. She teaches a variety of classes such as History of Western Art, Italian Renaissance Art, Women in Art, Modern Art, American Art, and Post-Modern Art. In addition to her decades of teaching at Seton Hill, Maureen has also taught at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, St. Vincent College, and summer sessions in Lucca, Italy. Maureen leads art history study trips in Europe each May. She is the recipient of numerous teaching awards.

In addition to her teaching, Maureen is an active public speaker. She has been invited to lecture at many arts organizations and museums in southwestern Pennsylvania. On a larger stage, she presents at national conferences throughout the United States. Maureen is an advocate for social engagement of the arts, particularly on issues of social justice and equity.

Maureen holds an undergraduate degree in history and art history from Georgetown University and a master's degree in art history from the University of Pittsburgh. She has two children Livia and Evan Vissat. Maureen lives in Pittsburgh with her husband Patrick Kochanek, MD.



Barbara and Larry Savino Third Place Award
Dave Hammaker
Burning Man, 2017
Archival pigment photographic print on paper, 20" x 31"
Courtesy of the artist

# CATALOGUE

#### Michael Allison (Hollidaysburg)

Scotch Bonnet #12, 2018
Mixed media on aluminum, 35" x 60"
Courtesy of the artist

#### Jean Coursey Beaufort (Ligonier)

Yellowstone, n.d. Watercolor on Yupo paper, 8" x 10" Courtesy of the artist

#### Michael C. Begenyi (Northern Cambria)

Escape, 2017 Screenprint, 18" x 14" Courtesy of the artist

#### Robert Bender (Stillwater)

Chips, 2016
Photograph of cast glass sculpture, 20" x 8" x 6"
Collection of the artist

#### David Bentley (Beaver Falls)

Chiaroscuro Grapes, 2017 Inkjet print, 11" x 14 1/2" Courtesy of the artist

#### Robert Bowden (Pittsburgh)

Farm Solitude, 2018 Watercolor, 13" x 18" Courtesy of the artist

#### Kathleen Kase Burk (Ebensburg)

Boxed Set, 2017 Pencil drawing on paper, 28 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 39" Courtesy of the artist

#### Allen Capriotti (Altoona)

Annunciation to Mary (by Angel Gabriel), 2018 Oil on linen, 48" x 36" Courtesy of the artist

#### Ken Cotlar (Ebensburg)

*#511*, 2017

Acrylic and epoxy resin on canvas, 30" x 30" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Kevin Cutway (Jeannette)**

The Maid of Honor, 2018 Acrylic and resin, 14" x 10" Courtesy of the artist

#### William DeBernardi (Pittsburgh)

The Mud and Straw of History: The Elephant in the Room, 2016
Oil on canvas, 35" x 22"
Courtesy of the artist

Philosopher, 2017 Oil on canvas, 39" x 60" Courtesy of the artist

#### Mike Demi (Burnham)

Wanna War, 2014 Acrylic on board, 28" x 36" Courtesy of the artist Where Are You Going with That Gun in Your Hand?, 2017 Graphite on paper, 9" x 7" Courtesy of the artist

#### Karen A. Deutsch (State College)

Rhapsody, 2018 Photograph, 14" x 11" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Alexis Dillon (Greensburg)**

Coulliere Beach, 2017 Digital photographic print, 30" x 20" Courtesy of the artist

#### Lawrice "Recie" Dolan (Manns Choice)

Woman of Substance, 2016 Mixed media on canvas, 30" x 30" Courtesy of the artist

#### Ron Donoughe (Pittsburgh)

Elliott Shadows, 2014 Oil on linen, 48" x 72" Courtesy of the artist

#### Ann Dougherty (Johnstown)

Regeneration of the Soul, 2018 Oil on canvas, 40" x 30" Courtesy of the artist

#### Brian Dumm (Ebensburg)

Turning Point, 2018 Mixed media, 24" x 18" Courtesy of the artist

#### Norman Ed (Johnstown)

Another Game, 2016 Steel, wood, found objects, 82" x 38" x 16" Courtesy of the artist

#### Earl W. Elliott (Catonville, MD)

Tony, n.d. Marble, 12" x 12" x 1 $^{5}/_{8}$ " Courtesy of the artist

#### Will Espey (Mineral Point)

Chi's Sign Language, 2017 Watercolor canvas print, 22" x 19" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Duncan Everhart (Alum Bank)**

Type Specimen II, 2018 Cherry, white oak and copper foil, 32" x 27" x 16" Courtesy of the artist

#### Joy Fairbanks (Blairsville)

Stonesetter, 2016 Digital photograph, 30" x 27" Courtesy of the artist

#### Marianne Fyda (Troutville)

Amaryllis with Juan Gris, 2017 Pastel on mounted U-Art paper, 22" x 17" Courtesy of the artist

#### Eric Gaston (Roaring Spring)

Court of the Patriarchs, 2017 Photograph, 16" x 20" Courtesy of the artist

Fishing by the Lighthouse, 2017 Photograph, 16" x 20" Courtesy of the artist

Swimming with the Snow, 2017 Photograph, 18" x 24" Courtesy of the artist

#### Steven Gilbert (Altoona)

A Time for Every Purpose, 2010-18 Oil on Masonite, 48" x 36" Courtesy of the artist

#### Marcene Glover (Johnstown)

Finding Refuge, 2017 Oil and gold leaf on panel, 60" x 48" Courtesy of the artist

#### Helen Gorsuch (Altoona)

Jonah in the Big Fish, 2018 Glazed and underglazed fired clay, 12" x 8" x 17" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Robin Grass (Everett)**

Deus Ex Machina, 2017 Acrylic, 36" x 36" Courtesy of the artist

Parasailing, 2017 Acrylic, 40" x 30" Courtesy of the artist

#### Dave Hammaker (East Freedom)

Burning Man, 2017 Archival pigment photographic print on paper, 20" x 31" Courtesy of the artist

Fishing Companions, 2016
Archival pigment photographic print on paper, 31" x 22"
Courtesy of the artist

#### **Delores Hartman (Altoona)**

Messaging, 2018 Digital print, 23" x 33" Courtesy of the artist

#### Daniel C. Helsel (Davidsville)

Blue and White Teapot with Cherries, 2016 Oil on linen mounted on board, 12" x 16" Courtesy of the artist

#### Lynn Heverly (Altoona)

Caffeine, 2018 Liquid acrylic binder on canvas, 20" x 16" Courtesy of the artist

#### Billie J. Hollen (Altoona)

A New York Reflection, 2018 Oil on canvas, 30" x 24" Courtesy of the artist

#### J. Andrew Jacobs (Northern Cambria)

Berserker Helm, 2018 Forged and fabricated steel, 26" x 14" x 12" Collection of the artist

#### Renee Keil (Pittsburgh)

Lacrima Azzura (The Blue Tear), 2017 Watercolor, 10" x 8" Courtesy of the artist

#### Yong Sook Kim-Lambert (Magog, Quebec)

Cerulean, 2018 Acrylic on canvas, 18" x 14" Courtesy of the artist

#### Gene Kravits (Ligonier)

Eagles Watch over Loyalhanna Watershed, 2017 Acrylic on canvas, 38" x 24" Courtesy of the artist

#### Marianne S. Krizner (Johnstown)

One Hundred and Twenty Seconds, 2018 Oil on canvas, 24" x 18" Courtesy of the artist

#### Maxine Levin (State College)

Sweet in Love, 2013
Fiber, wood, wire, acrylic, found objects, cultured pearl earrings, and glitter, 17" x 10" x 12"
Courtesy of the artist

#### Lance Marks (Hollsopple)

Prophecy, 2017
Oil on canvas, 48" x 60"
Courtesy of the artist

#### John A. Mayer (New Alexandria)

Glorybella, 2017 Masonry over metal armature, 60" x 24" x 24" Courtesy of the artist

#### Dave McCoy (Hollidaysburg)

Come In, 2016 Oil on canvas, 25" x 19" Courtesy of the artist

Out of the Fog, 2017 Digital print, 19" x 30" Courtesy of the artist

Theatre Chair, 2017 Oil on canvas, 33" x 17" Courtesy of the artist

#### Dai Morgan (Pittsburgh)

Wind Chill #2, 2018 Acrylic, 28" x 34" Courtesy of the artist



Glenda and Michael Forosisky Third Place Award Kevin O'Toole 414-17, 2017 Walnut and enamel, 22  $^1/8$ " x 17  $^1/4$ " x 5" Courtesy of the artist

#### Nancy Ntelios-Sarangoulis (Reading)

Untitled Bird Painting, 2018 Watercolor on paper, 20" x 30" Courtesy of the artist

Untitled Bird Painting (Three Mountains), 2018 Watercolor on rice paper, 25" x 14" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Chuck Olson (Indiana)**

Laureate, 2017 Acrylic on canvas, 75" x 59" Courtesy of the artist

The Wall, 2018 Acrylic on canvas, 74" x 60" Courtesy of the artist

#### Kevin O'Toole (Greensburg)

*414-17*, 2017

Walnut and enamel, 22  $^{1}/_{8}$ " x 17  $^{1}/_{4}$ " x 5" Courtesy of the artist

415-17, 2017 Walnut and silver leaf, 36" x 9" x 9" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Barb Pennypacker (State College)**

Jolene - A Baby Ayrshire, 2018 Oil on linen, 12" x 16" Courtesy of the artist

#### William Pfahl (Pittsburgh)

Slop Sink, 2017 Oil, 24" x 18" Courtesy of the artist

#### John Rita (Altoona)

Joan's Vision, 2017 Oil on canvas, 60" x 48" Courtesy of the artist

Meeting of Genres, 2018
Mixed media on canvas on foamboard,
48" x 72"
Courtesy of the artist

The Offering, 2017 Oil on canvas, 60" x 48" Courtesy of the artist

#### Joseph Ryznar (Lower Burrell)

Homage to Anastasi, 2016 Acrylic and hardware on canvas, 46" x 46" Courtesy of the artist

Sunday Morning - Another Day without Sunshine, 2015 Acrylic on canvas, 42" x 42" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Bonnie Samms-Overley (Altoona)**

Grandmother, 2016 Fiber sculpture, 11" x 10" x 10" Courtesy of the artist

#### **April Scimio (Spruce Creek)**

Bonfire of the Vanities, 2018 Acrylic paint on canvas, 20" x 16" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Brian Sesack (Pittsburgh)**

Canyon Trail, 2017 Archival inkjet print, 11 ½" x 15 ½" Courtesy of the artist

Snow Fence, 2015 Archival inkjet print,  $11 \frac{1}{4}$ " x  $15 \frac{1}{2}$ " Courtesy of the artist

#### **Stephanie Sheridan (Carrolltown)**

Fenstella, 2013 Fabric, 54" x 64" Courtesy of the artist

#### John Skrabalak (Altoona)

Underfoot, 2018
Oil and cold wax, pan pastels on wooden cradled panel, 16" x 16"
Courtesy of the artist

#### Sarah Smicker (Ebensburg)

Autumn; Fall Princess, 2018
Acrylic, ink and watercolor on canvas, 20" x 16"
Collection of the artist

*Dying Flower*, 2017 Charcoal, 9" x 12" Collection of the artist

#### Jeanne Stevens-Sollman (Bellefonte)

The New Peace Talks, 2018 Mixed media, 6" x 5" Courtesy of the artist

#### Stuart Thompson (Whitney)

Reality Comes and Goes, 2018 Oil on canvas, 54" x 72" Courtesy of the artist

#### **Sharon Wall (Altoona)**

Winter Teasel, 2018
Acrylic media and fabric dyes on cotton collaged onto canvas, 48" x 36"
Courtesy of the artist

#### Mary Wiley-Lewis (Central City)

Silk, 2016 Pastel on sanded paper, 23  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 19  $\frac{1}{2}$ " Courtesy of the artist

#### Diana L. Williams (New Florence)

Our Forever Friend, 2018 Oil on linen, 48" x 36" Collection of the artist



Marian and Dr. Owen K. Morgan Third Place Award Joseph Ryznar Homage to Anastasi, 2016 Acrylic and hardware on canvas, 46" x 46" Courtesy of the artist

### **MUSEUM STAFF**

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