

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History

ART DEPARTMENT GALLERY

James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Exhibition: *WATERCOLOR REVISITED: A NEW PERSPECTIVE*
Dates: September 16 through October 14, 2011
Opening Reception: Friday, September 16, 5-8PM
Gallery Hours: Tuesdays through Thursdays 10AM – 6PM and Fridays 10AM – 7PM
Contact: Thomas L. Pyrzewski (tpyrzewski@wayne.edu)

The James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History's
Art Department Gallery is pleased to present

WATERCOLOR REVISITED: A NEW PERSPECTIVE

As our water resources are being researched to reshape Michigan's water future, the artists in *Watercolor Revisited: A New Perspective* reshape our vision of watercolor painting in our Great Lakes state. This exhibition reflects the highly creative energy and positive force that our innovative artists contribute to society during a trying political climate – a reminder of the triumph of the human spirit.

These artists have shared their vibrant enthusiasm, broad sense of aesthetics and keen insight into their personal vision. Their art reaches far beyond provincial thinking as they share their insights of humanity on a global level.

Thus, this exhibition reflects a dynamic medium of expression filled with a strong variety of attitudes, emotions and clarity of unique visions. This exhibition also reflects the wide range of watercolor approaches, processes and subject matter, and a diversity of imagery, techniques and concepts, including transparent, opaque, realistic, abstract and non-objective images.

In the late 1940's Wayne State University had become the hub of energy for watercolor painting as Professors Mary Jane Bigler and Louise Jansson Nobili were strong influences in the Painting Department and remained advocates throughout their respective teaching careers. They encouraged innovative ideas, self discovery and personal content, rather than technique alone. This was very apparent during the turbulent 1960's when the arts were dramatically changing. The efforts and teaching at WSU had influenced hundreds of students throughout the decades and kept watercolor painting a vibrant medium in Michigan.

Thank you to all the painters who participated in this special exhibition, and for their honesty and passion, and their continued commitment to the arts.

I thank Wayne State University, the Interim Director of Galleries Tom L. Pyrzewski, and the Art Department Gallery Exhibition Committee and all the gallery staff for their continued dedication to promote an awareness and interest in watercolor painting in Michigan.

Statement by Linda Mendelson
Exhibition Curator

The following artists are included: Mary Aro, Igor Beginin, Mary Jane Bigler, Sergio DeGiusti, Marilyn Derwenskus, Gary Eleinko, Jerome Ferretti, William Lewis, Donald Mendelson, Linda Mendelson, Jim Nawara, Lucille Procter Nawara, Louise Nobili, Jon Parlange, Ellen Phelan, Stanley Rosenthal, Yolanda Sharpe, Gary Sklar, Ron Teachworth, Robert Wilbert, Ellen Wilt

All events are free and open to the general public. The Art Department Gallery is located in the Art Building on the campus of Wayne State University, near the intersection of Cass Avenue and Kirby Street.

The James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History is a division of Wayne State's College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, educating the next generation of visual artists, designers and art historians. Wayne State University, located in the heart of Detroit's midtown cultural center, is a premier urban research university offering more than 350 academic programs through 13 schools and colleges to more than 31,000 students.

For more information, contact Tom Pyrzewski at tpyrzewski@wayne.edu or 313-577-0770.