



Erie Art Museum

Quarterly

Fall 2023 Issue 3:4



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Thank you for your incredible support on Erie Gives Day! Your investment in the Museum and the arts are an essential part of our culture, encouraging connections to others and expressing our shared experiences to help navigate the time we live in.

Your donation strengthens the Museum's commitment to the community. With your help, we are creating dynamic spaces to explore exhibitions of the Museum's collection and works from contemporary artists, as well as learn valuable creative skills through hands-on art making experiences.

As we begin a strategic planning process to deepen this commitment, we want to expand how our visitors can use the Museum as a resource - a place to be curious, study, connect, learn, and share - a visual library. Like a library, visitors of the Museum are here for a myriad of reasons: taking a break from their busy routines to explore the galleries, stopping by for drop-in activities like Second Sundays, meeting friends at artist receptions or musical performances, or expanding their skill sets through creative workshops or classes.

We are excited to be a part of the Pennsylvania Art Education Association this October. Their annual gathering of art educators across the state will be held at the Bayfront Convention Center, with the kick off event at the Museum on October 6th. It is our hope that connecting with local educators on a deeper level will bring more students to the Museum, whether virtually or in-person.

In partnership with Erie Arts & Culture and Erie Center for Arts and Technology, EAM will once again be facilitating RCIS, a regional common in-service day for local educators. This Act-48 eligible program is aimed at inspiring art teachers and facilitators through interactive workshops and inspired conversation. More information on RCIS can be found on page 3.

We have an exciting fall planned, with new exhibits *Las Calles de Oaxaca*, *Revolución Chicha*, and the *NPAA Biennial* (pages 9-10), along with more robust education offerings beginning in the fall (see pages 5 and 6). We are also looking forward to seeing you at our new gala, *Masquerade* at the Museum! on October 28th!



Laura Domencic, Executive Director

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Painterly Polaroids

NICOLE REINHOLD MARTIN

This exhibit focuses on a series of Nicole Reinhold Martin's hand-altered Polaroids that were recently acquired by the Museum. It also highlights the Museum's efforts to preserve and digitize the original art objects we have in the permanent collection. Having created these works in the early 1990s, Martin states that "many of the places I recorded no longer exist because of progress or change. Therefore, seeing these images brings the viewer back to a period of time when the world looked a bit different than today."

BRING HOME A PRINT OF YOUR OWN

6" prints of Nicole's Polaroids are available for purchase at the gift shop.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

September/October/November

RECEPTIONS, ARTIST TALKS, FILM SCREENINGS

FINDING DESIGN WITH KEN KRAYER



Wednesday September 6th, 6 pm @ PennWest Edinboro, Doucette Hall 119 – Ken Krayer is the proprietor of the Sheffield Project in Burr Oak, Michigan. An Erie native, he received his Masters in Design from Cranbrook Academy of Art after leaving the Erie Art Museum and its Frame Shop in 1986. Ken will be speaking on how he found design and how his experiences became the scaffolding to build his latest projects. Stay for a 7 pm reception in the Bruce Gallery.

ALBERT PALEY, DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

Wednesday, September 27th, 6 pm @ the EAM – *In Search of the Sentinel* (2006), is a one-hour documentary produced by current exhibiting artist, Tony Machi. It follows the vision of the artist, from idea through fabrication and installation of Paley's many large scale, site-specific public sculptures, narrated by Jane Alexander. After the screening, stay for a Q & A with Tony.

EUGENE IVERD, DOCUMENTARY SCREENING



Thursday, September 28th, 7 pm @ PennWest Edinboro - *Eugene Iverd and the Golden Age of Illustration* (1982), is a one-hour docudrama produced by Tony Machi, Edinboro alumni. It features Edinboro art professor James Vredevoogd as 1930s artist and illustrator Iverd, including interviews with the illustrator's family and students. Coinciding with Edinboro's Homecoming weekend, Tony and Jim will be in attendance.

NOW YOU SEE ME PERFORMANCE ART + *PASSIONATELY CURIOUS* CLOSING RECEPTION

Sunday, October 15th, 2pm – *NOW YOU SEE ME* is Machi's first performance since 1974. **Free** and open to the public, this 14-minute performance piece takes place in the round on the main floor of the EAM's Holstein Gallery. Performance Art relies on one or more people in real time and space and is never repeated. For Machi, Performance Art explores deconstruction, attempting to get at the essence of performance as entertainment. *Anyone willing to be a part of the performance will be asked to sign a photo release as the performance will be electronically documented.*

PASSIONATELY CURIOUS

New additional hours! Now open Wednesday - Friday, 11 am - 6 pm.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

FREE ADMISSION DAYS



UPMC HEALTH PLAN

The Museum will be offering several free admission days throughout 2023 courtesy of UPMC Health Plan and National Fuel, dedicated sponsors of events and activities at the EAM. Stop by on **Sunday, October 15th, Saturday, November 4th, and Friday, December 1st!**

SEPTEMBER 15TH

GALLERY NIGHT

Friday, September 15th, 5 - 10 pm – visit all of your favorite local galleries! More information, including a list of participants, can be found on the back page of the Quarterly, and at erieartmuseum.org/gallerynight.

KIDS NIGHT OUT

Let your children (ages 4-10) embark on a creative journey of their own at the expERIENCE Children's Museum while you enjoy Gallery Night at the EAM on **September 15th from 6 - 8 pm**. \$25 per child, 10% off for ECM Museum members. Register online at eriechildrensmuseum.org/kids-night-out.

SECOND SUNDAYS

Different art making activities for families and loved ones, every Second Sunday of the month from **2 - 4 pm**. Join us this fall on **September 10th, October 8th, and November 12th**. Pay what you wish. More information at: erieartmuseum.org/second-sundays.

FOR AREA EDUCATORS

STUDENT TOURS

Student tours at the Erie Art Museum build on youth's natural curiosity and Pennsylvania state education standards. The Museum staff uses a mixture of storytelling, games, interpretation, and art-making to offer students opportunities to view and interact with art. To plan a school tour for your group, please email lakshmi.cruzgalan@erieartmuseum.org or call the Museum at 814-459-5477. Funding is available to cover costs for Erie County public schools.

REGIONAL COMMON IN-SERVICE

Monday, October 9th – This Act 48-eligible program inspires and rejuvenates teachers with a day of interactive and gallery-based workshops at the Erie Art Museum. Participate in intensive art-making workshops, thoughtful conversations surrounding several new exhibition galleries, and share best teaching and assessment practices with your peers. Check our website for registration information.

FOR MUSEUM MEMBERS

Included with general Museum admission, or a yearly membership. Become a member today at erieartmuseum.org/membership/



DRAWING AT THE MUSEUM

Gain a deeper connection and appreciation of art in a calm, safe environment. Work independently, or ask for guidance from docents. **Every second Saturday of the month from 2 - 4 pm.** All ages are welcome, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. *Free with admission or membership.*



ART AFTER DARK

October 5th & November 2nd, 5 - 8 pm – our Thursday night concert series continues this fall! Check our website for more details. Sponsored in part by Erie Insurance. *Free with admission or membership.*

WORKSHOPS



CAPTURING ERIE: FALL PHOTO WALK

September 23rd, 9 am - 1:30 pm – Join Patti Larson and other members of the Photographic Arts Society of Northwestern PA (PASNWPA) for a unique workshop designed to enhance your photography skills and inspire your creativity. The EMTA will provide transportation from the EAM to Dobbins Landing and back. Light breakfast included. Students must be 18+. Any camera is permitted for this workshop, whether it is a professional camera or a smartphone. *\$55, EAM Members, \$40.*

Sign up at erieartmuseum.org/photography.



MOVE AT THE MUSEUM

September 9th, 6 - 8 pm – This interactive dance workshop explores the link between improvisational dance and the creative choreographic process. If you love movement and are interested in making dances and want to deepen your practice, this is the workshop for you! Prior dance training in any style is not required but may be a helpful point of departure for this experience. Each participant will have the opportunity to have their improvisation and/or phrase videotaped at the event. Everyone will be given access to their video for their own personal use for websites, dance reels and social media. *Free and open to participants 14 years and up.* *Learn more at erieartmuseum.org/move.*

CLASSES

September/October/November

Register online for all classes at erieartmuseum.org/classes.
All classes listed are for adults, 18+, unless otherwise noted.

NEW!

PRINTMAKING: THE ART OF LINOCUT

Learn how to make beautiful prints using the Linocut printing technique, also known as linoleum printing. Printmaker Alex Anthes will guide you through the process and materials.

Tuesdays from October 3rd - 31st, 4 - 6 pm. \$130. EAM Members, \$115.

FALL CROCHET CLASS

Designed for beginners and new fiber artists, this class with Holly Murphy offers an introduction to yarns, tools, pattern reading, and basic stitches.

Thursdays, November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 30th, (no class November 23rd,) 6 - 8 pm. \$75. EAM Members, \$60.

FOR THE KIDS!

MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE

In a new course geared towards 11-15 year olds, join Becky Coppock in exploring the fascinating world of mixed media sculpture building. Students will explore the human figure, kinetic sculpture, and wearable art, as they develop their own creativity.

Tuesdays, October 10th - 31st, 4 - 7 pm. Children, ages 11-15. \$80. EAM Members, \$65.

JEWELRY MAKING

Learn basic and advanced jewelry making techniques with Jan & Dan Niebauer. This is a wonderful opportunity to create one-of-a-kind gifts for your friends and family as we approach the holiday season.

This class starts Wednesday, September 13 at the Museum. The rest of the sessions are at the artists' at-home studio on September 20th, 27th, Tuesday, October 3rd, and Wednesday, October 11th & 19th from 7 - 9 pm. \$140. EAM Members, \$125.

ASIAN WATERCOLOR

Learn to paint flora using traditional Korean techniques with Esther Hong.

Thursdays, September 14th to October 19th, 4 - 6 pm. \$135. EAM Members, \$120.

ACCESS ART

The class, taught by Sara Fisher, encourages adults with special needs and abilities to engage with different art mediums for interpretations such as movement, drawing, painting, and poetry.

Second Friday of each month, September through December, 10 am - 12 pm. 18+. Free!

Registration is required for participants & caregivers for each session. Sign up for one or many.

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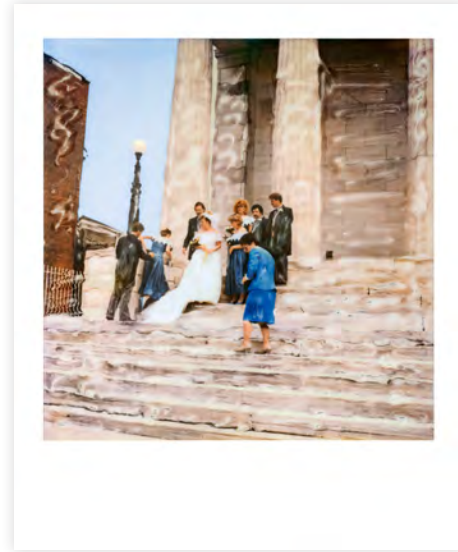


CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

September/October/November



Amanda Kaiser, *Untitled*, charcoal, acrylic, pastel, and collage on paper. 1994. *Selections from a Century*.



Nicole Reinhold Martin, *Erie Art Museum, Wedding Party on the Steps*, hand-altered Polaroid. *Painterly Polaroids*.



Ana Balcazar, *Jardin 1 (Garden 1)*, Acrylic on canvas, 2023. *Entre Plantas y Mujeres*.



elin o'Hara Slavick, *Eucalyptus Bark from an A-Bombed Tree*, cyanotype. 2008. *Family Tree*.



Tony Machi, *INRI*, wood, rubber wheels, paint, repurposed skateboard fragments, 2021. *Passionately Curious*.

ENTRE PLANTAS Y MUJERES

On view through May 12th, 2024

For this second display of the *Connecting with the Collection* series, the Museum invited Peruvian artist Ana Balcazar to explore the collection of over 8,000 objects and create work in response. During the course of the past year, she studied the works and winnowed her selection to 33 pieces from the permanent collection. After meeting with artists whose work is in the collection and with past and present Museum staff, Ana finalized her selection and created works while in residence at the Museum from late April through July 2023. Sponsored in part by Gannon University.

PAINTERLY POLAROIDS

On view through August of 2024

This series of surreal photographs from artist Nicole Reinhold Martin was created by moving the pliable Polaroid emulsion with a stylus. It also highlights the Museum's efforts to preserve and digitize the original art objects in the permanent collection. In collaboration with the 1020 Collective.



PASSIONATELY CURIOUS

On view through October 15th, 2023

PennWest
EDINBORO

WQLN
PBS NPR

In conjunction with the publishing of the book, *We All Look, But Rarely See*, this multimedia show celebrates the creative path of award-winning producer, performance artist, and Edinboro alumni, Tony Machi. More information can be found on page 14. This exhibit is presented in part by WQLN PBS NPR.

SELECTIONS FROM A CENTURY: SPRING SHOW ACQUISITIONS 1924-2023

On view through September of 2024

In celebration of the *Spring Show's* 100th year, *Selections from a Century* features art that was acquired from the *Spring Show's* past, celebrating the history and culture generated by this storied, regional event. Curated by James Pearson, Collections Manager, and Jamie Keim, Program Manager.

COMING UP

LAS CALLES DE OAXACA

Opens September 15th - Gallery Night!

Las Calles de Oaxaca (the Streets of Oaxaca) features a selection of works by emerging and established artists of Oaxaca, México. Curated by Andrew Mroczek, Director of Exhibitions at the Lesley University College of Art and Design in Cambridge, MA, the exhibit is punctuated by large-scale linocut prints from an underground artist collective, known as Subterráneos, whose work is often mural-sized, profoundly political, and seen wheat-pasted on buildings throughout Oaxaca's historic center.

Working collaboratively with Master Printmaker Mario Guzman, the collective is primarily comprised of young Oaxacan artists who are interested in creating meaningful work that directly impacts the lives of native Mexicans. The exhibit underscores the importance of remembering the often-tragic historical events that have shaped cultures, while also embracing the possibility that artist's voices are catalysts for change.



REVOLUCIÓN CHICHA

Opens September 15th - Gallery Night!

Revolución Chicha features works by Peruvian artists and art collectives including Elliot Tupac, Amapolay, Familia Gutierrez, Nación Chicha, Moises Sants and Monkey. Born from the working class, "chicha" has become synonymous with Peru's indigenous culture and associated with the "lower classes." Beginning in the late 1960s, an influx of migrants brought their music to the main capital, Lima. The cultural fusion, known as chicha music, exploded onto Peru's radio waves as the chicha concert posters filled the streets. Within the last decade, this style of art has resurfaced as means for artistic activism and protest. These prints complement the exhibit *Entre Plantas y Mujeres* by Ana Balcazar, a Peruvian artist whose work is influenced by chicha aesthetics.



NPAA BIENNIAL

Opens November 15th

The Northwestern Pennsylvania Artists Association (NPAA) is proud to present their 8th juried biennial exhibition at the Museum. The NPAA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization for professional artists, whose mission is to create opportunities for established, emerging and student artists through exhibitions, education, and scholarships. This upcoming group exhibition will be the third biennial to be held in the Museum's historic Customs House.

Juror Madeline Gent is the Executive Director at the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, a membership organization that exhibits, promotes, and supports the work of visual artists who call Pittsburgh and the surrounding region home.



Subterráneos, 14 de Junio: ¡Ni Perdon, Ni Olvido! (June 14: Neither Forgive, Nor Forget!), 2022. 16'x8' linocut on newsprint.



Elliot Tupac, Tu Indiferencia También Contamina (Your Indifference Also Pollutes), 2018, Serigraph, Collection of Andrew Mroczek.



Left to right: work from Tom Ferraro, Tom Hubert, and Ron Bayuzick from the 2021 NPAA Biennial.



MASQUERADE AT THE MUSEUM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH • 7 - 11 PM

You are cordially invited to the Erie Art Museum's newest gala, Masquerade at the Museum! In past years, we have packed the Museum with more than 600 attendees to our popular creative parties. Masquerade at the Museum! will feature delicious food, performances including Seiche Dance Collective and Jen Dennehy, spectral tales of the Customs House with Stephanie Wincik, a multimedia experience by FEED Media Art Center, face painted masks by Taradoodles, and more. This year's event promises to be THE place to be on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 7 - 11 pm.

Masquerade at the Museum! has no formal dress code, but attendees are encouraged to embrace the splendor of the evening with their attire. Whether it's a timeless gown, cocktail dress, or a dashing suit, let your personal style shine. Elevate your ensemble with a captivating mask that conceals your identity or reveals your creativity!

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!*

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Purchase your tickets today!
erieartmuseum.org/masquerade

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THANK YOU

ERIE GIVES DAY DONATIONS PROVIDE NEEDED FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES. THANK YOU FOR BRINGING COLOR TO OUR WORLD!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MELANIE VADZEMNIEKS, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Tell us a bit about your background.

I earned a degree in Communication Arts from Gannon University and have spent all of my career time working in the nonprofit sector. Recently I finished my second stint at Gannon in their University Advancement department doing donor relations and special events. My first go-around at Gannon was as a grant writer and after that I went home to raise my family. My husband sustained a severe traumatic brain injury in 2011 and that led to me being back in the workforce. I'm happy to have a career I love and to be in an environment that is creative.

What does a typical Museum work day look like for you?

In a one person development department, there are no "typical" days. I alternate between soliciting sponsorships for our upcoming gala, writing grant proposals, meeting with friends of the Museum, keeping our database updated, and working closely with the rest of the fabulous team that Laura (our executive director) has assembled.

What are you most excited for in the next year?

Continuing the momentum that is occurring post-pandemic. We're meeting so many new people of every age and background who are simply falling in love with the Erie Art Museum. We want to stay connected to our community and truly be an important aspect of people's lives. Art has the power to heal and restore and I think people are recognizing the need to connect artistically in today's world.

How do you see the Museum growing?

My favorite word to describe downtown Erie is "burgeoning." The City is growing and unifying and becoming an even greater place to live and work. We are excited to be in the heart of downtown and to contribute to the Gem City's reputation. For the Museum, that means more programming, more accessibility, and more creativity. I invite everyone to come in and check us out.

TONY MACHI | PASSIONATELY CURIOUS



Wendell Castle, *Handyman*, Basswood, paint, 2004.

Passionately Curious, on view in the Customs House through October 15th, follows the creative journey of Tony Machi, a performance artist, documentarian, and producer. Beginning with his time as an Edinboro student in the late 1960s, the exhibit incorporates his photographs, mixed media works, sculptures, and short films alongside works by artists who inspired him.

Among these artists is Wendell Castle, an innovative American woodworker, sculptor, teacher, and furniture designer, known for his biomorphic forms, sense of humor in design, and blurring the lines between furniture and sculpture. He abandoned traditionalism, instead constructing large scale laminated blocks, which could then be

carved down into arbitrary shapes. This enabled him to create large pieces like *Handyman* which would otherwise have been impossible. In 2016, Machi conducted a series of interviews with Castle for an unpublished documentary project.

Viewers might also sense a reference to Machi's 1969 performance *Two Chairs*, where Machi interacted, sometimes violently, with two chairs in a large room. In Machi's recently published book, *We All Look but Rarely See*, he states of the performance: "somewhere along the way, I learned this truth: to view a painting, one needed a chair. In my case, one needed to stand and watch a man with two chairs."

Wendell Castle served as juror for the Erie Art Museum's 86th Annual *Spring Show* in 2009.

Connect with Tony at the closing reception for *Passionately Curious*, including an original performance art piece, or at his documentary screenings coming up. See page 4 for more information. Tony's book, *We All Look, But Rarely See*, is available in the gift shop.



Tony Machi, *Two Chairs*, performance photos, 1971.

COLLECTIONS CORNER

Unknown Artist, *Purépecha Figure*, c. 200 BCE. Earthenware.

Gift of Rutledge Family in memory of Patricia Rutledge

2013.14.2

The Purépecha are one of the indigenous peoples of Mexico, living mostly in Northwestern Michoacán. In the 13th century they founded an empire that rivaled that of the Aztecs to their east, and became famed for their skill in metallurgy, weaving, ceramics, and feather work. This terracotta figurine dates from a much earlier time, making her by far the earliest artwork on display at the EAM, as a part of *Entre Plantas y Mujeres*, a current exhibition curated by Museum artist-in-residence, Ana Balcazar. This figurine may have been buried along with corn or other seeds as an offering for an abundant harvest.



MUSEUM HOURS

NEW!

Wednesdays: 11 am - 6 pm

Thursdays: 11 am - 6 pm

Fridays: 11 am - 6 pm

Saturdays: 10 am - 5 pm

Sundays: 1 pm - 6 pm

On the Cover:

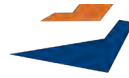
Ana Balcazar, *Lo desconocido (The unknown)*, acrylic on canvas, 256" x 115", 2023

The Erie Art Museum receives general support from Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.



Quarterly, a publication of the Erie Art Museum, 20 East 5th Street, Erie, PA 16507, is published four times a year.

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Visit erieartmuseum.org.**



Erie Art Museum

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