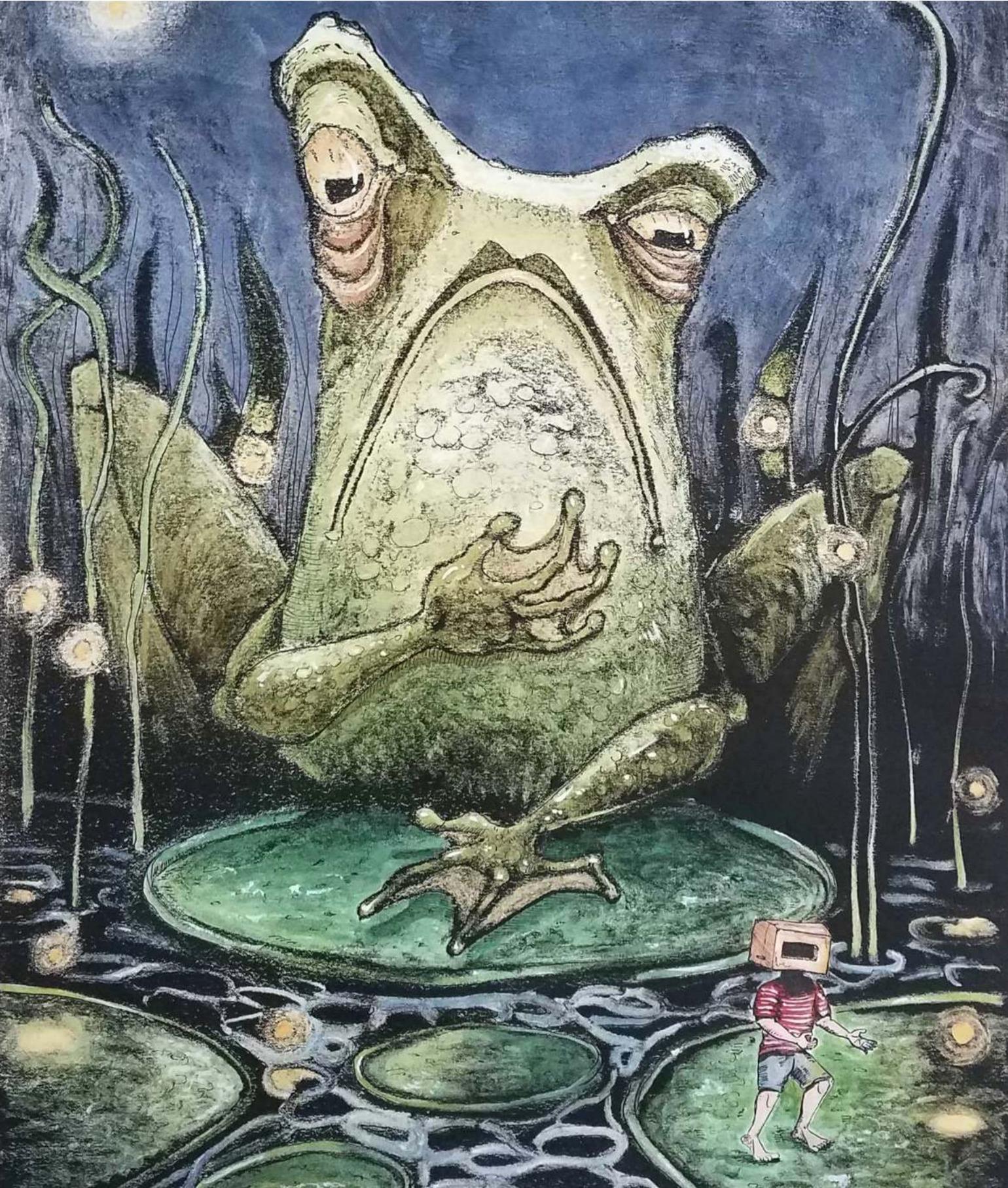




Erie Art Museum

# Quarterly

SPRING 2021 Issue 1:4



# Message from the Director



We've made it through the first month of 2021! I hope it has brought you and your family peace and positivity as we move ahead. All of us at the Erie Art Museum have missed seeing our members, visitors, friends and donors. It's been an isolating time for all of us, but we continue to look forward to the new exhibitions, spring events and safe gatherings at our beloved museum.

The year 2020 will go down in the record books for sure. The museum saw a considerable number of challenges like closing down to visitors, furloughing staff, canceling ARTrageous and extreme revenue loss. At the same time, it was also a time of innovation and teamwork. Our virtual tour updates allowed people to stay safe by "visiting" without leaving home. Expect to see more from us online this year as we use the resources we have to bring you art and art education. Second Sundays projects continue to be released each week on the website and through Facebook to keep the family fun going. Our most impressive transition was turning around the Spring Show. With online submission and registration, we were able to turn on a dime and put on a show like nothing had changed. It was so successful, that we have adopted it as practice going forward. Last year showed us how to stay nimble and stay on task. One thing that hasn't changed is our team's dedication to sharing art with our community.

With that said, we're thrilled to announce that the 98th annual Nicole & Harry Martin Spring Show will be on display in the Main Gallery this year. The artwork of our local and regional artists will be showcased in our most esteemed gallery. We look forward to seeing what guest juror, Roberto Lugo, selects.

As I round out my time as the interim director of the Erie Art Museum, I would like to thank everyone for welcoming me and helping us work toward a stronger Museum. I've had the pleasure to work with an amazing tEAM of people and am so impressed and proud of what has been accomplished through adversity. The Museum will always hold a place in my heart and I hope to see all of you at future events.

With gratitude,

Interim Director, Pam Masi

# What's On

February/March/April

## SPRING SHOW

### Nicole & Harry MARTIN | Spring SHOW

The 98th annual Nicole & Harry Martin Spring Show at the Erie Art Museum is underway. With Jury Day on February 10, the show is set to open in the Main Gallery on March 19, 2021. The show will feature at least 100 works by local and regional artists.

The Erie Art Museum will also host a viewing of two livestream events featuring Spring Show juror, Roberto Lugo.

- Friday, April 9 from 6 – 7 pm

Roberto Lugo, Keynote Presentation & Panel discussion

- Friday, April 16 from 6 – 7 pm

A Community Arts Conversation with Roberto Lugo and arts community members

Sponsored by:



## VIRTUAL TOUR



Not able to get in to see us?! There's no reason not to enjoy the Erie Art Museum. Take a "walk" through the Museum from your phone, tablet, or computer. It now includes the most recent exhibitions of 2020. Access the tour at [erieartmuseum.org/virtualtour](http://erieartmuseum.org/virtualtour).

Sponsored by: **ErieMultimedia**

## PEEP SHOW



**Deadline April 14, 2021**

We're at it again! The annual Erie Art Museum Peep Show. Show us your best famous art replicas made from Peeps! Submit your pictures between April 1 and April 14 via Facebook.

Sponsored by: Doug & Kathy Grisier

## ARTrageous

Need something to look forward to? ARTrageous 2021 will be here before we know it. Special thanks to all of our corporate and individual sponsors who've committed so far. Sponsorships are available. Check out [erieartmuseum.org/artrageous2021](http://erieartmuseum.org/artrageous2021) for details.

## SECOND SUNDAYS



Spend time with your family creating. Every Sunday the Erie Art Museum shares cool projects that use items around the house that you can do at home. [erieartmuseum.org/second-sundays](http://erieartmuseum.org/second-sundays)

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## ON VIEW



### THE YEAR THAT WAS MISSED

An exhibition featuring MFA students from Edinboro University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and BA students from Mercyhurst University, *The Year that was Missed*, is a two-part show. The various works by the artists were destined to show in their student thesis exhibitions but were unable to be shown publicly due to the pandemic. We've changed that. Every artist involved brings a unique style, voice, and technique that culminates in a stunning exhibition to witness.

## GOT ART?

Show us what you're working on; finished or not, we want to share what regional artists are doing during the pandemic. Share images through Facebook messenger or by email. We will post them on our social media pages.

## ON VIEW



### TREACY ZIEGLER: UNDER A CONCRETE SKY

An expression of transformation and acceptance, Tracy Ziegler's work attempts a balance between the creation of the work and compassion, justice, and humility. Using animals - who are free of moral judgment - to tell the stories of prisoners, Ziegler creates impressive sculptures from letters written by inmates.

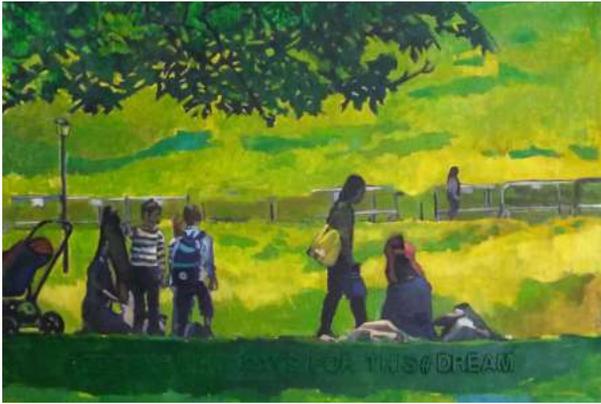
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## STAY SAFE

The safety of our visitors and staff is a top priority at the Erie Art Museum. Masks are required to enter the Museum and a six-foot distance between visitors is a must. Visitation numbers are limited and registration is required. Be sure to register online at [erieartmuseum.org/visit](http://erieartmuseum.org/visit). We look forward to seeing you.

## ON VIEW



### TOM FERRARO: SAFETY ZONE

Local artist, Tom Ferraro, personally selected works that express the complex emotions of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

## GALLERY NIGHT

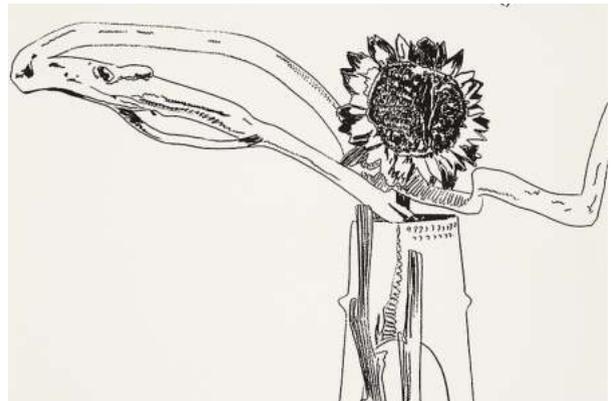
April 30, 2021 from 7 – 10 pm

With optimism, we are planning to bring back Gallery Nights in 2021. While they may not look like they always have in the past, we are prepared to adapt. Don your masks and come out for a night of art, music, and fun.

Sponsored by:



## ON VIEW



### COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Fifty of the Museum's most treasured works on display at one time. From Steiglitz, Rauschenberg, Sloan, and Close to Warhol, Hockney, Picasso, Daumier, and more. We're pulling out our heavy hitters.

## EAM PAINT NIGHTS



February 19, March 26, April 23 from 6 – 7 pm

What's better than an evening of painting with a group of friends? Erie Art Museum Paint Nights offer the opportunity to create a twist on a famous work of art. Guided by Connie Bootz, Paint Nights are held safely in the Museum as permitted during the pandemic, otherwise, they are offered online via Zoom. Space is limited either way. Registration is required. Check our website or Facebook for updates. [erieartmuseum.org/eam-paint-nights](http://erieartmuseum.org/eam-paint-nights).

## MEET THE ARTIST

We're getting to know local and regional artists better. What they are working on, what's their inspiration, what media do they like to use, and more. The staff-led, online interviews are posted on Facebook. Tune in! [facebook.com/erieartmuseum](https://facebook.com/erieartmuseum).

# Behind the Scenes

## *The Year that was Missed*



Photo: Featuring the work of Alessandra Cupani

*The Year that was Missed*, set to open in early 2021 for a four month run, wasn't on the Museum's initial roster, but through collaboration and innovative thinking, it's a show to behold. Lead Preparator and Erie Art Museum Collection Manager, Matthew Coté, curated the show and shares how it came to life.

### **Where did the idea of this exhibition begin?**

In early spring last year, everything was shut down due to the pandemic. Businesses and schools were facing things they never had before, including universities. I began to hear about shows being canceled, specifically university shows. As a MFA graduate myself and having worked in other museums and galleries, I understood the importance of these final presentations. Graduating with an art degree is a big event and is not simply seen as a showcase of an artist's work but as a chance for an artist to indelibly prove themselves as an artist to their professors and peers. Students across the country were losing their chance. Something had to be done.

### **How did you connect with the universities involved?**

Reaching out to the universities took a little research to find the right people and sending a few emails. The response was amazing. University faculty care about their students. As soon as an opportunity came their way to allow the students a chance to have a show, they were eager to move forward with us. The universities then worked with me to contact their students to see who was interested.

### **Why is it important for the students/graduates to show these works?**

A thesis exhibition for a graduating student artist is an important final step towards graduation. It's a culmination of everything that student has learned in not only finding their artistic voice, their artistic medium and vision, but also how to plan and execute an exhibition. If a student fails to meet the expectations of this step their ability to graduate may be in question. Something many people outside the art world don't quite understand is that It takes great effort to plan, arrange, and finalize an art exhibition. It is also a point of celebration as it shows everything a student artist has worked on for 3-4 years in their research, effort, and creation of their artwork. With all that being said, not having that final step for those artists is heartbreaking. *The Year that was Missed* is an important exhibition for the museum and the community because it works to right those wrongs from the previous year.



Photo: Featuring the work of Mark Tarabula

### What has been your impression of the artists featured in the exhibition?

My immediate impression is that they are ready to prove themselves and the validity of their artwork. They have a voice they want to get out, a message they want to discuss, and they recognize that this is a chance to be able to share what they have with their community. These artists represent a diverse showing of work. *The Year that was Missed* features artists with different cultural backgrounds, nationalities and approaches to artwork that shouldn't be missed.

### Why the Customs House?

The Customs House is a unique gallery in the Erie Art Museum. It not only has a long-standing history with the museum but also is a historic downtown landmark. With this exhibition dealing specifically with students from our community the Customs House made sense as a beacon for connecting the present artists just beginning their artistic careers and the past artists who have shown in the Customs House since the museum's inception, as well as the buildings history with the city of Erie. That history has relevance, and it is these emerging future artists which will help carry the torch for the next generation of artists in Erie, as well as the greater community of Erie.

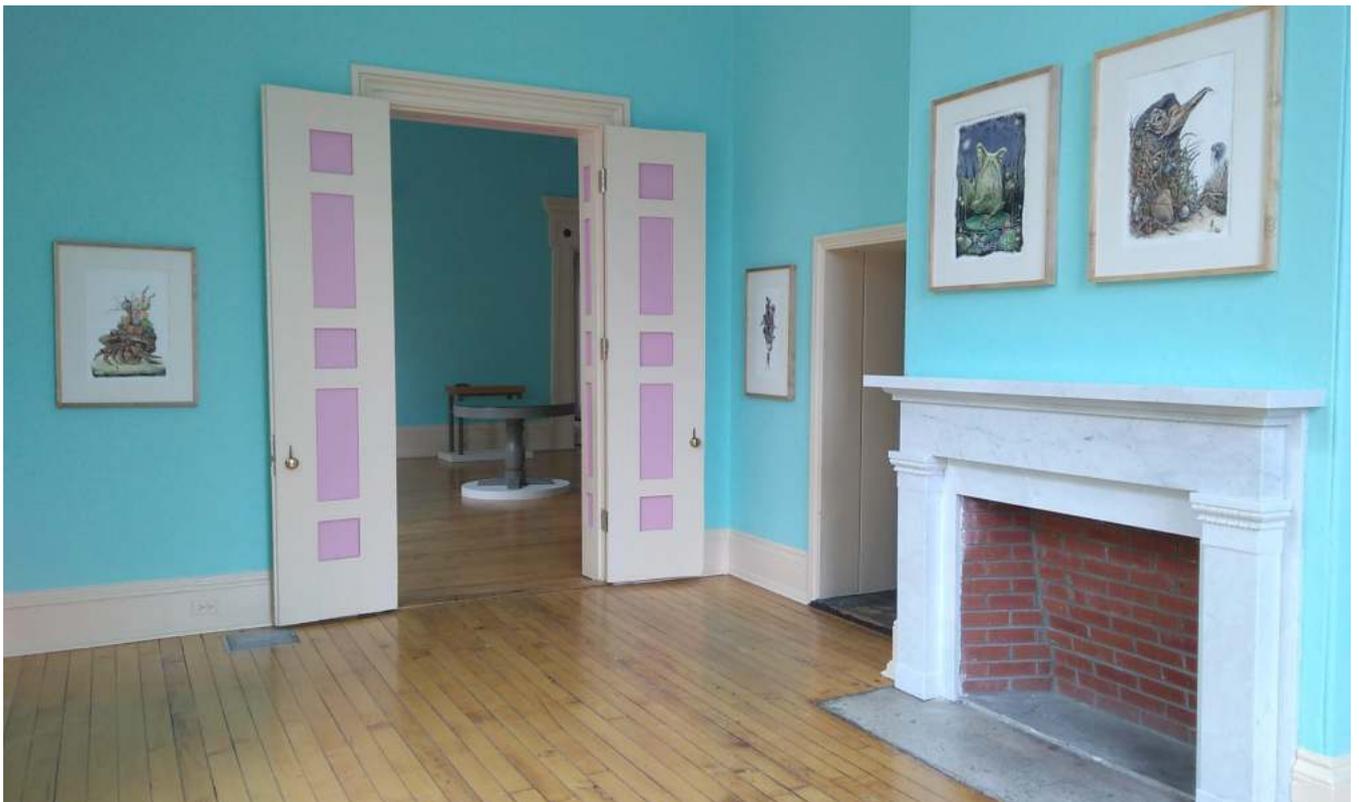


Photo: Featuring the work of David Kiefer

# MUSEUM HOURS

Visit [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org) or  
[Facebook.com/erieartmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/erieartmuseum)  
for updated hours during the  
COVID-19 pandemic.



**Erie Art Museum**  
20 East 5th Street • Erie PA 16507  
[erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org)

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On the Cover:  
David Kiefer  
*It depends on what you focus on, 2020*

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



## SPRING SHOW JUROR



In partnership with the Edinboro University Art Department, the Erie Art Museum is excited to announce Roberto Lugo as the juror for the 98th annual Nicole & Harry Martin Spring Show. Roberto Lugo is an American artist, ceramicist, social activist, spoken word poet, and educator. Lugo uses porcelain as his medium of choice, illuminating its aristocratic surface with imagery of poverty, inequality, and social and racial injustice. Lugo's works are multicultural mash-ups, traditional European and Asian porcelain forms and techniques reimagined with a 21st-century street

sensibility. Their hand-painted surfaces feature classic decorative patterns and motifs combined with elements of modern urban graffiti and portraits of individuals whose faces are historically absent on this type of luxury item - people like Sojourner Truth, Dr. Cornel West, and The Notorious BIG, as well as Lugo's family members and, very often, himself. Lugo holds a BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute and an MFA from Penn State. His work has been featured in exhibitions at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, the Clay Studio in Philadelphia, and the Museum of Arts and Design in New York, among others.

Lugo is the recipient of numerous awards, most recently including a 2019 Pew Fellowship, a Cynthia Hazen Polsky and Leon Polsk Rome Prize, and a US Artist Award. His work is found in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, The High Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Brooklyn Museum, Walters Museum, and more. He is currently an Assistant Professor at Tyler School of Art and Architecture. <http://robertolugostudio.com/>