North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Association®

Quarterly

Spring 2021
Spring featured artist:

Ramekon O’Arwisters

Growing up in the Jim Crow South during the Civil Rights Movement, Ramekon O’Arwisters had a safe haven, quilting with his grandmother, where he was “embraced, important and special.” His early memories prompted his nascent series of unique crocheted/ceramic sculptures titled *Mending*. Employing ordinary household, or decorative pottery, broken and discarded, O’Arwisters combined traditional crafts into a dimensional woven tapestry, stripping both cloth and ceramic of their intended function.

In a new series of sculptures titled *Cheesecake*, the artist's works have transformed from being broken and needing mending to being fully determined and self-aware. The moniker “Cheesecake,” used to objectify an attractive, sexualized man or woman is embraced by O’Arwisters, who is Black and Queer, thus subverting the demeaning implication in describing his said “objects.” Combining lacy, embellished fabrics with ceramics contributed by students and faculty from California State University at Long Beach, his sculptural hybrids embody both danger and seduction in the resulting bold ‘coming of age’ works.

O’Arwisters is the founder of Crochet Jam, a community arts project infused with folk-art traditions that foster a creative culture in cooperative relationships. "Crochet Jam," the artist noted in a July 2020 interview with Maria Porges for Sculpture magazine, "...engenders compassion and warmth. I want participants to be in a creative mindset without anyone dictating the creative process or worrying about the finished product. Crochet Jam is how I make liberation a form of art."

The artist was born in Kernersville, North Carolina and earned a Masters of Divinity from Duke University Divinity School in 1986. O’Arwisters was artist-in-residence at the de Young Museum, the Djerassi Resident Artists Program, and the Vermont Studio Center. Grants and awards include Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue, New York, the San Francisco Foundation and the San Francisco Arts Commission Cultural Equity Program. He received the 2014 Eureka Fellow, awarded by the Fleishhacker Foundation in San Francisco. His work has been featured in the LA Times, San Francisco Chronicle, 7×7 Magazine, Artnet, and the San Francisco Examiner.

For art inquiries, please contact Patricia Sweetow Gallery, San Francisco at contact@patriciasweetowgallery.com

For more information on Crochet Jam visit the website at https://crochetjam.com/

Cover art, banner (detail) and back cover:
Ramekon O’Arwisters
*Mending #21*
fabric, ceramic
21 x 12.5 x 7 inches

Images courtesy of Patricia Sweetow Gallery & the artist, 2017. Photographs by David Schmitz.
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Shasta Historical Society
Redding, California
530-243-3720
www.shastahistorical.org

The Shasta Historical Society extends a warm welcome to guests. Located in the heart of historic Redding, the Society was formed on January 18, 1930 and is committed to the education and enrichment of the community through museums, research library, exhibits, programs, community events, and publications. We strive better serve our community by actively working to promote and communicate local history.

Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association and Art Center
Blue Ridge, Georgia
706-632-2144
www.blueridgearts.net

Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association’s mission is to provide opportunities in the realm of art for the individual and the community. For the last 40 years, we have been devoted to bringing new exhibits, new events, quality arts education, and new programs to our community through arts and culture. We endeavor to provide a haven for artists and our community to flourish.

Massachusetts State Police Museum and Learning Center
South Grafton, Massachusetts
508-839-0001
mspmlc.org

Established in 1865, the Massachusetts State Police is the oldest state police agency in the Nation. The Massachusetts State Police Museum and Learning Center preserves the heritage and traditions of the Massachusetts State Police for the public as well as past, present and future Department members. Visitors can explore historical exhibits, police memorabilia, vintage cruisers and motorcycles, communications equipment, uniforms, firearms, and badges from the agency’s past, as well as learning about current law enforcement methods and public safety efforts.
The Muskegon Heritage Museum
Muskegon, Michigan
231-722-1363
lakeshoremuseum.org/muskegon-heritage-museum/

The Muskegon Heritage Museum is dedicated to preserving the economic, industrial & social history of the greater Muskegon area. Our collection includes informational exhibits, artifacts and photos pertaining to Muskegon’s industries, products and businesses. We have a working steam engine with a line shaft that runs 11 machine tools. We also have a working Brunswick pinsetter, a spring winding machine, and over 80 other companies represented in exhibits.

The Historic Village at Allaire
Farmingdale, New Jersey
732-919-3500
allairevillage.org

The Historic Village at Allaire was once an iron-producing, factory-town known as the Howell Iron Works, Co. The Village was a self-sufficient community containing a carpentry and pattern-making shop, a blacksmith shop, a bakery, a boarding house, a blast furnace, mills to finish iron products, a school, a church, a general store with a post office, and workers’ homes. Iron produced at the village was shipped to New York City by wagon and steamship and was used to produce steam engine parts in a factory also owned by our proprietor, James P. Allaire.

Queens Museum
Queens, New York
718-592-9700
queensmuseum.org

The Queens Museum is dedicated to presenting the highest quality visual arts and educational programming for people in the New York metropolitan area, and particularly for the residents of Queens, a uniquely diverse, ethnic, cultural, and international community.
Newport, Rhode Island
401-856-4422
www.audrainautomuseum.org

Founded in 2014 in Newport, Rhode Island, with a mission of “Preserving, Celebrating & Sharing Automotive History,” the Audrain Automobile Museum connects and engages with other local non-profits and the greater Aquidneck Island community.

Cleveland, Ohio
216-231-4600
www.cmnh.org

We believe that discovery starts with you at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Explore our exhibits, meet our wild animals, take a hike, join a class—all while creating meaningful memories.

We make science relatable by cultivating your curiosity. When you visit the Museum, you’ll have the opportunity to delve deep into the past in our dinosaur hall and experience natural wonders in outdoor galleries.

Wyck Historic House, Garden, and Farm

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
215-848-1690
www.wyck.org

Wyck is a National Historic Landmark house, garden, and farm in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia. It served as the ancestral home to one Philadelphia family for nine generations (1690-1973). Today, Wyck connects this family and its rich history to our community through programs that focus on history, horticulture, and urban agriculture, using the past as inspiration for the present.

Audrain Automobile Museum

Newport, Rhode Island
401-856-4422
www.audrainautomuseum.org

Founded in 2014 in Newport, Rhode Island, with a mission of “Preserving, Celebrating & Sharing Automotive History,” the Audrain Automobile Museum connects and engages with other local non-profits and the greater Aquidneck Island community.
Drayton Hall Preservation Trust

Charleston, South Carolina
843-769-2600
www.draytonhall.org

Founded in 1738, Drayton Hall is the nation's earliest example of fully executed Palladian architecture and the oldest preserved plantation house in America still open to the public. Among the best and most complete examples of Southern colonial life still available today, Drayton Hall holds a vital educational responsibility. It is also an active archaeological site with an extensive museum collection of rare 18th- and 19th-century objects and artifacts.

Greenbrier Historical Society

Lewisburg, West Virginia
304-645-3398
www.greenbrierhistorical.org

Nestled in historic Lewisburg, WV, discover the amazing history of the Greenbrier Valley at the Greenbrier Historical Society. Tour our 1820 historic North House Museum where your guide will discuss the diverse history of the region with focuses on local history, Black history, military history, and everyday life. The North House is also home to our Archive and Genealogy Library for researchers to explore Greenbrier Valley History.

Norskedalen Nature & Heritage Center

Coon Valley, Wisconsin
608-452-3424
www.norskedalen.org

Norskedalen showcases the natural beauty of the Driftless Region. Norwegian Heritage is preserved in the buildings and artifacts of the Heritage Center. Families and friendships also blossom through volunteering at Norskedalen and, at its heart, Norskedalen is about people - those who have built lives in this area and those who carry on the traditions wherever they may live.
Along the Yangzi River: Regional Culture of the Bronze Age from Hunan
Presented by China Institute

The great Bronze Age culture which first arose in China's Central Plain spread southward into the middle Yangzi valley beginning around the 14th century BCE. This exhibition provides a window into the cultural diversity of an ancient civilization, one in which regional bronze traditions were tied together by the same technology of piece-mold casting. By presenting more than seventy technically sophisticated Chinese bronzes, it revealed the fascinating story of this region.

Link: https://tinyurl.com/4j55vfra

Preserving the Future of the Past
Revs Institute Launches a New App and Website to Enable Virtual Visits

Download the extraordinary Revs Institute museum app, available free on Google Play and the App Store. Virtual visitors can take a 3D immersive tour through each gallery and the workshop, as well as experience a remarkable 360 degree view from the driver’s seat. The app supplies a guide to every car, including images, technical specifications, and videos of the vehicles running.
"Hip Hop Icons" Virtual Exhibition
Presented by
Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum

The “Hip Hop Icons” exhibition features over 150 original objects related to the history of hip hop culture in America focused around the following themes: Pioneers, Icons, Groups, Women, Movies, and Detroit. The centerpiece of the exhibit are the Hip Hop Icons movie posters featuring some of the most significant and impactful films on hip hop culture.

Link: https://www.marshallfredericks.net/hip-hop-icons

Virtual Programming Presented by
Art & History Museums - Maitland

Art & History Museums of Maitland's virtual programming includes over 30 videos & articles featuring: tours of our five museums & National Historic Landmark campus, artist talks, art-making tutorials, and more!

Link: https://artandhistory.org/virtual-ah/
ZOOM Art Talks
Presented by
Loveland Museum

The Loveland Museum hosts a wide variety of free programs and events throughout the year. In April, join a talk with Loveland artist Sharon Carlisle discussing her most recent body of artwork that examines the connection between Loveland and the larger world community through water. In this talk, she will discuss the inspiration and process behind her exhibit "Speaking to Water," while inspiring others to look at this invaluable resource from new perspectives.

See each program and event link below for more information.

Link: https://www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org/programs-events/

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Virtual Events
Presented by
Hunterdon Art Museum

The Hunterdon Art Museum has been busy at work creating innovative virtual programs and bringing our exhibitions online as virtual reality experiences. Upcoming talks include:

"Pipe Art: Understudied Glass," considers the glass pipe as a fluid work of art fundamental to the art history of glass. Sometimes demoted by law or public opinion to the category of “paraphernalia,” the artwork of the pipe nonetheless defies its sometimes categorization as sub-sculpture.

Thomas Cole and the Contemporary: Laura Moriarty's "Tableau for Thomas Cole" is presented in conjunction with Hunterdon Art Museum's current exhibition, "Laura Moriarty: Resurfacing."

Link: https://hunterdonartmuseum.org/event
Virtual Talk Series
Presented by
Vernon Public Art Gallery

This new Artist Talk series was launched to complement the Okanagan Print Triennial 2021. Okanagan Print Triennial. Launched in 2009 at the Vernon Public Art Gallery, the Okanagan Print Triennial is an open, juried show dedicated to showcasing the creative forays made with printmaking in Canada and beyond. The winner of each Triennial is given a solo show at the gallery not hosting the show the third year following. The curators look forward to installing and unveiling the works of printmakers of all stripes, and then to engaging with our local public's in discussion and exchange about this fascinating aspect of contemporary art practice.

Link: https://www.vernonpublicartgallery.com/artist-talks

Presented by
The Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention

Everyone says that necessity is the mother of invention, but at the Cade, we see inventions born from all of these Mothers of Invention: Necessity, Curiosity, Imagination, Iteration, and Serendipity. Check out incredible historical stories of innovation in each of these audio tour segments.

Link: https://www.cademuseum.org/mothers-of-invention-audio-tour.html
Virtual Classroom Programs  
Presented by World Awareness Children’s Museum

The World Awareness Children’s Museum bring our interactive, hands-on, outreach programs directly to your site! Designed for individual classrooms of up to 30 students, all programs:

> Are virtual and interactive  
> Are taught live by a Museum Educator  
> Are available to any school in the United States  
> Are one hour (60-minutes) long  
> Feature virtual learning with the Museum’s cultural and historical artifacts collection  
> Include an art project to work on either during or after the lesson  
> Are aligned with NYS Common Core > Curriculum standards and modules  
> Can be taught to a maximum of 30 students per presentation

Contact:  
Emily F. Wood, Membership & Program Coordinator  
Phone: (518) 793-2773 x 303  
Email: emily@worldchildrensmuseum.org

Rebeka Antonelli, Museum Educator, prepares to teach a virtual lesson about Chinese New Year to a 3rd Grade class in Schenectady, New York

Links:  
https://museumsonthegreen.org/exhibits-artifacts/  
https://museumsonthegreen.org/untold-tales-of-falmouth/

Virtual Experiences  
Presented by Museums on the Green

There’s so much history to uncover - from suffragettes, shipwrecks and spies to patriots, poets and major league players. Museums on the Green has created a dynamic new virtual series of talks with authors and historians, new virtual exhibits featuring items from the archives, and read the latest issues of “Untold Tales of Falmouth.” The Museums is owned and operated by the Falmouth Historical Society on Cape Cod.

Links:  
https://museumsonthegreen.org/exhibits-artifacts/  
https://museumsonthegreen.org/untold-tales-of-falmouth/
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New and Rejoining members 12/15/2020 through 3/14/2021

CALIFORNIA, Redding, Shasta Historical Society, 530-243-3720
CALIFORNIA, San Francisco, San Francisco Women Artists Gallery, 415-440-7392
GEORGIA, Blue Ridge, Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association and Art Center, 706-632-2144
MARYLAND, Baltimore, The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum, 410-462-1763
MASSACHUSETTS, South Grafton, Massachusetts State Police Museum and Learning Center, 508-839-0001
MICHIGAN, Muskegon, Muskegon Heritage Museum, 231-722-1363
NEW JERSEY, Farmingdale, The Historic Village at Allaire, 732-919-3500
NEW YORK, Queens, Queens Museum, 718-592-9700
OHIO, Cleveland, Cleveland Museum of Natural History***, 216-231-4600
OKLAHOMA, Ponca City, Ponca City Art Association, Inc., 580-765-9746
PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, Wyck Historic House, Garden, and Farm, 215-848-1690
RHODE ISLAND, Newport, Audrain Automobile Museum, 401-856-4422
SOUTH CAROLINA, Charleston, Drayton Hall Preservation Trust, 843-769-2600
VIRGINIA, South Boston, South Boston-Halifax County Museum of Fine Arts & History, 434-572-9200
WASHINGTON, Twisp, Confluence Gallery and Art Center, 509-997-2787
WEST VIRGINIA, Lewisburg, Greenbrier Historical Society, 304-645-3398
WISCONSIN, Coon Valley, Norskedalen Nature & Heritage Center, 608-452-3424
Other updates (continued)

CANADA, BC, Victoria, Bateman Foundation Gallery of Nature, Remove - Lost contact
CANADA, NS, Halifax, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Remove - Lost contact
EL SALVADOR, San Salvador, Museo de Arte de El Salvador (MARTE), Remove - Lost contact
ARIZONA, Tucson, Kitt Peak National Observatory, Remove - Temporary closure
CALIFORNIA, Campbell, Campbell Museums, Remove - Temporary closure
CALIFORNIA, Fullerton, Fullerton Museum Center, Remove - Lost contact
CALIFORNIA, Santa Barbara, Art, Design & Architecture Museum, Remove - Temporary closure
COLORADO, Golden, Golden History Museums, New name - Golden History Museum & Park
CONNECTICUT, Middletown, Davison Art Center, Wesleyan University, Remove - Lost contact
GEORGIA, Savannah, Andrew Low House, Remove - Lost contact
ILLINOIS, Evanston, Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University, Remove - Temporary closure
ILLINOIS, Oak Park, Pleasant Home, Remove - Lost contact
ILLINOIS, Vernon Hills, Cuneo Mansion and Gardens at Loyola Lake County, Remove - Temporary closure
IOWA, Coralville, Johnson County Historical Society, Remove - Temporary closure
LOUISIANA, New Orleans, Beauregard-Keyes Historic House & Garden, Remove - Lost contact
LOUISIANA, New Orleans, Newcomb Art Museum of Tulane University, Remove - Temporary closure
MASSACHUSETTS, Stockbridge, Chesterwood, A Site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Remove - Not renewing this year
MICHIGAN, East Lansing, Michigan State University Museum, Remove - Temporary closure
MICHIGAN, Rockford, Rockford Area Museum, Remove - Temporary closure
NEBRASKA, Nebraska City, Kregel Windmill Factory Museum***, Remove - Lost contact
NEVADA, Reno, Sierra Arts Gallery, Remove - Lost contact
NEW MEXICO, Albuquerque, University of New Mexico Art Museum, Remove - Lost contact
NEW MEXICO, Santa Fe, Center for Contemporary Arts, Remove - Not renewing this year
NORTH CAROLINA, Charlotte, Levine Museum of the New South, Remove - Lost contact
OHIO, Worthington, Peggy R. McConnell Arts Center of Worthington, Remove - Temporary closure
OKLAHOMA, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Add note - ***NARM privileges do not extend to members with a home institution within a 15 mile radius and may be restricted for concerts/lectures/special exhibitions and ticketed events.
OREGON, Portland, Five Oaks Museum, Remove - Temporary closure
VIRGINIA, Reston, Greater Reston Arts Center, New name/website - Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art/tephraica.org
Facing Fire: Art, Wildfire, and the End of Nature in the New West
UCR ARTS

Fire as omen and elemental force, as metaphor and searing personal experience – these are the subjects explored by the artists of "Facing Fire." The West's diverse ecologies are fire-prone, fire-adapted, even fire-dependent. In the past two decades, however, wildfires have exploded in scale and severity. There is a powerful consensus that we have entered a new era. The artists of Facing Fire bring us incendiary work from active fire lines and psychic burn zones.

Organized by UCR ARTS: California Museum of Photography and curated by Douglas McCulloh, this exhibition is available for travel starting October 2021.

Contact rita.souther@ucr.edu for more information.
Virtual tour: https://virtualucrarts.ucr.edu/facing-fire/
Flying High: For the Love of Birds

Celebrating our feathered friends, the Texas Quilt Museum is touring the exhibition Flying High: For the Love of Birds, organized by Dr. Sandra Sider, the Museum’s curator.

This exhibition of 22 art quilts requires approximately 150 linear feet, all the works have sleeves on the back for hanging, and wall labels will be sent in a Word document. Our booking slots run through July of 2023, with a rental fee of $1600 and a non-refundable deposit of $500 upon signing of the loan agreement. Venues also pay shipping or delivery costs. For shipping, the quilts will be packed in three or four watertight cases. The Texas Quilt Museum insures the exhibition during shipping.

Inquiries or requests additional images of all the quilts should be directed to Sandra: curator@texasquiltmuseum.org
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