



January 5, 2009



EXHIBITION FACT SHEET

Title: *Leaded: The Materiality and Metamorphosis of Graphite*

When: January 25–March 29, 2009

Description: Although they do work with graphite—the “lead” in drawing pencils—the 16 contemporary artists in this nationally touring exhibition “draw” in only the loosest sense of the word. Some build up layers to create an image, while others are more interested in what remains after they obliterate their medium. Several even treat graphite as a sculptural entity, among them The Art Guys, veterans of the Memorial Art Gallery’s popular 2006 show *Extreme Materials*. Forty-four intriguing works guide visitors on an unexpected journey beyond the act of mark-making.

Credits: *Leaded* was developed by the University of Richmond Museums, VA, and organized for tour by International Arts and Artists, Washington, DC. In Rochester, it is underwritten by Lynne Lovejoy with additional support from an anonymous donor.

Programs & events: These include an exhibition party (January 24), lecture by artist Creighton Michael (January 25) and educators’ inservice (January 28). For details, see attached release or visit mag.rochester.edu/calendar.

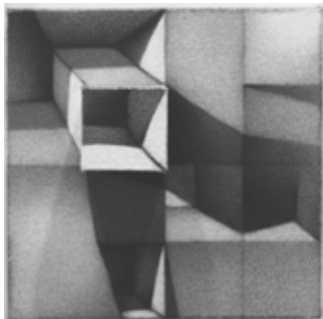
Cell Phone Tour: Use your cell phone to hear *Leaded* artists talk about their work. The tour is free but regular cell phone charges apply.

Hours: Open Wednesday–Sunday 11 am to 5 pm and until 9 pm on Thursdays. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

Admission: \$10; college students with ID and senior citizens, \$6; children 6–18, \$4. Always free to members, University of Rochester students, and children 5 and under. Reduced general admission, \$6, Thursdays from 5–9 pm, made possible by the Democrat and Chronicle, Thomson West, ExxonMobil Chemical Company and Monroe County.

Also on view: *Gregory Van Maanen: The Happy Survivor* showcases works by a self-taught artist whose work is in large part a means of exorcising the demons he brought home from the war in Vietnam. On view January 25–March 29. [More information](#)

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January 5, 2009

NEW MAG SHOW EXPLORES POTENTIAL OF GRAPHITE AS A MEDIUM Nationally Touring Exhibition Features 16 Contemporary Artists



ROCHESTER, NY —*Leaded: The Materiality and Metamorphosis of Graphite* opens January 25, 2009 at the Memorial Art Gallery and remains on view through March 29.

Although they do work with graphite—the “lead” in drawing pencils—the 16 contemporary artists in this nationally touring exhibition “draw” in only the loosest sense of the word. Some build up layers to create an image, while others are more interested in what remains after they obliterate their medium. Several even treat graphite as a sculptural entity, among them The Art Guys, veterans of the Memorial Art Gallery’s popular 2006 show *Extreme Materials*. (A complete list of artists is attached.)

Forty-four intriguing works guide visitors on an unexpected journey beyond the act of mark-making.

Leaded was developed by the University of Richmond Museums, VA, and organized for tour by International Arts and Artists, Washington, DC. In Rochester, it is underwritten by Lynne Lovejoy with additional support from an anonymous donor.

It was curated by N. Elizabeth Schlatter, deputy director and curator of exhibitions at the University of Richmond Museums.

About the exhibition

The artworks in the exhibition are organized within three overlapping themes:

- “Graphite as Content” presents work in which the subject matter is seamlessly merged with the graphite medium, as in Christopher Cook’s primordial “landscapes” made of graphite, oil, and resin on aluminum sheets; Mark Sheinkman’s drawings of smoky tendrils created with graphite and eraser; and laboriously detailed drawings of brushstrokes by Shimon Okshteyn, whose paintings were the subject of a 2007 show at the Memorial Art Gallery.
- “Graphite as Transformative Agent” presents two- and three-dimensional works made of materials that are altered or disguised by using graphite. James Busby manipulates the medium’s metallic quality with thick applications that turn canvas and paper into monolithic objects. Stefana McClure and Stephen Sollins focus on the communicative role of graphite through the obliteration of text and imagery in their works on paper.
- In “Graphite as Sculpture,” graphite and pencils become sculptural material within a conceptual framework and/or systematic formation. The Art Guys use pencils as literal building blocks in their over six-foot-tall sculpture of a skyscraper, whereas Marco Maggi works with graphite’s materiality in his small-scale sculptures utilizing graphite powder, pencil leads and Plexiglas.

Programs and events

These include an exhibition opening party (January 24), lecture by artist Creighton Michael (January 25) and educators’ inservice (January 28). *For details, see attached release or visit <http://mag.rochester.edu/calendar>.*

Cell Phone Tours

Use your cell phone to hear *Leaded* artists talk about their work. This OnCell audiotour is free, but your regular cell phone charges apply.

Memorial Art Gallery hours & admission:

Open Wednesday–Sunday 11 am to 5 pm and until 9 pm on Thursdays. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Admission \$10; college students with ID and senior citizens, \$6; children 6–18, \$4. Always free to members, University of Rochester students, and children 5 and under. Reduced general admission, \$6, Thursdays from 5–9 pm, made possible by the Democrat and Chronicle, Thomson West, ExxonMobil Chemical Company and Monroe County.

National tour

Leaded opened in August 2007 at the University of Richmond Museums, VA. It began its national tour at the Bedford Gallery at Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek, CA and later traveled to the Western Gallery, Western Washington University, Bellingham; Salina Art Center, KS; Baum Gallery of Fine Art, University of Central Arkansas, Conway; and Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi. From MAG, it travels to the Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, MT; and Palmer Museum of Art, Pennsylvania State University.

Press contacts

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PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Leaded: The Materiality and Metamorphosis of Graphite

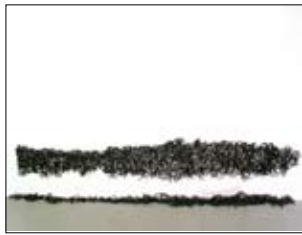
EXHIBITION PARTY

Saturday, January 24, 8–11 pm (Patron members and above 5–7 pm)

Supporter members and above free; associate members \$10; advance tickets required*

MAG members are invited to celebrate the opening of *Leaded: The Materiality and Metamorphosis of Graphite*. Enjoy high-energy dance music by eight-piece band Rochester Brass & Electric; atmospheric jazz by Little Theatre favorite Margaret Explosion; and exotic sounds of the marimba with virtuoso performer Mark Maynor. Help yourself to munchies, or purchase cocktails, coffee and decadent desserts. Also be among the first to see another show opening this weekend—*Gregory Van Maanen: The Happy Survivor*.

* For recorded information call 585.276.8901.



LECTURE

Sunday, January 25, 2 pm, auditorium

Included with MAG admission (free to members)

Hear an illustrated lecture by *Leaded* artist Creighton Michael. A sculptor, painter and printmaker for two decades, Michael is known for drawings that explore the processes, structures and substances associated with mark making.

ABOVE: Creighton Michael's *SQUIGGLE linear B407* (2007) is made of graphite, paper, acrylic and rope.

ESPECIALLY FOR EDUCATORS

Wednesday, January 28, 4:30–7 pm / \$30*

“Leaded: Drawing in the Gallery.” This inservice for art teachers includes tours, discussions and hands-on drawing activities.

Preregistration is required; contact Kerry Donovan, 585.276.8971 (kdonovan@mag.rochester.edu).

GUIDED EXHIBITION TOURS

Sunday, January 25, 1, 2 and 3 pm

Fridays, January 30–March 27, 2 pm

Sundays, February 1–March 29, 1 pm

Included with MAG admission (free to members)



FEATURED ARTISTS

Leaded: The Materiality and Metamorphosis of Graphite
January 25–March 29, 2009 at the Memorial Art Gallery

The Art Guys (Michael Galbreth, American, b. 1956
and Jack Massing, American, b. 1959)

James Busby (American, b. 1973)

Hsin-Hsi Chen (Taiwanese, b. 1969)

Christopher Cook (British, b. 1959)

Meghan Gerety (American, b. 1970)

Michael Joaquin Grey (American, b. 1961)

Sarah Lovitt (American, b. 1969)

Marco Maggi (Uruguayan, b. 1957)

Stephana McClure (N. Ireland, b. 1959)

Creighton Michael (American, b. 1949)

Shimon Okshteyn (American, b. Ukraine, 1951)

Gloria Ortiz-Hernandez (Colombian, b. 1943)

Mark Sheinkman (American, b. 1963)

Stephen Sollins (American, b. 1967)

Molly Springfield (American, b. 1977)