EXHIBITION FACT SHEET

Title: 65th Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition

When: July 26–September 13, 2015

Description: Every two years, Rochester’s longest-running juried exhibition showcases works by emerging and established artists from a 27-county region of western and central New York.

Juror: Michael Rooks, Wieland Family Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the High Museum of Art, Atlanta

Contents: 68 works by 46 artists—including 23 first-time exhibitors—selected from a field of 920 entries by 330 artists.

Awards: This year’s artists were eligible for nine cash prizes including the $1,500 Memorial Art Gallery Award, selected by the juror, and the $500 Harris Popular Vote award, chosen by visitors during the first two weeks of the show.

Special events: These include a members’ opening party (July 25) and lectures by six participating artists (July 30, August 6 & August 27).

Cell phone tour: Call 585.627.4132 to hear commentary by many of the artists. Free, but regular cell phone charges apply.

Credit line: This exhibition is sponsored by M&T Bank. Additional support is provided by the Elaine P. and Richard U. Wilson Foundation, the Rubens Family Foundation, and the Margaret Davis Friedlich and Alan and Sylvia Davis Memorial Fund.

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

Admission: $14; senior citizens, $10; college students with ID and children 6–18, $5. Always free to members, UR students, and children 5 and under. Half-price general admission Thursdays from 5–9 pm is made possible in part by Monroe County.

MAG on the web: mag.rochester.edu

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August 10, 2015

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65th ROCHESTER-FINGER LAKES EXHIBITION OPENS JULY 26
Long-Running Juried Competition Showcases Regional Artists

ROCHESTER, NY — The 65th Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition, a long-running showcase for artists from western and central New York, opens at the Memorial Art Gallery July 26 and remains on view through September 13.

This year’s exhibition features 68 works by 46 artists. They were chosen from a field of 920 entries by 330 artists by Michael Rooks, Wieland Family Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at Atlanta’s High Museum of Art.

Among the artists are 23 veterans, including Jack Wolsky, in his 23rd Finger Lakes; William Keyser, in his 16th; and Kate Timm, in her 8th. At the other end of the spectrum are 23 artists making their Finger Lakes debuts. See attached list.

This exhibition is sponsored by M&T Bank. Additional support is provided by the Elaine P. and Richard U. Wilson Foundation, the Rubens Family Foundation, and the Margaret Davis Friedlich and Alan and Sylvia Davis Memorial Fund.

Awards
This year, artists are eligible for nine cash prizes totaling more than $6,000. The first eight will be announced July 25 at the members’ opening party; the popular vote award was announced August 10.

• Memorial Art Gallery Award (Award of Excellence); selected by the juror ($1,500)
• Alice E. Koret/Docent Award, given in memory of Alice E. Koret by Dr. Sidney Koret, friends and family; selected by a MAG docent ($1,000)
• Gertrude Herdle Moore/Isabel Herdle Award, given by the Gallery Council of the MAG; selected by the juror ($500)
• Louis D’Amanda Memorial Award, given by family of Louis D’Amanda in memory of his grandfather; selected by the juror ($500)
• Elmer Louis Award, given in memory of Mr. Louis by his family; selected by the juror ($600)
• Ronan Christopher Louis Award, given in memory of Ronan Christopher Louis (2010–2013) by his family; selected by the juror ($500)
• Oxford Gallery Award; selected by the juror ($500)
• Rochester Contemporary Art Center Award; selected by the juror ($500)
• Harris Popular Vote Award, given in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Manville S. Harris to the artist whose work receives the most votes from visitors during the first two weeks of the exhibition ($500)

History of the exhibition
In March 1914, just five months after opening its doors, the Memorial Art Gallery hosted its first Rochester Art Club exhibition. The yearly show had been a fixture of the local art scene for three...
decades, but at MAG, it grew steadily in size and scope. It took its current name in 1938, when it expanded to encompass not just RAC members but artists living in 19 counties of western New York. More changes were in store. These days, the *Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition* takes place every two years and serves a 27-county area.

One thing hasn’t changed, however. Because of the competitive nature of the show, only a small percentage of works submitted are chosen. As a result, the exhibition remains a prestigious showcase for artists in western and central New York. Past award winners, many of whom have gone on to establish national reputations, have included Wendell Castle, Albert Paley, Honoré Sharrer, Hans Christensen, Bill Stewart, Graham Marks and Kathy Calderwood.

**Hours and admission**

The Gallery is open Wednesday–Sunday 11 am to 5 pm and until 9 pm on Thursdays. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Admission is $14; senior citizens, $10; college students with ID and children 6–18, $5. Always free to members, UR students, and children 5 and under. Half-price admission Thursdays from 5–9 pm is made possible in part by Monroe County.

**Programs and events**

These include a members’ opening party (July 25) and lectures by six Finger Lakes artists (July 30, August 6 & August 27). *See attached release.*

**Press contacts**

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**65TH ROCHESTER-FINGER LAKES EXHIBITION SPECIAL EVENTS**

**MEMBERS’ PREVIEW PARTY**  
*Saturday, July 25, 8–11 pm*  
Free to MAG members, but reservations required; call (585) 276-8938 during business hours, email memberperks@mag.rochester.edu or register online.

Celebrate the art of the Finger Lakes! At this exhibition preview, the spotlight’s on emerging and established artists from upstate New York.

- In the Vanden Brul Pavilion, relax to the sounds of vocalist/acoustic guitarist Amy Montrois and her trio.
- In the M&T Bank Ballroom, dance the evening away with seven-piece party band Shine.
- Be among the first to know which artists will take home eight cash awards (8:15 pm in the auditorium), and don't forget to cast your ballot for the Harris Popular Vote Award (to be announced August 11).
- Enjoy desserts and beverages for purchase from our party sponsor, Max at the Gallery.

**FINGER LAKES ARTIST LECTURES**  (see work by these artists on the accompanying fact sheet)  
*Thursdays at 7 pm, dates below, auditorium; included in Gallery admission*

- **July 30:** **Trish Coonrod & Cary Joseph.** Coonrod, of Ithaca, studied painting at Washington University and the New York Academy of Art, then spent eight years as a painter in the studio of influential artist Jeff Koons. She paints from life, typically fruit or flowers, and enjoys studying how “light reveals form and how colors transition across the planes.” This is her second *Finger Lakes*. Joseph, also of Ithaca, is a studio potter whose work has been informed by his life as a musician. “I took to heart the way the great jazz innovators continued to push into new territory, took artistic and commercial risks, and stretched their mediums’ boundaries.” He has three pieces of thrown, stretched and wood-fired stoneware in this, his first *Finger Lakes*. Previously at MAG, his work was selected for three recent Fine Craft Shows.

- **August 6:** **Ben Altman & Rich Tomasello.** Altman, of Danby, shot his series SITE/SIGHT at international sites and memorials related to genocide and atrocity. There, with a 1940s press camera, he examined our contemporary response to the violent past as he captured tourists making their own photos with smart-phones and cameras. Two works from the series are in this, his first *Finger Lakes*. Tomasello, of Buffalo, received his BFA in illustration from the University of Buffalo before becoming an art educator. His mixed media works examine the loss of innocence and incorporate “childhood memories, current events, the toy industry, and gender-specific advertising for children.” This is his second *Finger Lakes*.

- **August 27:** **Mindy Magyar & Christine Sullivan.** Magyar, of Rochester, is an assistant professor at RIT. She celebrates her Native American heritage by incorporating traditional Micmac techniques, designs and materials. “With formal education in engineering, business and art, I appreciate all types of making—whether the process is by hand, machine, or organization.” At MAG, Magyar was one of the
artists featured in the 2012 exhibition Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation 3. This is her first Finger Lakes. Sullivan, of Elmira, began her career as a cartographer on Cape Cod but today is a “representational abstract landscape painter. …The geologic and geographic structures, organic scents and earthy hues found close to the land and sea were embedded upon my soul at a very early age and continue to inform and influence my life and work.” This is her third Finger Lakes.

This series is sponsored by the Sandra G. Dreyfuss Education Endowment Fund.

GUIDED EXHIBITION TOURS  (included in Gallery admission)
Sunday, July 26, 1, 2 and 3 pm

“IN THEIR OWN WORDS” CELL PHONE TOUR
Call 585.627.4132 to hear commentary by many of the artists. Free, but regular cell phone charges apply.

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64th ROCHESTER-FINGER LAKES EXHIBITION
July 26–September 13, 2015
List of Exhibitors

J Adams, Trumansburg
Rebecca Aloisio, Victor *
Ben Altman, Danby (lecture 8/6 @ 7 pm) * †
David Beale, Cortland
Sheldon Berlyn, Penn Yan
Kathleen Bolin, Pittsford *
Belinda Bryce, Rochester
Chris Davis Cameron, Rochester *
Daniel Raymond Chadwick, Scottsville *
Sage Churchill-Foster, Walworth *
Trish Coonrod, Ithaca (lecture 7/30 @ 7 pm) †
James M. Cooper, Medina *
Tom Galambos, Penfield *
Alejandro Gutiérrez, Buffalo * †
Bill Hastings, Ithaca *
Dale Inglett, Alfred
Tyrone Johnson-Neuland, Oswego
Cary Joseph, Ithaca (lecture 7/30 @ 7 pm) * †
John Vincent Kastner, Rochester
Laurence E. Keefe, Victor *
William Keyser, Victor
Mark Lavatelli, Buffalo
Illa Loeb, Rochester *
Mindy Magyar, Rochester (lecture 8/27 @ 7 pm) *
Paolo Marino, Rochester
Stephanie McMahon, Alfred Station * †
Barbara McPhail, Canandaigua *
Shamira Nicolas, Rochester *
Willie Osterman, Canandaigua
Lanna Pejovic, Honeoye Falls †
Edgar G. Praus, LeRoy
Nicholas H. Ruth, Rochester *
Kevin Schoonover, Geneva
Richard Shearer, Springwater *
Robert Sherrill, Cortland *
Kala Stein, Springwater *
Christine Sullivan, Elmira (lecture 8/27 @ 7 pm) †
Jeff Suszczynski, Rochester †
Kate Timm, Sterling
Rich Tomasello, Buffalo (lecture 8/6 @ 7 pm)
Kathryn Vajda, Avon
Jessica Warner, Avon
David Werberg, Victor *
Jack Wolsky, Rochester
Phillia C. Yi, Geneva
Stefan Zoller, Syracuse

* new to Finger Lakes
† 2015 award winner (next page)
ROCHESTER, NY, August 10, 2015 — Eight cash awards totaling more than $5,000 were presented to artists at the members’ opening of the 65th Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition. The show, which is presented every two years, opened to the public July 26 at the Memorial Art Gallery and remains on view through September 13.

Seven of the awards were chosen by this year’s juror—Michael Rooks, Wieland Family Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at Atlanta’s High Museum of Art. The eighth, the Alice E. Koret award, was selected by Memorial Art Gallery docents. The final award, the Harris Popular Vote Award, was announced today. It is voted by visitors during the first two weeks of the show.

JUROR’S AWARDS:
Memorial Art Gallery Award (Award of Excellence) ($1,500): Stephanie McMahon of Alfred Station, Sweet and Sour (oil on canvas) pictured above

Gertrude Herdle Moore/Isabel Herdle Award, given by the Gallery Council of the Memorial Art Gallery ($500): Jeff Suszczynski of Rochester, one clear minute #8 (hand-cut collage)

Louis D’Amanda Memorial Award, given by family of Louis D’Amanda in memory of his grandfather ($500): Cary Joseph of Ithaca, Shadow Vase (wood-fired stoneware)

Elmer Louis Award, given in memory of Mr. Louis by his family ($600): Ben Altman of Danby, Auschwitz 11–Birkenau Death Camp, O wi cim, Poland (archival jet print)

Ronan Christopher Louis Award, given in memory of Ronan Christopher Louis (2010–2013) by his family ($500): Lanna Pejovic of Honeoye Falls, The Listener II (oil on canvas)

Oxford Gallery Award ($500): Christine Sullivan of Elmira, Finger Lakes Geomorphology (oil on linen)

Rochester Contemporary Art Center Award ($500): Alejandro Gutiérrez of Buffalo, The First Kiss (mixed media on cotton T-shirt)

DOCENT AWARD:
• Alice E. Koret/Docent Award, given in memory of Alice E. Koret by Dr. Sidney Koret, friends and family ($1,000): Trish Coonrod of Ithaca, Still Life with Starfruit, Blue Vase, and Teapot (oil on canvas)

POPULAR VOTE AWARD AWARD:
• Harris Popular Vote Award, given in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Manville S. Harris ($500): Trish Coonrod of Ithaca, Still Life with Starfruit, Blue Vase, and Teapot (oil on canvas)

The 65th Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition is sponsored by M&T Bank. Additional support is provided by the Elaine P. and Richard U. Wilson Foundation, the Rubens Family Foundation, and the Margaret Davis Friedlich and Alan and Sylvia Davis Memorial Fund.