De’VIA: The Manifesto Comes of Age

NOVEMBER 7, 2019–FEBRUARY 16, 2020 IN THE LOCKHART GALLERY

This fall exhibition celebrates De’VIA (Deaf View / Image Art), a movement of Deaf artists who began explicitly to explore Deaf experiences in their art. The exhibition will feature signature works by leading artists of the movement, among them Chuck Baird, David Call, Susan Dupor, Betty Miller, Anne Silver, and Nancy Rourke. It is scheduled to coincide with a conference celebrating the 30th anniversary of De’VIA, which was first used to describe the movement in 1989 by Deaf artist and professor Patricia Durr.

With one of the country’s largest per capita populations of Deaf adults, Rochester—home to the Rochester School for the Deaf and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf—has a flourishing Deaf community whose members maintain strong social and professional networks as they interact effectively with the hearing community.

NEW! ASL CLASSES

To celebrate the De’VIA exhibition, the Workshop will introduce three new courses designed by and for Deaf and hard of hearing kids and adults. Look for the blue boxes on pages 4, 5 & 6. Seats are limited!

First, let’s meet our teachers:

BENJAMIN LEYER (shown teaching at left) is hearing but knows American Sign Language (ASL). He is currently enrolled at RIT, where he is training to become an interpreter. A part of the Creative Workshop team for over a year, Ben will be teaching children how to draw and paint in watercolor and tempera.

AARON SWINDLE (self-portrait at right) is hard of hearing and fluent in ASL. A new member of our teaching team, he recently moved to Rochester from Texas. You can see one of his collages in the Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition, at MAG through September 15th. Aaron holds an MFA from the New York Studio School in drawing and painting. He will be teaching adult and teen classes.

Finally, a shout out to 2019 summer intern SARALEE DAPONTE, who worked with Curriculum Director Rachael Baldanza to make it all happen. Saralee is deaf and fluent in ASL. She’s from New Jersey and attends RIT, where she is majoring in Fine Arts and will graduate with her bachelor’s degree in May 2020. Shown is her mixed media work, Beauty, inspired by Louise Dear.