

ACTIONS : MUTATIONS : REVISIONS : FORMATIONS

- AN EXHIBITION SHOWCASING WORK BY -

RYAN AGNEW - JESSIE BLACKMER - NICK BONTRAGER
UNDINE BROD - CRYSTAL BROWN - DAVE FORD
MARY FORTUNA - TERI FRAME - LESLIE FRIEDMAN
GIANT ENEMY BEAR - MATTHEW GLOVER - SARAH HAAS
LAURA ISAAC - VERONICA KIRIN - DAVID KNOX
BRAD LAWRENCE - DAVID LEIGHTY - MICHAEL LITZAU
HOLLIDAY MARTINDALE - CHARLIE MICHAELS
LAURI LYNNXE MURPHY - JOE REINSEL
YOAV RUDA - IAN RUFFINO - ALICE SCHNEIDER
SEBURA&GARTELMANN - ERIKA STOWALL
JACOB TOWNLEY - VAGNER WHITEHEAD

CURATED BY ADORATION FOR ARTPRIZE 2012

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- CURATORIAL STATEMENT -

Inspired by the theatrics of ArtPrize, the Adoration curatorial team produced a site-specific exhibition, showcasing an array of multi-media artworks and performances. Using Calder Plaza and the Grand Rapids Police Department as a backdrop, an international ensemble of thirty artists has been brought together to stage the public exhibition *Actions : Mutations : Revisions : Formations*.

The tightly structured elements of the two venues called for revision. Upon first glance, the spaces appeared vast, monumental, and quite simply uninhabitable. With new formations, we sought to add layers of wonder and drama to a space lacking liveliness. We were instantly intrigued by the possibilities, surprised by the accessibility, and we felt the call for action. In an effort to artfully mutate these venues, we took on the challenge to populate the cold, municipal environments with interactive spectacles, fleeting performances, and thought-provoking installations. Through the artists' actions, mutations, revisions, and formations, we explore the relationships of space, time, and scale as related to environment and human engagement in public spaces.

ACTIONS

DAVE FORD.....EVANSTON, IL



SWING SET DRUM KIT

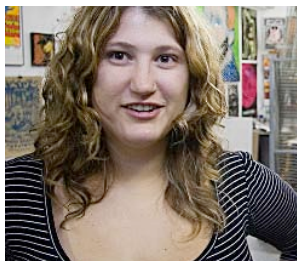
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The *Swing Set Drum Kit* is an interactive sonic sculpture. It encourages the creation of rhythmic sounds through play on a an instrumentally adapted swingset. Three swings are available and connect to drumsticks that will strike percussive instruments in reaction to the behavior of the swinger. The work is a live performance orchestrated by the audience.

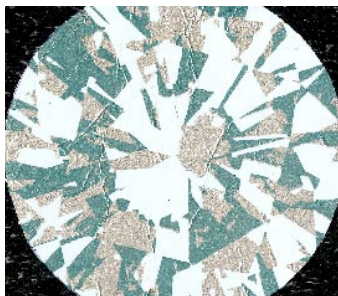
Bio: An avid collector of handwritten grocery lists, Dave Ford graduated from Grand Valley State University with a BFA in 1993. Afterward, in typical American folklore fashion, Dave moved to the art dormitory of the eastern U.S., also known as Williamsburg, Brooklyn. There, he continued making art, participated in group shows and began creating Truck Drawings. The drawings, which document a truck's movement through dozens of pencils, were featured in the sixth edition of Dave Eggers', *McSweeney's* in 2000. The publication generated attention for Truck Drawings which resulted in several commissions including long distance drawings to Connecticut and San Francisco and from the El Paso-Juarez Border to Grand Rapids for ArtPrize 2010.

LESLIE FRIEDMAN.....PHILADELPHIA, PA



HALF PIPED IDEAS

VOTE CODE: 53104



Back in 2009, I began looking into Jewish identity and imagining what the world would look like if Jewishness were cool. At its heart is the question of why the mainstream accepts or rejects any cultural group and how capricious the masses can be.

As a mechanism for talking about “what is cool,” I started referencing skateboarding in an installation through architectural ramps. Since my MFA thesis show in 2011, I have dreamed of taking this project outside the white walls of the gallery and building a public sculpture that was also a functional skateboard ramp. My dream has come true.

Bio: Leslie Friedman is a printmaker, sculptor, and installation artist living in Philadelphia. By way of screen-printed repeat patterns on materials such as wallpaper and linoleum tile, Friedman transforms spaces into bright, glossy, sparkly surfaces with subversive content below. She is a current fellow at The Center For Emerging Visual Artists (CFEVA) and co-founded the collectively run artspace NAPOLEON in Philadelphia.

LAURA ISAAC.....KANSAS CITY, MO



**10,000 HOURS
LA GRAND VITESSE**

VOTE CODE: 53565



According to the research of Dr. Anders Ericsson, it takes 10,000 hours of directed practice to become an expert at something - anything. What does it feel like to consciously take a 10,000 hour journey? What is an expert? What changes about us when we acquire new skills? In my project, I chose to explore this theory by learning to knit.

With several thousand feet of knitted ropes and the help of the public, I am creating a temporary web over and around the existing structure of the Alexander Calder sculpture known as *La Grande Vitesse*. With five anchor points on each side of the sculpture, the knitted work will interact with the existing shapes as well as create new shapes, color-plays, and will invite public interaction with the first public-artwork, funded by the NEA.

Bio: Laura Isaac is an interdisciplinary artist living in Kansas City. She looks to expand the way audiences interact with art through social media and new technologies in her performative and community-based projects. Her studio work combines traditional printmaking techniques with hand-drawn elements, digital imagery, and embroidery.

VERONICA KIRIN.....GRAND RAPIDS, MI



*GRAND RAPIDS
ROUND TABLE*

VOTE CODE: 53184



The *Grand Rapids Round Table* is intended to engage the community in what used to be commonplace - communication. This project is an homage to the day and age when neighbors would greet each other, strangers would say hello, and passersby would stop and talk about the weather. Bringing the past into the digital age, this piece hopes to foster uplifting communication once more through a digital public forum.

Bio: Veronica Kirin has lived in Grand Rapids on and off since 2004. She enjoys the diverse opportunities Grand Rapids offers for individuals who would like to pave their own way, as she does. Her artwork has been displayed at various events and venues, including the DAAC. Most often her art explores social movement and aims to challenge its viewers by asking them to consider themselves and their society as a whole.

CHARLIE MICHAELS.....DETROIT, MI



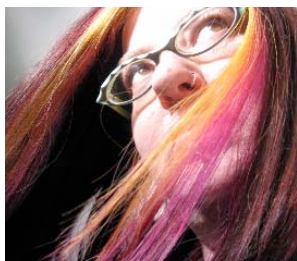
RISE AND FALL



Rise and Fall is an ephemeral installation consisting of 78 sky lanterns that will be lit and launched above Calder Plaza after dusk. Tethered to the ground below, the lanterns will hover above the plaza, their colors and arrangement in the sky based on a photograph of the sun setting over Lake Michigan. The performative event of the launch will be highly choreographed and the entire sculpture only visible for a few minutes until the flames begin to burn out. As the flames extinguish, the lanterns will fall slowly back to the ground - deconstructing the image and mimicking the way colors fall slowly behind the horizon.

Bio: Charlie Michaels is a studio and community-based artist whose work focuses broadly on the relationships between people, nature, and urban environments through temporary exhibitions, ephemeral installations, works on paper, and projects that engage youth and communities from Detroit to West Africa. Charlie holds a MFA from the University of Michigan and a BFA from Bradley University.

LAURI LYNNXE MURPHY.....DENVER, CO



OCCUPY GROWTH

VOTE CODE: 53011



When the Occupy Movement exploded onto the scene in the fall of 2011 in New York's Zuccotti Park, it wasn't long before it spread like airborne seeds throughout the country. On October 8, 2011, less than a month after the Occupation of Wall Street, the first general assembly was held by Occupy Grand Rapids, at Calder's *La Grand Vitesse*.

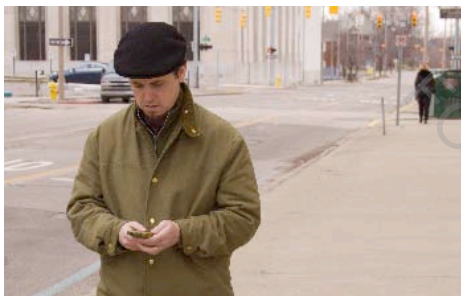
At its heart, the occupations in tents and teach-ins around the country were about the spreading of ideas - seeds of hope for the future. This installation manifests a new occupation, an occupation of seed bombs in the form of tents. Created with the community on-site, the public will be allowed to take these sculptural seed bombs with them, tossing them wherever they like, to spread native wildflower and organic, non-GMO vegetable seeds.

Bio: Lauri has spent the majority of her professional life in Denver, Colorado, as both an artist and curator. She has been a community organizer and advocate, built exhibitions in the backs of rental trucks for the DNC, created spectacle and taken guerilla actions to the streets, all while maintaining a rigorous studio and exhibition practice.

JOE REINSEL.....FLINT, MI

THE PAVEMENT

VOTE CODE: 52462



"Streets and their sidewalks, the main public places of a city, are its most vital organs. Think of a city and what comes to mind? Its streets" - Jane Jacobs. Inspired by the writings of Jane Jacobs and her work, "The Death and Life of Great American Cities" I have created a work that brings her words directly to the sidewalk. Hearing these excerpts while walking in downtown Grand Rapids adds a new vantage point to understand her text. This audio walk invites people to walk and listen. I will place 5 audio recordings around downtown Grand Rapids. Each are marked with a distinct branding that people will find out on the street using a smartphone and a QR decoder application. Narration by WYPR-Baltimore radio producer, Aaron Henkin.

Bio: Joe Reinsel is an artist, designer and educator who works in the areas of time-based arts and interactive media. Starting as a composer, his work evolved to incorporate interactive formats, video, and animation. His artistic works have been performed at national and international events including: SIGGRAPH, Zero One San Jose, Art Interactive, Contemporary Museum (Baltimore), University of Glasgow, Pixelache, Roulette, Deep Listening Space, Galapagos Arts Space, Tonic/subtonic, Engine27, and Mobius.



MUTATIONS

RYAN AGNEW.....COLUMBUS, OH



WORM MAN

VOTE CODE: 52826



What do we and earthworms have in common? In the winter of 2007, I began performing as a character named Worm Man to explore this question. Laying down into a human-sized earthworm suit, I slowly inch across the ground, gradually crawling out of the suit to stand.

Bio: Ryan Agnew is an American artist born in Alexandria, Virginia and currently based in Columbus, Ohio. Since February of 2009, Agnew has worked with others to develop and manage It Looks Like It's Open, a shared working studio space and public testing ground for experimental projects and events in Columbus, OH. Agnew exhibits regularly and has been the recipient of several awards including an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award in 2009. Agnew completed a BFA degree at the Maryland Institute College of Art in 1996 and a MFA at The Ohio State University in 2003.

JESSIE BLACKMER.....FRANCESTOWN, NH



SPECIAL SPECIES

VOTE CODE: 52265



Glass has historically been used in the creation of anatomical models for educational and aesthetically pleasant experiences. Its fragility, depth of color, and inherent preciousness all enhance the beauty of objects. In *Special Species*, I am using these properties to create both an instructive and ethereal experience. By creating my own models of Michigan's threatened and endangered plant species, I am highlighting the fragility of their habitat and the value of biodiversity. By putting these objects in manicured flower beds and other unexpected places the work enhances the viewers own sense of discovery and wonder. As there is a great deal of accuracy in the models they can serve as a reference for identification, because on an individual level, we can't protect what we can't identify or recognize as "at risk".

Bio: Jessie Blackmer spent her childhood in rural Maine, an experience which heavily influences her work. She graduated with honors from Massachusetts College of Art in 2004 with a BFA in Glass. She has worked at and been a student at both Pilchuck Glass School and Pratt Fine Arts center. In 2011, Jessie received her MFA from The Ohio State University.

UNDINE BROD.....RHINEBECK, NY



WALK WITH US

VOTE CODE: 52414



My recent work consists of hand-built clay and mixed media sculptures based on composite animals. The animal figures are concoctions; they are not actual individuals nor are they true to any original source. They have not lived, but they do have life. The truth about each is unknown, as their stories are indistinct and ever shifting. The animals exist as representations of emotional states in unparticular moments. They are fractured and dislocated, reflecting a sense of an altered reality and the experience of a contemporary culture that is not whole.

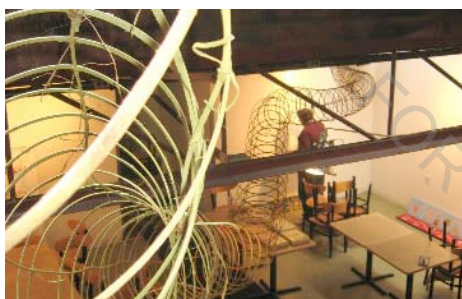
Bio: Undine Brod was born and raised in Los Angeles, and spent significant time in Seattle and New York City. She earned a MFA from The Ohio State University in 2011 and both a BFA in Ceramics and a BA in Interdisciplinary Art from the University of Washington in 1998. In addition to exhibiting in the US and internationally, she has participated in several artist residencies and has received many grants and awards in recognition of her artwork.

MARY FORTUNA.....ROYAL OAK, MI



BIG GIANT SNAKE

VOTE CODE: 52946



Big Giant Snake is a sculpture approximately 85' long, in the form of a giant snake. It is a multi-environment sculpture to be experienced both indoor and outdoor. It was built in sections, which are knotted together when it is installed. Many years ago, I began dreaming of giant snakes. I saw them in my dreams as tremendous paintings and as large sculptures, made of many materials. Production and installation of the work is an exercise in obsession and fixation on what seems like an impossible undertaking. I was compelled to bring to life the biggest snake I could manage. Snakes are of great importance in mythology. They are found in creation stories in many cultures as guardians, guides, creators, destroyers, and bearers of wisdom and secret knowledge.

Bio: Mary Fortuna has been active in Detroit's art community for twenty-plus years. A graduate of Wayne State University with a BFA, she has exhibited her work extensively in Michigan; in Berlin, Bregenze, Beijing, and elsewhere in the United States. In 2011, she served as a juror for the Kresge Art in Detroit Fellows program. Over a period of years, she has served on the Forum for Contemporary Art at the Detroit Institute of Arts, and on the exhibition committees for the Detroit Artist Market, Detroit Focus, and Paint Creek Center for the Arts.

GIANT ENEMY BEAR.....COLUMBUS, OH



*DENDRAL EQUINOX
OVERGROWTH*

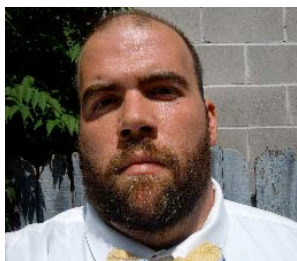
VOTE CODE: 53307



By day, we are just two independent artists, toiling at our craft, but when the moon is red, our tools are sharp, and pizza can be delivered, we become two fear-mongering bears. If you are uninteresting, inanimate, or not buffalo wings, then we are your enemy. *Dendral Equinox Overgrowth*, Giant Enemy Bear's first major collaborative work, is an attempt to change a typical, urban landscape into a wilder place of possibility. Our relief-printed dolls are strange, fat, scary, and off-kilter humanoids, arranged as lumps, strung from tree to tree. This installation invites the audience to interact with the gleefully invasive presence, and ponder the possible existence of the inhuman beings. As a culture, we no longer approach the dark corners of our minds with zeal. We have asphyxiated our curiosity and creativity with bills, cars, houses, and everyday concerns. This public installation invites the viewer to remember the wonderful, repulsive, and horrifyingly exciting imagination that we all possess. We are Giant Enemy Bear and we may be coming to a city or sleepy, colonial village near you.

Bio: Blake McAdow and Justin Robbie Hayward met while completing BFA degrees at The Ohio State University. Giant Enemy Bear was formed late one night in the OSU printshop. Both artists actively curate and exhibit projects in Columbus, OH and beyond.

MATTHEW GLOVER.....HOUSTON, TX



MOLE HOLES

VOTE CODE: 53140



For over a hundred years, there were no photographs of a living mole. The tiny diggers would spend so much of their lives hidden beneath the ground that the only way possible of showing them to the larger world was through taxidermy. In that vein, *Mole Holes* consists of several tiny knitted moles peeking up through the ground and hidden around the art space. They will be found hidden by plants and in the shade of artworks, both permanent and temporary. The discovery is an essential part of the experience of the artwork.

Bio: Matthew Glover is an emerging artist from Texas, fusing photography, sculpture and installation art with fiber art techniques.

DAVID KNOX.....OVERLAND PARK, KS



*NOTATIONS
IN THE GRASS*

VOTE CODE: 52892



Notations can be written and interpreted in a variety of ways. As an artist, I have created my own means of notation by working with the natural material provided in the exhibition space. The text that appears in the grass is temporal and will only be seen during the duration of ArtPrize. The blunt cut of grass within the words will slowly blend with the surrounding grass and eventually return to its regular well-maintained state. Seek and discover my notations in the grass.

Bio: David Jonathan Knox (b. 1988) is from Overland Park, Kansas. In 2010, he earned his BFA in Studio Art from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As an undergraduate he received the Freshman Award at the 21st Annual Juried Undergraduate Competition, the Book Arts Award at the Heart and Hands National Juried Book Art Exhibition, and Runner-Up in the Fine Arts category in Creative Quarterly #21 - The Journal of Art and Design. In the summer of his junior year, he studied printmaking in Florence, Italy. David is currently a MFA candidate and a Graduate Teaching Associate at The Ohio State University.

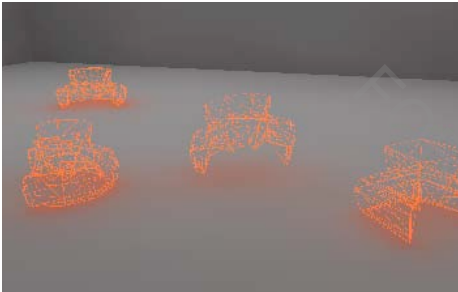
REVISIONS

NICK BONTRAGER.....HOUSTON, TX



REDACTED FORMS

VOTE CODE: 52465



Redacted Forms is a sculptural light installation, visualizing the digital degradation of a single form. Directly referencing the destructive nature of repeated digital file compression and the artifact aesthetic it can produce, *Redacted Forms* presents these phases of transformation all at once for the viewer. While the digital noise and compression is a byproduct of a user's handling of a digital file, it can be likened to analog degradation associated with handling a photographic negative or using a copy machine to make a copy of a copy of a copy of a copy.

In *Redacted Forms: Phase One*, sweeping curves produce an object rich in line, form, and structure. Through 3 successive phases, the object is reduced in resolution and becomes a hard-edged primitive form. Through this process of digital artifacting, the successive objects begin to emerge as completely new generations of the original form.

Bio: Nick is an interdisciplinary artist whose work and research explores the physical and conceptual nature of the moving image, game-based interactions, exchanges, and mankind's struggle to discover the vast unknown. He recently began production on a feature-length film, expected to reach completion in late 2013. Nick is currently an Assistant Professor of New Media Art at Texas Christian University.

TERI FRAME.....GODLEY, TX



*PREHUMAN
POSTHUMAN
INHUMAN*

VOTE CODE: 53590



Prehuman Posthuman Inhuman addresses changing human bodies in six acts entitled *Simians*, *Early Humans*, *Hybrids*, *Proportions*, *Races*, and *Post-humans*, respectively. It is not a didactic or chronological enactment of the evolution of the human body, but rather an analysis of the ways in which Western notions of the body have migrated throughout time and have been manifested in the arts and sciences.

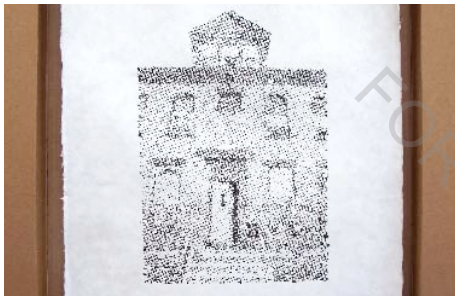
Bio: Although Teri Frame was trained as a ceramist, performance and video art have come into her work and she continues to move among these genres. Frame has exhibited, lectured, and taught throughout the United States, Canada, and South Korea. She is currently a Ceramics Teaching Fellow at Northland College, in Ashland, Wisconsin.

DAVID LEIGHTY.....BUFFALO, NY



LAST

VOTE CODE: 52404



For the last five years, I have been a participant in an intentional community in Columbus, Ohio. The Monster House was founded in 2007, and upon inception was a good idea. Over the years, the space hosted five hundred bands, served as the venue for two hundred shows, housed thirty residents, and sustained our community. This will be the final year for The Monster House.

Last is a project intended to explore the permanence of lifestyle through the duality of its title. By definition "to last" means both to end and to endure. This project, poses the question "to end or endure?" Do I continue to live within a "punk" community, and with the stigma attached to it, or should I move beyond?

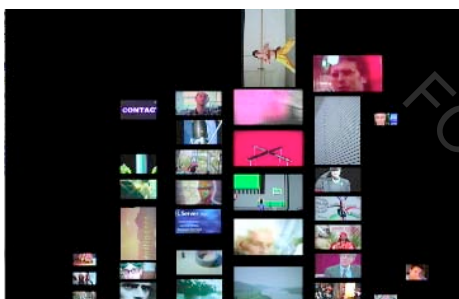
Bio: David Leighty was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. For five years, he lived and worked within the DIY community in Columbus, Ohio. David won multiple awards and grants while completing his BFA at The Ohio State University. He is currently pursuing his MFA in Visual Studies at the University at Buffalo.

HOLLIDAY MARTINDALE.....DETROIT, MI



POWER/INTELLIGENCE

VOTE CODE: 52956



The video projection, *power/intelligence*, is comprised of thirty three YouTube videos, edited to emphasize the presence of “power and intelligence” in public dialogue. The videos are arranged to build slowly from one into a cacophonous video cityscape. It continues in a five minute loop that builds, dims out, and rebuilds again.

Bio: Holliday Martindale is a native Detroit, multimedia artist whose latest work explores the relationship between her own internal dialogue and the internal dialogue of various social systems or communities. In 2011, she collaborated on a site-specific installation in Zimbabwe. She continues to live and make public outreach/restorative-related work in the city of Detroit, including projects for Belle Isle Park, Scripps Park and the Alley Project. Holliday graduated with a BFA in Sculpture from College for Creative Studies in 2008. Prior to this, she owned and operated a successful restoration studio in Royal Oak, MI.

YOAV RUDA.....TEL AVIV, ISRAEL



TALKING PICTURES



The evolution of technology and media gives us new ways to quote and refer to iconic figures and images. *Talking Pictures* animates classic, iconic, public domain images, to create a new breed of video. The work is based on "spoken word" texts dealing with culture, technology, and art issues, quoting leading figures in the above fields. The texts are auto-narrated by text to voice software. The work is constructed of four "pictures".

Bio: Yoav Ruda is a writer, film director, documentarian, and a photographer, born and based in Tel-Aviv, Israel. Among his works are a documentary about the well-acclaimed sculptor, Dani Karavan. In 2010, *Money & I* by Yoav Ruda won the second place prize in Bitfilm, an international digital film festival.

Yoav Ruda's works have been exhibited in Tel-Aviv Museum of Arts, Bloomfield Science Museum of Jerusalem, and Galicia Jewish Museum in Krakow. *Talking Pictures* will be Yoav's second exhibition in Grand Rapids, Michigan, after *Scale Projection*, a video installation in collaboration with Doron Hillel, that was exhibited in UICA.

ERICA STOWALL.....DETROIT, MI



FAMILY PORTRAIT



Bio: Erika "Big Red" Stowall is a dance artist and teacher, native to Detroit, MI. Red started dancing at the age of 4 in the styles of African and Caribbean. She continued her training in jazz and tap at the age of 8 and started ballet and modern/contemporary at the age of 10. Her passion for dance grew throughout her teens and she was given many opportunities to enhance her technical ability, with a summer intensive at Ailey and performances throughout Michigan and other states.

After graduating from Martin Luther King High (DPS), Red attended the University of Michigan. As a student, she performed pieces choreographed by Doug Varone, Leyya Tawil, Robin Wilson (mentor), Jessica Fogel, Vera Embree, Bill Deyoung, Amy Chavasse and many others. After graduating from University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Red took a backseat to performing and started teaching at a charter school in Detroit, MI. Now, after two years of working in education, Red has returned to her practice of performing and staging choreographed works around the Detroit area.



FORMATIONS

CRYSTAL ANN BROWN.....ATHENS, OH



THE SEA



The work functions as a time-based triptych of the horizon line of the sea. The video footage was shot in Grand Haven, Michigan looking out towards Lake Michigan in the fall of 2011. This project functions as a way for me to link the personal with the universally intangible nature of the horizon line. The video never lines up perfectly, reminding the viewer of the pieced together nature of each frame and referring to the projection itself.

Bio: Crystal Ann Brown holds a BFA in sculpture from Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In the spring of 2012, she graduated from Ohio University in the College of Fine Art with a MFA in sculpture and expanded practice. During the summer of 2011, Crystal gave birth to her first child, and has been strongly influenced by her experience. In her new role as mother she integrates her past experience with landscape and her new experience with the maternal. As a native to Michigan and an exchange student to Denmark, the horizon of the sea has been a heavy influence in her life. She believes the intangible nature of language and maternity are intrinsically linked to projection and audio. Using the seascape as a poetic metaphor to express that which cannot be contained.

SARAH HAAS.....CHAMPAIGN, IL



*ECODANCE/RAW ART
TOUR*

VOTE CODE: 52935



EcoDance/Raw Art Tour is a mostly reclaimed installation piece with performance components. The mobile stage, which transforms from an insular, compact design to an open, public venue, opens at designated times to offer the following: performances, discussions, rehearsals, installations, and workshops. The artist who built this structure engages with her own art/work and also invites people to use the space as a platform. Creations can take the form of movement studies, sculptures, paintings, photographs, installations, et al.

Bio: Sarah Haas is a movement artist, writer, photography dabbler, alternative carpenter, and professional collaborator who lives, travels, and performs in a mobile stage, built from mostly reclaimed materials. She is a recipient of the Roy Acuff Chair of Excellence Award and a three-time recipient of the Chicago Community Arts Assistance Program Grant. She has received favorable mention in the Chicago Tribune, was broadcast on Channel 23 by New Chinese Media, and has been honored twice as Chicago Reader Critics Choice. Her writings have been published in JAW, Off the Rocks, Sapphic Voices, Sunnyside Magazine, and Swell.

MICHAEL LITZAU.....EDMOND, OK



WINDOW DRESSING

VOTE CODE: 52685



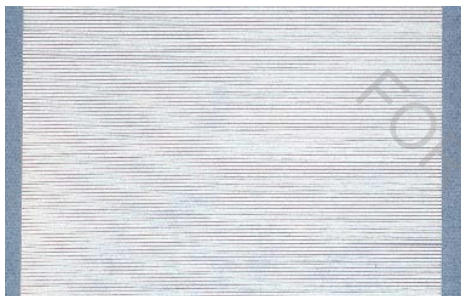
My artwork uses sports as a vehicle to investigate and celebrate issues of fandom, ritual, and fantasy. Through these issues I question what it is to be a fan, the vicarious nature of spectator sports, and the effect that geometry, order, and obsession have in elevating imagery to iconic levels. I have always considered drawing and printmaking to be closely related and all my artwork has aspects of drawing and print. I am interested in how an image is drawn, the different mediums used, and how that creates a dialogue with one another. I have a fascination with images or objects that exist in two worlds simultaneously. Illusionary and physical, unique and mass-produced, positive and negative shapes. These coexisting contradictions exist to create beautiful images that escape classification. To me, there is a beauty and strangeness in that existence.

Bio: Michael Litzau graduated from Columbus College of Art and Design in 2004 with a Bachelors in Fine Arts. In 2006, he obtained his Master of Fine Arts degree with a focus in printmaking from The Ohio State University. He is currently Assistant Professor of Art, Drawing at the University of Central Oklahoma. Michael has shown his work extensively throughout the Midwest and nationally.

IAN RUFFINO.....COLUMBUS, OH



*THE RIGHT MIX OF
EMOTION AND DISTANCE*



This work was created to further explore the decision I made nearly ten years ago - to cast away all other colors from my wardrobe, affirming a defined blue space as a platform for consciousness. *The Right Mix of Emotion and Distance* positions a culture and narrative within a specific context, the Grand Rapids Police Department. The two paintings on display at the police department navigate the importance that the laws and institutions of a society play in the exchange of identity design.

The fabric comprising the substrate for these paintings is made from pinstriped shirts, once part of my wardrobe. This fabric, having been the barrier between my skin and public spaces, is now the body upon which a structure is placed. The structure, in this case, vertical bars of glow-in-the-dark paint expresses its own vitality, linked but separate, worn but erect. Together they reflect the relationship between a narrative and a place. Much like Grand Rapids itself, a city with a name born from a geographical feature that no longer exists.

Bio: Ian Ruffino's work has been shown internationally as well as at The International Print Center New York, The Burchfield-Penny Art Center in Buffalo, and The Print Center in Philadelphia. His writing has appeared in several exhibition catalogs, and he was recently selected to jury Northern Arizona University's 6th Biennial Print Exhibition.

ALICE SCHNEIDER.....DETROIT, MI



OTHER ANGELS



With *Other Angels*, I am exploring the process of creating realistic false realities. By manipulating the environment, the piece becomes an experience. *Other Angels* is a multi-media installation utilizing painting, performance, and video. The images of spirits walking around a cityscape invite the viewer to question what is perceived and what is reality, and from what vantage point of "reality" are we experiencing our moments. The ten-minute, looped video on display at the Grand Rapids Police Department offers a glimpse at the full installation. Actual run time of the full piece is 1 hour and 21 minutes.

Bio: Alice Victoria Schneider is a Detroit-based visual artist whose work is a combination of sculpture, painting, printmaking, and filmmaking. She focuses on movement as a theme, highlighting motion, form, and speed with the effects of still-life painting in mind. Schneider is intrigued by the concept of "film as painting". When making her filmed paintings, she sets the stage with artworks that she has created, allowing the more traditional art seeker to have something tangible.

SEBURA&GARTELMANN.....CHICAGO, IL



MARGINALLY UNSAFE

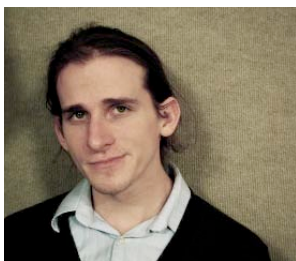
VOTE CODE: 52628



Marginally Unsafe is a site-specific collaborative performance/video/sculpture by artist team Sebura&Gartelmann. Using tropes of construction, the artists will create an object through a series of actions using standard building practices in the field of construction by employing the use of power tools. These practices will be choreographed to create a close physical proximity between the artists, requiring ultimate trust and reliance on the other. By twisting the expected operational mode in this way, the work creates a tension between the physical and psychological shared space of the artists. Here they call into question the nature of their relationship through both physical contact and the assumption of trust. In its final presentation, a finished object will exist in the space it is constructed, as well as a video of the act of building that is projected at the Grand Rapids Police Department, both in its live and recorded presentation.

Bio: Sebura&Gartelmann is the Chicago-based collaborative artist team of Jonas Sebura and Alex Gartelmann. Using collaborative acts centering around gray areas of intimacy between men, their practice explores themes of loss, displacement, and home. Their work has been shown at UICA in Grand Rapids, NADA Art Fair Miami Beach, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL, and the Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI.

JACOB TOWNLEY.....GRAND RAPIDS, MI



*THE FLIGHT OF THE
ALBATROSS*

VOTE CODE: 52885



My work often deals with the ways in which materials and objects are read and understood. Recently, I have been interested in wind, sailboats, and fabric as a sculptural material.

I have one hundred feet of fabric. With it, I hope to fly. Using the wind and some ingenuity, I plan to get the fabric up in the air like a kite. It will be like early attempts of flight before Kitty Hawk; a beautifully failed experiment.

Bio: Jacob Townley is a Grand Rapids-based visual artist. He is currently in his final semester at Hope College, studying studio art and business management. He has participated in numerous group shows including one at the New York Center for Art and Media Studies gallery. His work is also in the collection of Peter Chang.

VAGNER WHITEHEAD.....DETROIT, MI



GOLDEN

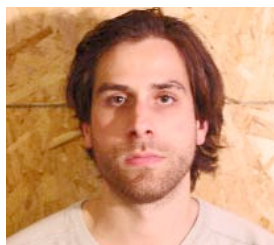
VOTE CODE: 52794



The video *Golden* was originally presented in a gallery exhibition on a flat screen monitor, in a continuous, silent loop. My interest revolved around the notion of showing the unseen, the underlying structure of something, or the code behind the surface. (An example of that would include presenting HTML code as a visual component of a painting, or the publicizing of my own DNA code). My concern with a dialogue between the hidden and the public manifested itself in yet another facet through this video. Initially, I presented my visage in a neutral setting and manner, which was immediately covered with metallic paint. By reversing and looping the footage, the removal of the golden paint transformed itself in yet another covering (taking on the appearance of foundation make up). By presenting two sides or aspects of one thing in one pictorial space, I intended on exposing the complexities of meaning.

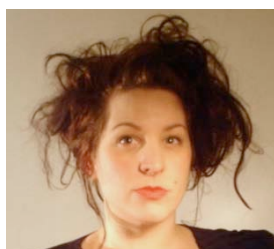
Bio: Brazilian artist Vagner Mendonça Whitehead works with time-based and traditional media to reframe personal and trans-cultural experiences. Vagner has exhibited his work extensively throughout the United States and abroad, in solo and group exhibitions, as well as in video and film festivals. Most recently, Vagner was an Artist-in-Residence at the Santa Fe Art Institute.

ADORATION CURATORIAL TEAM



Louis Nicholas Casinelli III is an artist, curator, and social entrepreneur interested in the intersection of art, public spaces, and education. In 2008, Louis began the Access Arts Detroit program. The program started with a single public art exhibit at Detroit's Belle Isle Park in 2009. It has since developed into a visual arts and education program that has fostered community and

helped to develop a local audience for public art. Aside from his work with Access Arts Detroit, Louis has been involved in several other local arts organizations and community based projects.



Clare Fox was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. After many years of travel - coast to coast, country to country - Clare returned to her homeland where she completed a BFA, at Wayne State University. To further her education and experience, she studied in Mexico and Poland. Most recently, Clare completed the MFA program at The Ohio State University.

Driven to master both traditional and contemporary technologies, Clare works in experimental forms of photography and printmaking, as well as sculpture, textiles, and video. She exhibits extensively and actively participates in many print portfolios and collaborative projects. Clare currently lives in Detroit, where she is a co-founder of Adoration and works as an artist, curator, and educator.



Melissa Vogley Woods was born in Columbus, Ohio. She received her BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute, and MFA from The Ohio State University. Recently, she attended the Greater Columbus Arts Council International Artist Residency and has received an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award and several Franklin County Neighborhood

Arts Grants for her community based work projects. In addition to curating and exhibiting many multi-media projects, Melissa currently teaches at various colleges and universities in the Columbus area.

THANK YOU

We would like to extend a special thank you to all of the artists in the exhibition. It has been a sincere pleasure to go through all of the highs and lows, brainstorming sessions, late night phone calls, and last-second emails. We could not have pulled together a more passionate collection of talented professionals.

We would also like to thank Kevin Buist from ArtPrize and Jose Reyna from the City of Grand Rapids. Each were instrumental in guiding us through ArtPrize. Additionally, Pete Kemme for having the creativity and foresight to make the Grand Rapids Police Department an ArtPrize venue. Finally, we appreciate the support and knowledge Chris Gray, from Clemente Skate Park, provided as we worked through the preliminary phases of Leslie Friedman's *Half Piped Ideas*.

Thank you to vitaminwater for keeping
us hydrated during ArtPrize.

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