

Archer @ Archer



As retired Clark College art professor James Archer stood in the gallery named after him and gazed at the works hanging on the walls, his expression was slightly wistful. Archer was attending the reception for “Archer @ Archer,” an exhibit of selections from Archer’s private art collection, which he is donating to the college where he taught for 23 years.

“It’s pretty overwhelming,” he said, standing between two colorful abstract prints of his own and a row of prints made by a former student who is now an art professor himself. “Many of these works were done by young people whom I mentored over the years. Most of them, I never was able to frame, so this is my first time seeing them framed and hung as a collection. It’s a very emotional experience for me.”



Carson Legree, left, with Jim Archer at the opening on January 12.

The college has received many donations of art through the Clark College Foundation over the years, but this donation is unusual both because of its size and its historical significance. Archer is donating 129 works total, about 40 of which are on display at the gallery. These works include drawings, paintings, prints, and collage, many of them by Clark instructors or students. Not only do they form an impressive collection of regional art, but they also represent the artistic vision of Archer Gallery's founding director.

Archer originally became curator of the gallery in 1982, when it was still located within the Clark College Bookstore and was called the Index Gallery. Successful in attracting well-known Northwest artists, the Index Gallery became known as one of the region's top alternative venues for contemporary artists. In 1995, the gallery—which by then had been relocated to a larger space within Gaiser—was renamed in Archer's honor. It moved to its current location in the lower level of the Penguin Union Building in 2005.

"This donation is significant because it has a lot of regional pieces, many with a strong Clark connection," said Clark art professor and current Archer Gallery curator Senseney Stokes. "There are works here from [retired art professor and former Archer Gallery curator] Carson Legree, from Jim himself, from [retired art professor] Jim Baker. But even beyond these

connections, some of the work here is so strong, so beautiful. Jim collected some really great stuff, and we're lucky to have it in our campus collection."



Professors bring art students to the Archer Gallery regularly as part of their instruction.

Clark's Art Committee will be deciding where to place pieces from the collection after the show ends February 20. Members of the college community are invited to provide the committee with feedback on placement of particular objects.

Asked why he chose to donate his collection to Clark, Archer explained that he was downsizing to a smaller home and that Clark seemed the natural place to donate these works. "I'm an alumnus of this college, I worked here," he said. "I'm happy that they won't just be put in a closet here. People will see them, and react to them, for a long time to come."

Photos of the exhibit can be viewed on our Flickr site.

Photos Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Affairs of the Art



May 14 was a particularly artful day at Clark College, as the afternoon saw both the unveiling of the 2014 *Phoenix* as well as the opening reception and awards presentation for the 2014 Art Student Annual.



Mike Shank read his poem
"Small Things Cost the
Most."

Phoenix staff distributed free copies of the award-winning annual arts and literary journal to students in PUB 161. Clark student Mike Shank read from his moving poem, "Small Things Cost the Most," which earned Editors' Choice Award for literary work in the journal. Afterward, guests headed downstairs to Archer Gallery to view works by student artists, many of whom also had work published in *Phoenix*. Seventy-five students showed a total of 127 works in the show, in media as varied as watercolor, photography, welded metal, ceramics, and video. Awards were announced and presented during the reception.

For more photos of these events, visit our Flickr albums of the unveiling and art show.

2014 Art Student Annual Awards

Joy Margheim "Gate", welded sculpture

Best Welded Sculpture award

Sponsored by Airgas and the Clark College Welding Department

Irina Burchak "Self Portraits", photography

Excellence in Photography Award

Sponsored by Knight Camera



The 2014 *Phoenix* staff.

Erin Merrill, "Columbia River Series", photography

Excellence in Photography Award

Sponsored by Pro Photo Supply

Shelby Warner "Drawing Room Chair", photography
Photography Award
Sponsored by Pro Photo Supply

Garry Bastian "The Act of Characterization", photography
Darkroom Photo Award
Sponsored by Blue Moon Camera and Machine

Anthony Abruzzini "There's Nothing Wrong with Having Only One Eye...", drawing
Works on Paper Excellence Award
Sponsored by Frame Central Framing

Sherrie Masters "Greys", watercolor
Works on Paper Excellence Award
Sponsored by Frame Central Framing



Students at the *Phoenix* unveiling waited patiently until the end of the program to open the paper wrapping around the new publication.

Jenny Avens "Flour Effect", photography
Holga Camera Award
Sponsored by Freestyle Photographic Supplies

Lauren Dwyer "Organic Free Form", ceramic
Best Ceramics Award
Sponsored by Georgie's Ceramic and Clay Company

Luke Entwistle "Puntitled", painting
Muse Art Award
Sponsored by Muse Art and Design

Krista Zimmerman "Self Obstruction", painting
Muse Art Award
Sponsored by Muse Art and Design

Liz Alexander "Out of Place", video
Film and Video Award
Sponsored by the NW Film Center

Anni Becker "John", video
Film and Video Award
Sponsored by the NW Film Center



Director of IT Services, Phil Sheehan was the asked to juror the student show this year. He has been a supporter of student work throughout his time at Clark.

Riley Donahue, "The Day I Became a Man", installation
Best Contemporary Art Award
Sponsored by the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art

Belinda Luce "Type in The City", typography
Best Graphics Award

Sponsored by Intel

Filip Popa "Matches", painting

Painting Award

Sponsored by Dick Blick Art Materials and the Clark College Bookstore

Jeremy Crane "Germ Evolved", painting

Painting Award

Sponsored by Dick Blick Art Materials and the Clark College Bookstore

Elise Cryder "Thank Your Mother", painting

Best in Show Award

Painting Award

Sponsored by the Clark College Bookstore and the NW Film Center



After the awards are presented, students had an opportunity to talk to each other about their work.

Mariah Lewis "Muse", painting

Painting Award

Sponsored by the Clark College Bookstore

Martin Stone "Still Life #2", painting

Painting Award

Sponsored by the Clark College Bookstore

Megan Ostby "30 Minute Pose", drawing
Drawing Award
Sponsored by the Clark College Bookstore

Jason Cardenas "The Island", drawing
Drawing Award
Sponsored by the Clark College Bookstore

Lauren Pucci "Botany", watercolor
Special Recognition Award
Sponsored by Kiggins Theater and Anna Banana's Café

Grace Edwards "Sun Color", watercolor
Special Recognition Award
Sponsored by Kiggins Theater and Anna Banana's Café

Sara Robison "Hipster George", digital illustration
Special Recognition Award
Sponsored by Kiggins Theater and Anna Banana's Café

Matthew Caravaggio "Abstract Revelation", drawing
Special Recognition Award
Sponsored by Kiggins Theater

Michael Jasso "For the Glory of Rome", ceramics
Special Recognition Award
Sponsored by Kiggins Theater

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Creative Streak



Professor Kathrena Halsinger discusses her work with a student at the opening of the Art Faculty Biennial.

Clark art faculty spend their time at the college fostering and honing their students' creative skills. But what about their own creative work? At the Art Faculty Biennial in Archer Gallery, running through February 8, everyone has a chance to see what the college's faculty produce when they're not busy teaching.



Wind and Drive and *SIX6JEWELS*, archival prints by art instructor Mariana Tres.

The wide range of their creativity was on display during the show's opening reception on January 14, as faculty, students, and other visitors gazed at works that ranged from painting to ceramics to multimedia installations.

"I think it's a really diverse show, but everything still fits very well together," said art professor Kathrena Halsinger as she stood in front of her own contribution, a linked collection of digital prints. It hung between sculpture instructor Beth Heron's installation of aluminum and bright-blue glass and Marina Tres' striking, large-format prints of old watch gears.



All Fall Down, multi-channel video by art professor Senseney Stokes.

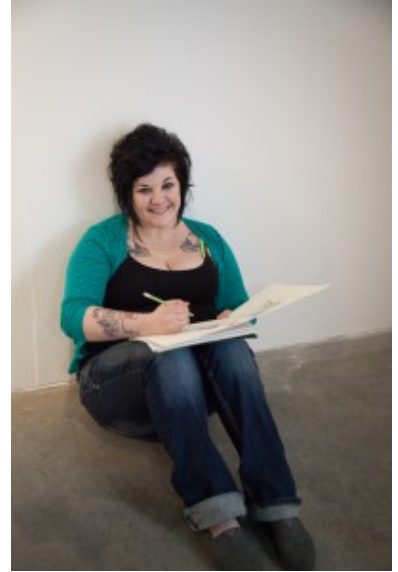
Many visitors paused at length before Professor Senseney Stokes' *All Fall Down*, in which a stack of vintage black-and-white televisions showed linked video footage of gravel falling through a tube that seemed to travel from one screen to the next. Stokes, who is on sabbatical to learn gallery management in preparation for becoming Archer Gallery's new director, said that she collected many of the old televisions years ago from thrift stores or just off the side of the road, but that these days they're almost impossible to find. "I had to get the rest off of eBay," she said with a wry smile.



Left to right, art faculty members Gabriel Parque, Carson Legree, Lisa Conway, Senseney Stokes, Grant Hottle, and Kathrena Halsinger.

Art professor emeritus Carson Legree, who is currently serving as Archer Gallery's director this academic year, said that the Art Faculty Biennial is different from other shows that the gallery hosts, which often feature works by prominent artists in the region and the country. "This show really is about the campus, and about the students, and about faculty members' relationships with each other and with their students," she explained. "I think it's interesting for students, because they see we're all still working artists, we're all still

trying new things.”



Kelsey Lavin
sketches her
professor's work
during the Art
Faculty Biennial.

Student Kelsey Lavin confirmed Legree's statement. "It's inspiring to see more than one type of art, to see all the different styles," she said, pausing for a moment in her sketches of Professor Lisa Conway's ceramic flowers to point to instructor Ben Killen Rosenberg's watercolors on a free-standing wall nearby. "I have always respected the faculty here, and this [show] just adds to that."

Lavin, 23, has taken two art classes at Clark, and hopes to take more before her anticipated graduation in 2015. A first-generation college student, she is considering entering the college's Associate of Fine Art degree program, with the end goal of becoming an art teacher and working artist herself.

Legree said that she hoped that everyone at the college—students, faculty, and staff—would visit the show. "It gives the rest of the college a chance to see our work," she said. "We really do have a very strong and vibrant

department.”

To see more images from the show visit our Flickr page.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley