

Works by Richard Keen & Janet Kronewitter-Leedy thru March 3.



left:
Purple Trees 9, Dresden
by Richard Keen

below:
Flat Rock 4, Dresden
by Richard Keen



Richard Keen walking in one of many Maine landscapes with his dog. Inspiration comes from visiting sites like these throughout the seasons.



Clockwise right:
Three Studies by
Janet Kronewitter-Leedy



Janet Kronewitter-Leedy working in her studio

Intimate Worlds
The Collage Work of Bonnie Rock
Richard Keen:
Abstract Topographies - One if by Land
Youth Art Month 2024
Kevin Firme • Sculpture & Drawing
Mar 8 - Apr 28

Orchard Shadows 1, by Richard Keen



Midwest Museum of American Art
429 South Main Street
Elkhart, IN 46516



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 52
SOUTH BEND, IN



Midwest Museum of American Art Quarterly Newsletter

for January • February • March • 2024

New Exhibits Continuing Through March 3:

Intimate Worlds

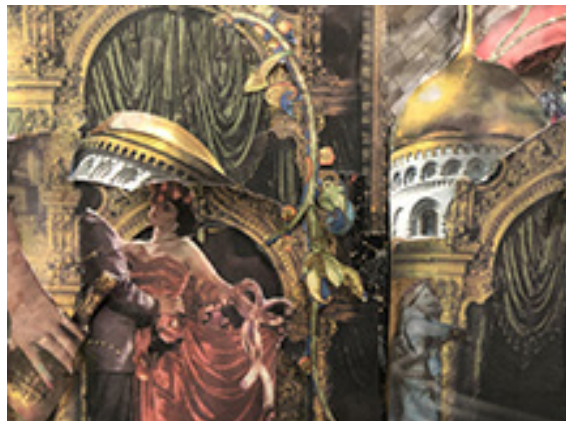
The Collage Work of Bonnie Rock (1941-2022)

The Bonnie Rock Legacy Collection, now housed at MMAA, was formulated from the Estate of the late artist who made her home in Plymouth, Indiana. Director Brian Byrn and Estate Executor Ted Wagner came to an agreement with Rock's family to save a body of 54 works dating from the mid 1980s through 2022 including the last two collage pieces that appeared in the 44th Elkhart Juried Regional.



Every year that Rock entered the EJR beginning in 2014, her work mesmerized the jurors and in one case, won her the *Best Mixed Media Award*. Her multi-layered collages utilized encrusted surfaces with costume jewelry, personal photos and other ephemera excavated from books, magazines, and other paper sources. These unique *Intimate Worlds* reveal her

dreams, thoughts and commentary about personal relationships, self analysis, and contemporary culture.



Abstract Topographies: *One if by Land*

The Paintings of Richard Keen

Richard Keen (b. 1971) is an artist based in Maine. He is a graduate of Memorial High School in 1990. He has become known throughout New England for his abstractions of Maine's topographies including land, sea & sky. His work reveals his day-to-day observations and work-life on the water of Casco Bay as a commercial diver looking upward at forms of boat hulls, rudders & keels. The unique distillations of forms are at once familiar but deal with formal elements of shape, color, and texture, or the 'spaces between'.



In addition to Keen's paintings, a special '*Spotlight*' exhibit of hand-built ceramic sculptures by Janet Kronewitter-Leedy, will be sited in the two lighted display cases that intersect the gallery spaces. The elements of science or organic forms come to mind. Some of these are influenced by the artist's 11 acres surrounding her Edwardsburg studio. Ten works have been curated that exude a shared sensibility with Keen's paintings in color, texture and abstracted designs.

As a side note, Kronewitter-Leedy, was a mentor and Art Educator for Keen during the days of his Elkhart youth. A beautiful compliment to the other. (see more images on back panel)

Cathedral Woods 5, by Richard Keen



YOUTH ART 2024

March is National Youth Art Month

March 10 thru April 7

YAM 24 will provide a glimpse at the art education programs of four area high schools – Elkhart High School, Concord High School, Northridge High School, and the Elkhart Area Career Center. Fifteen Art Educators will select 10 works each by their outstanding art students. The exhibit continues the tradition of surveying the art created in grades 9 through 12.

Thanks to our sponsors, FREE admission will be provided to all exhibiting students and their families from March 10 through April 7. Those sponsors include Elkhart Evening Optimists, Elkhart Luncheon Optimists, Elkhart Lions Club, Kiwanis Club of Elkhart, Welch Packaging, Robert & Mary Boyer Fund, and State Farm Insurance Agent, Rocky Enfield.



**Indigo Mood Jazz Trio to perform at
Mid-Winter Blues Party for Members & Donors!!
Friday, Feb 2, 6-9 PM**



Great food, and fun camaraderie at
MMAA! • Meet the artist Richard Keen
from Maine • Hear brief remarks about
the new exhibits!

Wear your most salubrious Hat!

Don't miss it... RSVP today!
Alternate date: Feb 9, 6-9 PM
in the event of bad weather.
Limited to 100 people.

Call the museum to reserve your place at 574-293-6660 or email us at info@midwestmuseum.us Limited attendance to the first 100.

**Kevin Firme: Sculpture & Drawings
opens Friday, March 8**



Meet the artist at his
Gallery Talk on
Thursday, March 14.



NOON TIME TALKS

Selected Thursdays • 12:15-1:15pm • Free for Members

JAN 18 Prints & Drawings V

Brian Byrn, Director/Curator discusses new acquisitions to the permanent collection.

JAN 25 Phyllis Bramson

Brian Byrn, Director/Curator discusses the work by this important Chicago painter. Her painting, "Animals in the Country" is currently *NEW on VIEW*.

FEB 1 Richard Keen

The Artist, who is based in Maine, talks about his unique abstractions and some of the influences and their source.

FEB 8 FILM 1 :

A new Winter series of films revisits different topics in the contemporary art world of Chicago.

FEB 15 Bonnie Rock Legacy Collection

Brian Byrn, Director/Curator discusses the *Bonnie Rock Legacy Collection* acquired from the artists' estate in 2022.

FEB 22 Janet Kronewitter-Leedy

Former Art Educator, the artist has stated, "I am fascinated by the intricate details of natural items, whether they are plant, water, stone, animal or human. Being a clay artist is the perfect way to combine the many things I find intriguing."

MAR 7 FILM 2 : the contemporary art world...

MAR 14 Kevin Firme

Based in Michigan City, Firme has participated in a vast number of exhibits including more than twenty Elkhart Juried Regionals. His work has been shown recently at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. This current MMAA exhibit brings together his plant form drawings and his linear glass and steel sculpture that have won him acclaim.



MAR 21 YAM 2024 •

Art Educators & Students

MAR 28 No Talk Scheduled

APR 4 Gertrude Abercrombie (1909-1977)

Assistant Curator, Randall Roberts, brings his research forward to discuss this important Chicago *Surrealist* painter whose work was recently added to the MMAA collection.



Gallery Talks & Exhibits
are sponsored by
a grant from the
Community Foundation
of Elkhart County.



A Special Thanks to Our Donors: *January 1 to December 31, 2023* *You have helped the Midwest Museum of American Art sustain its mission!*

Director's Circle (\$5,000-\$9,999+)

Jennifer Abrell & Dr. Gordon Hughes
 Drs. Daniel & Linda Burns
 Jack and Karen Cittadine Fine Arts
 Community Foundation
 of Elkhart County
 R. Douglas & Karen Grant
 Connie Fulmer
 Michael P. Kelly & Robert Hohl
 John & Rebecca Wetzel Estate
 to Honor Arthur Sprunger
 Lucy Zimmerman

Museum Sustainer (\$3,000-\$4,999)

Stan and June Disher
 George and Kathy Freese
 Richard Roth
 Mike and Brenda Tudor

Benefactor (\$1,000 \$2,999)

Rick and Cindy Burns
 Frank and Jan Cicero
 Jack and Karen Cittadine
 Anthony and Cecilia Droege
 Brian and Lisa Fahey
 Steve Gruber
 INOVA Federal
 Carolyn J. Keefe Charitable
 Michael and Rebecca Kubacki
 David T. and Susan Lehman
 Wade Mayberry
 Jessica Meuninck-Ganger
 Dr. Sue Forrest and
 Dr. Thomas Lee Neat
 Open Gate Pottery/Bill Kremer
 Robert and Joyce
 Cleaveland Fine Arts
 David and Maria Solow
 Abby Thomas
 Welch Packaging Group
 Jeff and Phid Wells
 William and Jeanne Batten Arts

Museum Patron (\$500-\$999)

Steve and Sonja Beck
 Billings Funeral Home, Inc.
 Patty Brotherson
 Edward and Carla Chester
 Karen Current
 Beth and Tim Klusas
 Tuck and Janice Langland
 Adah Lynn
 Raymond and Mary Pat Mathis
 David Regan
 Marly Rydson
 George Stump
 Donna VanDerAue
 Thomas Warrick

Cultural Heroes & Heroines (\$250-\$499)

David Abrell
 William and Linda Becker
 Daniel Burr
 John and Sharon Feddersen
 Mel and Debbie Jacobson
 David and Susie Lehman
 Progressive Insurance
 Foundation
 Wylan Shultz
 Dale and Shelly Seely
 Whisler & Lavery LLC

American Circle (\$100-\$249)

Jan Atwood
 Stuart Basquin
 Heidi Becher
 Terry Bryant
 Mary Burke
 James, Johanna and
 Kathleen Champlin
 Don and Dianne Frandsen
 William and Cynthia Frascella
 Randy and Laura Horst
 Allen and Nancy Jackson
 Elizabeth and Philip Krause
 Tim and Rebecca Link
 Barbara McArthur
 Jim and Jill Meuninck
 Ken and Kim Otto
 Mary Perron
 Joseph Perry
 Duane Peterson
 Guilene Prepetit
 Dick and Kay Rhodes
 Kay Roy
 TJ Shaum
 K.D. Sleeper
 Sheri Smith and Fredric Young

Friends of MMAA (\$1- \$99)

Thomas and Dottie Arnold
 Margaret Downie Banks
 Marvin and Delores Bartel
 Ann Baucus
 Ervin and Phyllis Beck
 Diane Beecher
 Tony Bianco
 John Blosser and
 Rebecca Unternahrer
 Richard Brotherson
 Neil Boston
 Catherine Calder
 Christine Culp and David Lewis
 Frances Cox
 Bunny Dimke
 Sharon Donlon

Marsha Eilers
 Michael Folker and
 Don Mekkelson
 Susan and Mark Henshaw
 Patricia Herman
 Anne and Abner Hershberger
 Mary Holtz
 Margo Shearman-Howard and
 Don Howard
 Frank and Jackie Hughes
 Richard and Judy Kennedy
 Edwina and Jonathan Kintner
 Zane and Stacy Lankford
 Vic and Diana Lawson
 Judy Linder
 Suzanne Marques
 Gail Martin
 Thomas and Sharon Mellin
 Perry and Kathleen Olshein
 Barbara Pearce
 Janet Perkins
 Kathy Royer
 Stephen and Shirley Roseland
 Carolee Searles
 Gayle and Loren Shaum
 David and Maria Solow
 Laura Stevens
 Deborah Stipanovich
 James and Joan Stiver
 Pat Stutsman
 Dee Thornton
 Joe and Sally Tobin
 Mark and Becky Troyer
 Ted and Lisa Wagner
 Donald and Sidney Walter
 Merritt Webb
 Jackie Welsh
 Judy Wenig-Horswell and
 Charlie Horswell
 Carol and Chuck Wiegner
 Karen Woodworth
 Marie Work
 Ken and Kathy Zienty

IN-KIND Donations

Jan Atwood
 Tina Ashbaugh
 Anita Babcock
 Lois Barrett-Bush
 Ruth Ann Berger
 Mary Burke
 Brian and Lisa Byrn
 Ken and Joan Clayborn
 Richard and Christine Conte
 Cory and Mike Edmisten
 Dave and Michelle Enfield
 Rich and Sue Erdmann
 George and Kathy Freese
 Gene and Cynthia Gamber
 Steve Gruber
 Cheryl Gruber Waldman
 Ali Hansen
 Anne and Abner Hershberger
 Jackie Hughes
 Barbara Keck
 Ann Kuntz
 Heidi Linder Estate
 Kay Londergan
 Lamont and Charlene Long
 Dwight and Kelly Luna
 Cathy McCormick
 Rebecca Miller
 Ellen Ridenour
 Kelly Robertson
 Willard and Alice Roth
 Ann Marie Ryan
 Carolyn Shelley
 Pat Stutsman
 Paul Thomas Estate
 Ted and Lisa Wagner
 Judy Wenig-Horswell
 John Zakrajsek
 Lucy Zimmerman

TRIBUTES

Jane Burns
 Maria & David Solow

Jane Grimes
 Maria & David Solow

In Memory:

Shannon Burns
 Jennifer Abrell &
 Gordon Hughes
 Dan & Linda Burns
 Rick & Cindy Burns
 Brian & Lisa Byrn