

# Folk Memories *The Paintings of Emma Schrock (1924-1991)*

This “spotlight” exhibit opens **Friday, April 12**, continuing through Sunday, **June 2, 2019**. Emma Schrock is considered to be the “Grandma Moses of Elkhart County.” She was born in 1924 in Wakarusa, Indiana, stricken with a physical handicap that didn’t allow her to marry in later years. She sought comfort in her Old Order Mennonite Community and was granted the privilege to paint as a means of support for herself. As a Folk artist, Schrock painted often from memories of her childhood but also scenes or depictions of the Amish community she was a part of. She once stated, “I live what I paint and I paint what I see.” Her earlier works (1965-1980) are considered by serious collectors to be her most genuinely *naïve*. Of the 2,000 works to have been painted by the artist, MMAA has preserved 27 examples.



above: *A Scene from My Windows*, c.1975, MMAA Purchase with funds provided by Jane Grimes, Elkhart, IN

left: *The Old Sugar Camp*, c.1979 Gift of Kelly Robertson, Elkhart, IN

right: *The Husking Bee*, 1986, Gift of Hans & Tina Ashbaugh, Elkhart, In Memory of Jean H. Ashbaugh



**You Are Invited!!**  
Join the Celebration on Sunday, JUNE 9, from 1-3 PM

MUSEUM HOURS: Tues. - Fri. 10:00-4:00, Sat. & Sun. 1:00-4:00  
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# Midwest Museum of American Art Quarterly Newsletter

for April • May • June • 2019

## Celebrating Four Decades!

The Founding Trustees of the Midwest Museum of American Art, the late Dr. Richard D. Burns, and his wife Jane Burns, were avid collectors of American Art, and in 1978 saw an opportunity to establish a museum in Elkhart County dedicated to exhibiting and preserving American Art for generations to enjoy. Richard and Jane Burns purchased the former St. Joseph Valley Bank building on Main Street, renovated it and donated it to be used as the site for the MMAA. By 1979, MMAA was open to the public providing a lively roster of events, exhibits and began building a permanent collection. Over the years Richard and Jane Burns have donated and placed on extended loan many works from their personal collection. Today, over 500 generous collectors and artists alike have donated works of art to the museum as a result of the initial efforts of Richard and Jane Burns.



The support for local artists began with the first Elkhart Juried Regional in the Fall of 1979. Since that time, the museum continues to foster important relations with the Michiana art community by offering occasional group or solo exhibits by living artists of the region. Among them is the IUSB Professor, Harold Reed Langland, known to friends and students as Tuck Langland. After the sculptor returned from a brief sojourn to India in the early 1980's he created a large scale figurative work titled, *Venus Natarani*. The Burns' became a patron of Tuck Langland when they purchased this work

in 1985. Since that time, Tuck Langland has continued to pursue the creation of even larger works becoming nationally known with his sculptures having been exhibited in several locations throughout the United States. It is with great pride that the Trustees and Staff unveil the current exhibition of the *Tuck Langland Collection* for its 40th Anniversary.

**Help us celebrate on Sunday, June 9, 1 – 3 p.m. Cake and wine will be served!**

above: *Venus Natarani*, bronze, 1985, by Tuck Langland on Loan from Rick & Cindy Burns, Elkhart, IN •

right: Portrait of Dr. Richard D. Burns, Founder, 1983 • above right: Jane Burns & Dr. Richard D. Burns, Founding Trustees in 1979



## The Tuck Langland Collection *A Biography in Sculpture* MAY 31 - JULY 28



and created large-scale sculpture placing them in the local environs and across the country. Beginning his early career in England in 1964 followed by a few years at Murray State in Kentucky, Langland became famous after publishing his book *From Clay to Bronze*. Over fifty sculptures owned by MMAA are now on display to preserve his legacy.

A special public reception will be held on **Sunday, June 30, from 1-3 PM** for friends & former students to celebrate the artist and this landmark public collection.

above: *Exhausted Swimmer*; bronze, Gift of Tuck & Janice Langland  
right: Tuck Langland in his studio, Granger, IN

The exhibition of the *Tuck Langland Collection* is a survey of the 50-year career of the most important figurative sculptor of Michiana.

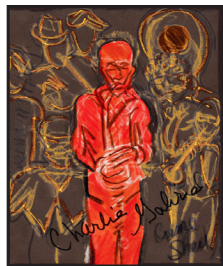
Tuck Langland is a celebrity in the region and beyond having taught sculpture at IUSB for 32 years before entering what the artist fondly refers to as *Act III* of his career. He has made appearances on TV, sang with the South Bend Symphony,





## Two new 'Spotlight Exhibits' open in June

**The Jazz Experience: Jazz Expressions** opens June 9 and continues through June 23.



Charlie Gabriel,  
by  
Sheri Smith,  
Chicago

**Michiana Master series** opens on June 28 and features work by ceramic sculptor, Bill Kremer.

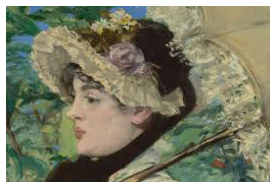


Shades of Blue  
by  
Catherine  
McCormick,  
Granger, IN

## BUS TRIP to Chicago • June 17

MMAA is offering its first bus trip of the season for members to see the landmark exhibition, **Manet and Modern Beauty**, at the Art Institute of Chicago.

**\$80** per person includes deluxe motor-coach fare, tickets, & snacks; lunch on your own. Call the museum at 574-293-6660 to reserve. Payment due upon reservation.



## Artists Attic Sale

Takes place on **Friday, May 31, June 1 & 2.**

Find your treasures at MMAA and support the museum's educational programming. Bargains, deals, & exciting finds await you in this annual fund-raiser!

**MMAA News:** Dr. Steven Conant, Indianapolis, IN, has donated 29 works of American Art to the permanent collection. Conant's gifts of art now number over 1,000 works to date.

**STAFF NEWS:** Director/Curator Brian Byrn has been asked to participate on a regional panel of curators on May 8 at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts in Michigan City. The discussion begins at 6:00 PM.

Randall Roberts, Assistant Curator, has been asked to deliver two talks as a part of the Ruthmere lecture series in July and November.

## TRIBUTES

The Midwest Museum of American Art gratefully acknowledges gifts in honor or in memory of special friends.

### In Memory Of

**Cecelia Cushing**  
T.J. Shaum

**Marcia Fulmer**  
Brian & Lisa Byrn

**Jackie McCoy**  
Diana Tice

**Joseph Manfredi**  
Byron Brady  
Brian & Lisa Byrn

**Bette Mathis Prugh**  
Darlene Mathis Eddy

**Michael Simeri**  
Floyd & Sue Searer

## NOON TIME TALKS

Thursday • 12:20-1:00pm



**Join us & expand your knowledge of Art & Culture!**

**APR 18 Ervin Beck, Folk Memories of Emma Schrock**  
Folklorist and Professor of English *Emeritus*, Goshen College, discusses the life and paintings of the "Grandma Moses of Elkhart County."

**APR 25 Film: Los Angeles to New York**  
Virginia Dwan opened an art gallery in Los Angeles in 1959 and went on to organize groundbreaking exhibits of movements as diverse as abstract expressionism, pop art, conceptualism & land art. A National Gallery of Art film: 23 minutes

**In MAY we present a forum of speakers involved with the Arts in celebration of the museum's 40th Anniversary!**

**MAY 2 Brian Byrn, Director & Curator, MMAA**  
Having served as Curator for nearly 38 years, Byrn addresses the evolution of the museum and introduces the roster of speakers & events to come.

**MAY 9 Bill Firstenberger, Executive Director Ruthmere**  
Firstenberger discusses the Ruthmere Campus while presenting interesting anecdotes and back-stories. He will offer a glimpse at events planned for the summer as well.

**MAY 16 Eric Garton, Robert & Peggy Weed Executive Director, Wellfield Gardens**  
Garton discusses the soon to be open *Japanese Garden*, new sculpture for the gardens, and statistical insight including *Holiday Lights*.

**MAY 23 Craig Gibson, Executive Artistic Director Premier Arts**  
Gibson brings information about Premier Arts Youth Program and highlights his 2019 season of plays including the forthcoming *Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

**MAY 30 FILM: Henry Moore, A Life in Sculpture**  
This National Gallery of Art film looks at the major contributions to 20th Century art made by this British artist.

**JUN 6 TUCK LANGLAND, Sculptor**  
The artistic journey of Michiana's most famous figurative sculptor is touched on by this former IUSB Professor. This talk is in conjunction with the exhibit, *Chasing the Muse: The Tuck Langland Collection, A Biography in Sculpture*.

**JUN 13 Shelley Moore, President & Founder Insight Strategic Concepts, Inc.**  
Moore speaks about the Downtown River District project and the vision of a new Arts Plan for the city of Elkhart.

**JUN 20 Brian Byrn: Jazz Expressions**  
Director/Curator Brian Byrn discusses the 'spotlight' exhibit, *Jazz Experience/Jazz Expressions*, held in conjunction with the Elkhart Jazz Festival. The work of eight artists is featured.

**JUN 27 Brian Byrn: Michiana Masters series**  
Director/Curator Brian Byrn discusses the pilot program that will highlight important artists of Michiana. A 'Spotlight' exhibit will feature works by Bill Kremer opening on Friday, June 28.

# A Special Thanks to our Members: November 1, 2018 to April 1, 2019

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Anniversary Mug

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