

HEART OF THE HOLTER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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From the Director's Corner

Dear Holter Friends and Family,

Welcome to spring? I am not sure what to think about our weather lately. I am a person – as much as I might grumble about winter challenges – who needs deep winter and cold to reset. The seasonal cycles are so important to many of us as we lean into the delights and difficulties of each.

The Holter is knee-deep in field trips, six different artist-in-school residencies, and a slight overhaul of our education programs. We have grown. We are dealing with growing pains, in fact. Forever, we have had one staff member to oversee and coordinate all of our education programs– children and youth, adult, onsite, offsite, after-school, summer camps, exhibition-tied education, Holter Healing Arts, birthday parties, and educational special events. We grew until we essentially exploded into three parts – Children and Youth Education directed by Anna Lund, who has been our Holter Superhero for the last six years, Holter Healing Arts (along with Courage 2 Create veteran program) led by Meghan Durant-Patton, and now we have also re-assigned Adult and Museum Programs (lectures, tours, adult classes, figure drawing, exhibition- related events, etc...) to Hannah Harvey. We are very hopeful that creating this triad of support for education programs will help us continue to grow sustainably and deeply. Thank you all for your patience as we navigate the passing of the batons!

And it would not be spring if we weren't also be in full blown Gala-mania! Our 2026 Gala, *Le Cirque*, is on Friday, May 15th from 5:30 until the dancing is done. It's an extraordinary evening of celebrating the arts, our community, and the work that we have accomplished in the last year. There will be all things French circus and fun activities – caricature artists, face painting, stilt walkers, a tarot card reader, dancing, clowns, jesters, and the like. Of course, we encourage our guests to dress for the theme *Le Cirque* and add to the ambience of the evening. As always, there will be stunning art for auction and a carefully curated selection of experiences and non-art items to bid on. The Gala is our signature fundraising event and the proceeds go to funding our operating costs for the upcoming year. In this current climate of uncertainty, operating funds are critical for a non-profit's ability to thrive.

I hope this finds you all well. May you have found snow if you are a snow-seeker, may you have started your seeds indoors for your gardens, and may you have taken a moment or two to take care of yourselves in the most nurturing ways.

With appreciation,
Christina

UPCOMING EVENTS

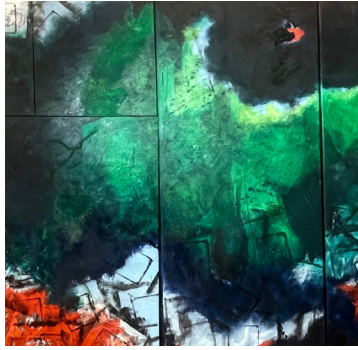
**Collection Chat with
Ian van Coller**
March 7, 2-4 p.m.

**Exhibition Reception:
The Art Center**
March 13, 6-8 p.m.

**Curator Talk:
*La Durée***
March 18, 6-7 p.m.

**Collection Chat with
Cathy Weber**
April 1, 6-8 p.m.

Current Exhibitions



Carol Hartman

The Tipping Point

BAUCUS GALLERY

JAN 16 - MAR 29

Hartman's large abstract paintings serve as a call to action, engaging corporations and international museums to reflect on societal responsibility and the urgency of protecting the environment. Her mission is to ignite dialogue, challenge perspectives, and inspire meaningful change through the transformative power of art.



Jason Elliott Clark

Myths and Legends

BAIR GALLERY

JAN 16 - APR 12

In this series of prints from the Missoula Art Museum collection, Clark explores Algonquin legends, personal stories, and misinformation about Native American Indian culture today. The works in the exhibition focus mainly on Clark's early career as a printmaker in the University of Montana's MFA program (2004) and soon after.



Margo Geddes

La Durée

MILLIKAN GALLERY

JAN 16 - MAR 29

As a photographer, Geddes is "interested in the small particularities of time experienced, the flicker of one's eye across a scene; focus, refocus, the moments that collectively help us describe and locate ourselves in the world."



The Art Center

Unusual Words

NICHOLSON/HELD GALLERIES

MAR 13 - APR 12

The Art Center's annual exhibition features work from dedicated local painters who gather monthly to encourage, support, and promote one another through group painting experiences, workshops, educational activities, and exhibits.

Exhibits sponsored by:

MONTANA
ARTS COUNCIL



Partial funding for this project was provided by Montana's Cultural Trust.



Additional support from coal tax placed into Montana's Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Trust Fund.

Broad Vision by Gianna Sherman, Curator



About Time

I'm sure this may be news to many of you, but I actually studied photography along with art history at MSU Bozeman from 2015 to 2019. I specialized in fine art portraiture and editorial-style photography. During my time there, I learned about alternative photographic processes from Christina Z. Anderson, who is not only one of the greatest but also one of the most well-known alternative-process photographers nationally and possibly worldwide. She literally wrote the book on it – several books, actually. I was very lucky to have her as a professor, and because of my background in photography and alternative processes, I have a particular fondness for our current exhibition *La Durée*.

La Durée is an exhibition of cyanotype photographs created by Margo Geddes, a longtime artist and the current collections registrar at the Missoula Art Museum. Geddes takes photographs of landscapes, plants, trees, and rivers—usually with little to no human presence—using a digital camera, then prints a digital negative on transparency film. She places the negative on photo-sensitive paper, exposes it, washes it, and either tones the image or leaves it in that bright cyan-blue many are familiar with. While digital photography offers nearly unlimited storage, allowing photographers to capture anything and everything on a tiny 1.26" x 0.94" SD card, the tactile process of cyanotype printing requires the artist to slow down and make deliberate choices. This process, used in her work, reflects Geddes' goal for viewers to take their time and fully appreciate her art over a duration – hence the name *La Durée*.

La Durée is about time—how we experience it, how it influences art, our understanding of art, and the landscape. Every aspect of this exhibition, right down to its process, revolves around time. Geddes thoughtfully explores this theme in her artist statement, highlighting the contrasting views of Henri Bergson and Albert Einstein on the nature of time:

"Einstein understood time as scientific, measurable, and discrete. Bergson described duration as lived experience—something we are never outside of, but always within."

Geddes' exhibition reflects her interpretation of Bergson as romantic, non-linear, and experiential.

She then explains how this concept of time relates to her photographic work. She references the insights of philosopher Roland Barthes and painter Paul Cézanne. Cézanne, a modernist painter and one of the first to experiment with cubism—painting a scene or subject from multiple angles—famously disliked photography, saying it offered a "dispassionate view of the world." At that time, photography was considered only capable of capturing reality as it was. It was a tool for documentation and had few creative applications. Ironically, it was the invention of photography that freed painting from the need to precisely document reality and enabled the experimentation that modernists, like Cézanne, are known for. Still, Cézanne shared Bergson's romantic idea of time and, through his art, showed that time is something experienced rather than measured. Geddes also highlights this idea through her use of shifting perspectives and disjointed landscapes. One notices that these scenes do not align as expected when examined closely and over a duration, as the artist intended.

Roland Barthes had a more gracious view of photography. He understood that although a photograph captures a specific moment in time, the photograph as an art object exists outside of time. It is experiential and constantly changing over time, influenced by its evolving context and by our own revisits as we, the viewers, grow and change. It is the past experienced in the present and shaped by the future.

Geddes' work is cerebral, philosophical, and abstract, yet remains approachable due to the successful visual execution of the ideas she draws upon.

Join me on Wednesday, March 18th, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. to discuss these photographs, Geddes' alternative process techniques, and the metaphysical significance of her artwork.

From the Holter Vault:

Featured work from our Permanent Collection

In the summer of 2006, the Holter's lobby walls were adorned with 55 tea bowls by ceramic virtuoso Kurt Weiser (1950-). This series of tea bowls was decorated using the traditional cobalt over-glaze technique seen in historic china painting. Each piece featured unique imagery rendered in Weiser's signature allegorical style. This specific piece was acquired by the Holter following Weiser's tea bowl display. The other side of this bowl (not pictured) features images of a table, vase, and a window with mountain views.

In 2006, Weiser's solo exhibition, *Eden Revisited*, was on display in the Holter's former Sherman Gallery.



Kurt Weiser, Tea Bowl, 2006. Ceramic.
Permanent collection of the Holter Museum of Art.

BECOME A HOLTER MEMBER

Memberships are a great way to support us, and now we're delighted to offer even more perks for members! We offer 5 standard levels of membership based off your annual level of giving. With the introduction of museum admissions fees, membership is the way to go if you want to show your support and receive some great benefits!

Benefits for Trailblazer level and ABOVE:

- At least 1 Holter membership card and FREE admission
- 10% off in Holter Museum Store and on Classes
- 10% off classes at Gentle Healing Wellness Center
- 10% off your purchase at MT Book Company
- 10% off All Art Supplies at Queen City Framing & Art Supplies
- 10% off your purchase at Fire Tower Coffee House
- \$1 from your first drink at The Hawthorn goes to the Holter
- Free beer every month at Ten Mile Creek Brewery
- \$1 off your first drink at Gulch Distillers
- \$5 off any \$15 purchase at Café Zydeco
- Free sprinkles with single cone purchase at Big Dipper

Image: Soojin Choi, *Cruel Sweet* (detail).



[Click to Become a Member!](#)

Weekly Classes: Spring

ArtFeeds (Middle School)

Mondays, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

This workshop allows Middle School kids to work with artists exploring ways to use visual arts and writing to help navigate life while expressing in a space shared with peers.

[learn more](#)

Imagine That!

Mondays, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Explore and play with new-to-you and familiar materials in guided hands-on art making lessons with creative imaginative results! Ages 7-11.

[learn more](#)

ArtSmart

Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Art history meets creative making! Learn about a different artist each week, exploring their artistic style and medium before breaking out to create your own piece of art. Ages 8-12.

[learn more](#)

D&D with Adventures in Cardboard

Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Explore the realm of AiC through Dungeons and Dragons tabletop gaming. Ages 8-16.

[learn more](#)

Art for Survival

Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

A visual arts and writing workshop that allows High School participants to work with artists exploring ways to use visual arts and writing to help them navigate life.

[learn more](#)

After School Teen Arts Council

Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

ATAC is an opportunity for creative-lyminded teens to come together and become advocates for the arts among their peers as well as the community as a whole.

[learn more](#)

Figure Drawing Studio

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

This ongoing figure drawing studio is open to all levels! Bring your own media. Adults only.

[learn more](#)

Adventures in Cardboard:

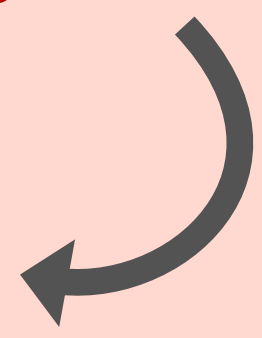
Armory and Games

Thursdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Join us for a class that sneaks in structural engineering and sculptural practice with a dose of cardboard and whimsy. Ages 8-15.

[learn more](#)

**Psst...
there are still
Summer Camp
spots open!**



Recyclable Jam Session

July 6-10, 1:00-4:00 pm. Ages 10-14.

Using materials most often found in the trash or recycling, let's make music!

Blood, Guts, and Gore

July 6-10, 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Ages 13-17

Create absurd B-rated horror movie effects using items from our fridge, the garage, our parent's closet, or the hardware store!

Puppet Puppet Yes Yes

August 10-14, 9:00 am-1:00 pm. Ages 12+

Create your own Muppet-inspired puppet with professional puppeteer Ryne Sorensen.

Cardboard Pinball Madness

July 20-23, 1:00-4:00 pm. Ages 8+

Using a pinbox3000 and cardboard enthusiasm, we will create our own pinball machines!

Adult Programming

Courage 2 Create (Morning)

Weekly on Tuesdays, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

- ◆ Art-making for Veterans, Active Duty Military, and Caregivers.

Courage 2 Create (Evening)

Weekly on Thursdays, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

- ◆ Art-making for Veterans, Active Duty Military, and Caregivers.

*Click on the
class titles
to learn more
and register!*

Not All Art Hangs on a Wall: Poetry in the High Gallery

Wednesdays in March, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

- ◆ Award-winning poet Donna Davis welcomes you to a poetry writing workshop inspired by the extraordinary environmental paintings of Carol Hartman.

Creative Flow & Draw

March 4, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

- ◆ Using drawing prompts and playing with different materials, join us for a class that encourages a “creative wind down”.

Night at the Museum

March 11, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

- ◆ Hands-on art making! This month, we’re themed around Margo Geddes’ exhibition, *La Durée*.

Process the Process: A Writing Workshop

Every other Sunday, starting March 15. 4:00 - 6:00 pm.

- ◆ Together, we will create or enhance our personal journals and take time to slow down and bask in the energy of community and creativity.

Wine’d Down: Creative Prose

March 25, 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

- ◆ This relaxed evening blends mindfulness, creative expression, and the tactile joy of analog writing via typewriter.

COLLECTION CHAT with IAN VAN COLLER

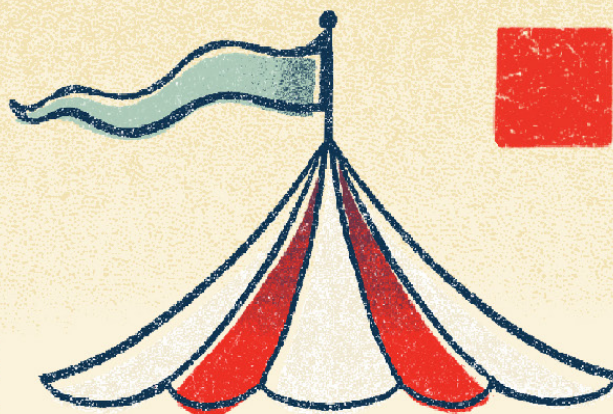
March 7, 2:00 - 4:00 pm.
FREE!

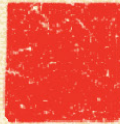
Guggenheim-awarded photographer Ian van Coller joins us to speak about his career. Two of Van Coller’s pieces will be added to the Holter’s permanent collection.

CURATOR TALK feat. LA DUREE by MARGO GEDDES

March 18, 6:00 - 8:00 pm.
FREE!

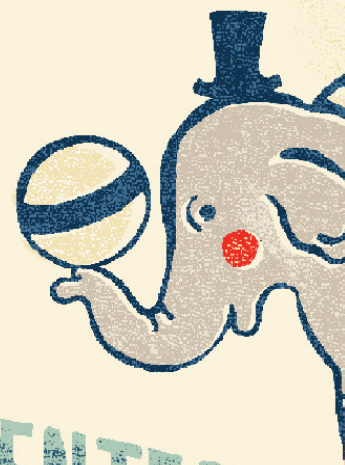
Join curator Gianna Sherman for a discussion about the current exhibition, *La Durée*. Participation is encouraged!



 **HOLTER**
MUSEUM of ART
12 E. Lawrence St.
Helena, MT 59601

LE CIRQUE

HOLTER GALA 2026



MAY 15 • HELENA CIVIC CENTER
5:30 to 10:00 pm

Join the Holter for an evening of art, spectacle, French-inspired indulgence, and unforgettable surprises—all in support of local art and artists.

Bid in live and silent auctions, enjoy delicious local fare, and partake in circus-style fun! Dressing on-theme is highly encouraged.

Tickets will be available soon!
Keep an eye on **THIS PAGE** for updates.

Fresh Faces at the Holter



Bradley O'Neil

Bradley holds down the fort at the Holter's front desk on Saturdays and Wednesday evenings. You may also see him helping out at special events. During the week, he works in Special Education at Helena Middle School.



Sean O'Conner

Sean is the Holter's new facilities assistant. If you see him during your visit, give him a big 'thank you' for keeping our building nice and clean!



Thanit "Pun" Herabat

Pun is from Bangkok, Thailand, and is visiting Montana through the YSEALI Professional Fellows Program. He'll spend a little over a month at the Holter learning about nonprofit fundraising.

Staff Update: Hannah Harvey, the Holter's Permanent Collections Registrar, has taken over the coordination of Adult Programming. While Anna Lund focuses on managing the museum's youth programs, Hannah will now oversee adult classes, artist talks, and other education-related events. (hannah@holtermuseum.org)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Holter is seeking volunteers to assist with the installation and de-installation of future exhibitions. There are volunteer opportunities beginning in the spring (Youth Electrum install) and continuing into the summer (Bray Anniversary Exhibit, DeWeese Family Exhibit). If you are comfortable handling artwork, patching, painting, or hanging, please contact gianna@holtermuseum.org for more information. We love our volunteers!



At the Holter Shop

MATHEW SHEPARD



This month's shop feature is Mathew Shepard of *Once Upon a Barn*. Mathew Shepard is a Helena-based builder with nearly two decades of experience in residential construction—including historic restorations within Helena's Mansion District, custom-built-ins, and preservation work on Montana Historic Society-registered properties.

Shepard works primarily with found materials to create one-of-a-kind pieces; reclaimed wood, aged iron, and obsolete mechanical forms are transformed into lighting and functional forms. He creates enduring objects that are designed to be used daily and kept as heirlooms. In our shop, you will find several unique lighting fixtures and wine bottle holders from Shepard's collection.

Event Space Rental



Host your next event at the Holter Museum!

- Staff Meeting / Corporate Training
- Holiday Parties
- Birthday Parties
- Memorial Services
- Weddings and Receptions
- Small Business Networking Events
- Comedy Events
- Luncheons
- Corporate Social Happy Hours
- ...and MORE!

Holter Museum of Art
12 E. Lawrence Street, Helena, MT 59601

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: DEVELOPMENT@HOLTERMUSEUM.ORG OR CALL (406) 204-3401



PRESERVE MONTANA TRADES CORPS

Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program

Love working with your hands? Want a career with purpose? The Preserve Montana Trades Corps is calling. Train in traditional building trades, restore historic places, and gain real-world experience alongside expert mentors.

Location:	Helena, MT
Dates:	June 1 – July 31, 2026
Travel Requirements:	50%, transportation provided
Wage:	\$600/week living wage
Available Positions:	Three (3)



SUMMARY

Build your hands-on preservation trades skills with the Preserve Montana Trades Corps, a pre-apprenticeship training program grounded in context-based learning. The nine-week training program is a boots-on-the-ground solution to the workforce shortage in the preservation trades. It is designed to train young adults in the traditional building trades, give them experience on a career path in preservation carpentry and construction trades, and preserve rural historic properties across Montana.

Corps members work alongside Preserve Montana's skilled restoration staff on real-world projects across rural Montana. You will learn and develop skills in several historic trades, such as window restoration, preservation carpentry, log work, and general building maintenance. The ideal candidate is excited about hands-on trades work and building a career in the traditional building trades. Corps members must be able to commit to the training program in its entirety.

Skills Training & Certifications

- **Certifications:**
 - Historic Preservation Fundamentals
 - OSHA 10
- Hand-tool and machinery use/safety
- Historic building documentation and condition assessment
- Trainees will be exposed to the following traditional building crafts and skills, dependent on projects:
 - Carpentry and joinery
 - Historic finishes
 - Roofing
 - Masonry
 - Timber framing
 - Historic building maintenance