

HEART OF THE HOLTER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

[Visit](#)[Exhibitions](#)[Education](#)[Museum Shop](#)[Donate](#)

From the Director's Corner

Dear Holter Friends and Family,

I am unsure how it could possibly be February already. January felt like it simultaneously flew by and lasted a thousand days and nights. It has been a whirlwind at the museum, as always. I remember when I first got here I thought, "well, at least we can take a break in January or July." That has never materialized. We *did* get a chance to reflect on the wins and challenges of 2025 this month, and the good news is that the wins in 2025 have given the museum a wonderful start in the new year.

In January's last newsletter, I described how the Holter will have a curatorial arc for the next biennium, titled "Challenging Stasis." What does this mean for us? When described in our Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts application, we were considering all the ways that the arts can actively disrupt, oppose and break through stagnation and a gross complacency that permeates our society. We aim to catalyze innovation, change, and new perspectives that help us move beyond non-functional patterns and conventional wisdom. Despite my prior tenure in public education, I have never been much of a rule-follower, and I have come to some understanding that my role in many areas of my life has teetered between disruptor/change-maker and human connector/peace-maker. Why should my work here at the Holter be any different?

I bring this all up because, in case you haven't heard yet, the Andy Warhol Foundation granted the Holter multi-year exhibition support for the next

two years. This prestigious and generous grant of \$80,000 over two years will support more than three-quarters of the exhibitions lined up through 2027! This grant indeed catapults our efforts to "Challenge Stasis" through exemplary art exhibits, public lecture series, and interdisciplinary museum programming that fosters growth and innovation through discussion, connection, and art-making. We are so proud that the Holter can play the important roles of change-maker and human-connector. And, relevant to our current state of affairs in our nation, this theme couldn't be more timely as we grapple with disruption, upheaval, and complacency (at best) and violence (at worst). It feels as if we are all already at the precipice of colliding with the gravity of the past 250 years.

We began this year with four evocative exhibits, all open as of January 15th. We invite you to challenge your own stasis and come to see the meditative weavings of Meghan Spielman, ephemeral photographs/cyanotypes of Margo Geddes, bold prints of Jason Elliott Clark, and jarring yet beautiful paintings of Carol Hartman. Open through the next few months, there is time to sit with these works and ourselves.

I hope this letter finds you healthy, safe, and ready to square up to the wins and challenges 2026 will bring. I am so grateful to all of you who believe in, support, and join in the work we do at the Holter.

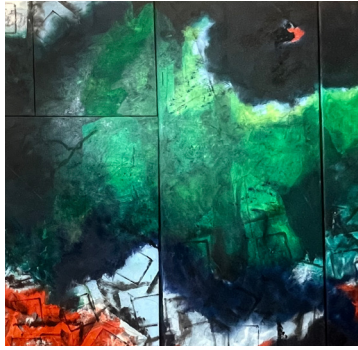
Take good care.
Christina

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jazz and Just Desserts

February 27, 7-9 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."



Meghan Spielman

Windows and Doors

NICHOLSON/HELD GALLERIES

JAN 16 - MAR 8

Meghan Spielman's series of hand-woven artworks distills and magnifies the iconography of historical American coverlets and quilts while also evaluating our complex relationship with domestic craft heirloom objects.

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.

JAZZ *and just* Desserts



HOLTER
MUSEUM of ART

with **The Wilbur Rehmann Quintet**
and Helena's Up-And-Coming Jazz Musicians

February 27, 2026

• 7 - 9 pm •
doors open at 6 pm

at the

Holter Museum of Art

12 E. Lawrence Street
Helena, MT 59601

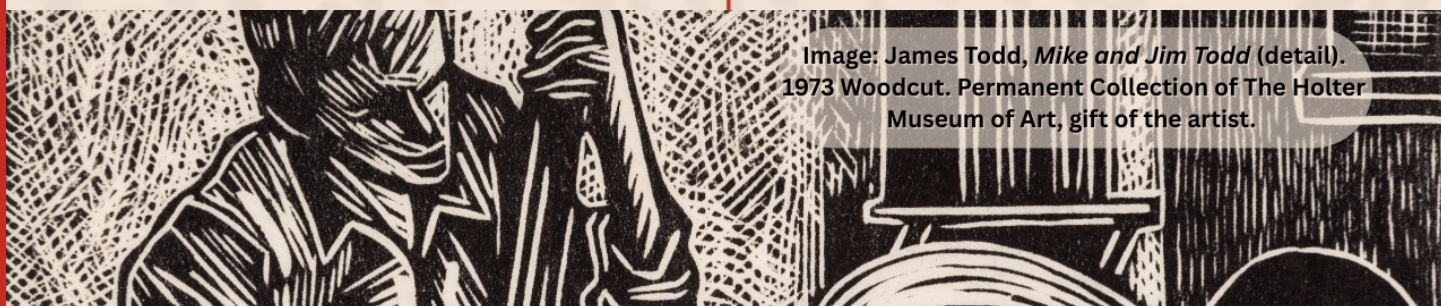


Image: James Todd, *Mike and Jim Todd* (detail).
1973 Woodcut. Permanent Collection of The Holter
Museum of Art, gift of the artist.

CLICK HERE for TICKETS

Your ticket Includes: live jazz performances, a “bite flight” of desserts from local bakeries, coffee and hot cocoa, and access to bid on auction items!

Interested in volunteering for this event? [**CLICK HERE!**](#)

**Thank you to
our sponsors!**



**THE MONTANA
RADIO
COMPANY**

From the Holter Vault:

Featured work from our Permanent Collection

In 2025, the Holter expanded its permanent collection with the acquisition of work by two significant regional artists:



Kristi Hager

Left: *Receiving Wisdom #2*, 2024. Oil and charcoal on panel. Permanent collection of the Holter Museum of Art, gift of The Estate of Kristi Jean Hager.

Right: *Looking Back*, 2019. Oil and charcoal on panel. Permanent collection of the Holter Museum of Art, gift of the estate of Kristi Jean Hager.

Beloved Missoula artist Kristi Hager (1946-2024) explored a wide variety of media throughout her career, excelling in drawing, painting, and photography. Hager's exhibition *For the Record*, a collection of photos featuring Montana's bridges and powerhouses, was exhibited at the Holter in 2024, and *Homage*, a Hager retrospective, will travel to the Holter in 2027 via MAGDA. After the artist's passing, the Holter was fortunate enough to receive a donation of thirteen two-dimensional works from throughout Hager's career. This donation was generously made by the Hager estate, with assistance from Marc Moss. The Holter offers our deepest thanks to Kristi and Marc.

If you'd like to get a sense of Kristi's fun spirit, [THIS VIDEO](#), written and performed by her, is a great watch.

SARA Joyce

SARA Joyce (1923-2011) was a vibrant and prolific artist who spent most of her life in Idaho. She transformed paint, fabric, and clay into works that explore her relationship to the personal, the playful, and the sacred. In 2022, the Holter exhibited a SARA retrospective titled *Am I Dreaming It or Is It Dreaming Me*, which you can revisit in [THIS VIDEO](#).

This piece was generously donated to the Holter by the Family of SARA, notably her son Bill Caccia. Many sincere thanks to the Joyce family and Bill for their efforts in preserving SARA's (always capitalized!) incredible legacy.



Lady with the Lamps, ca. 1980.

Acrylic on double layered paper. Permanent Collection of The Holter Museum of Art, gift of the Family of SARA Joyce.

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](#)

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](#)

Little Artists

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Encourage your toddler's curiosity and independence in this interactive experience for young artists and their caregivers. 18 months -5 years (with guardian).

[learn more](#)

Figure Drawing Studio

Wednesdays 5-7 p.m.

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

[learn more](#)

Advanced D&D with Adventures in Cardboard **Sundays, 1-4 p.m.**

Explore the realm of AiC through Dungeons and Dragons tabletop gaming. Ages 8-16. Prior D&D experience required.

[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](#)

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](#)

D&D with Adventures in Cardboard

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

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

[learn more](#)

Young Artist Workshop **Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m.**

Work alongside a professional artist to learn the basics of making art. Ideal for the motivated artist who knows enough and wants to learn more! Ages 12-16.

[learn more](#)

ArtSpark

Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

An introductory art class with elements of play and creativity through hands-on learning. Ages 7-11.

[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-minded teens to come together and become advocates for the arts among their peers as well as the community as a whole.

[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](#)

Registration for Summer Camps is Now Open!

Summer camps for ages 5-17! Guided by skilled educators and teaching artists. Sign up for camps exploring the full spectrum of summer fun!

[To view ALL summer camps, click here!](#)

Specialty Classes

Night at the Museum

February 11, 6-7:30 p.m.

Process the Process: A Writing Workshop

February 15, March 1, March 29, April 19, May 3. 4-6 p.m.

Early Childhood ArtStart

February 21, 10-11:30 a.m.

Creative Prose: Wine'd Down

February 25, 6-7:30 p.m.

"Take a Walk with a Dot" with Montana Historical Society

February 28, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Drawing with Negative Space with Montana Historical Society

February 26, 6-8p.m.

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

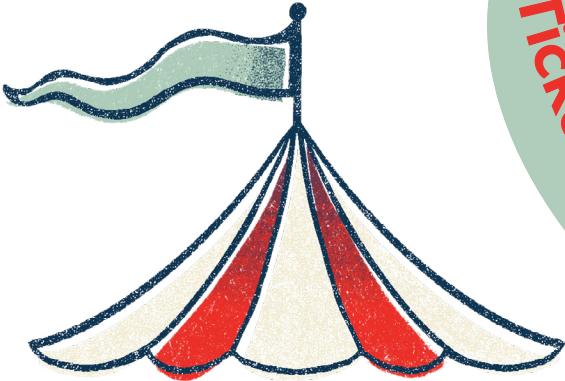
Image: Soojin Choi, *Cruel Sweet* (detail).



[Click to Become a Member!](#)

Tickets Available Soon!

Tickets Available Soon!



LE CIRQUE

HOLTER GALA 2026

On May 15th, step right into **Le Cirque** at the Holter Museum of Art's Annual Fundraising Gala—an evening where art, spectacle, and celebration take center stage.

Inspired by the elegance and whimsy of the circus, guests will enjoy theatrical ambiance, French-inspired fare, lively music, and unforgettable moments of surprise throughout the night. Dress to dazzle, sip champagne, indulge your senses, and help support the Holter's exhibitions, education programs, and community impact. This is one extraordinary night where imagination leads—and the art truly steals the show.

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

Interested in throwing your hat in the ring to become a sponsor for this event? Please email Abi Ita, Development and Events Coordinator, at **development@holter.org**.

Interested in submitting your artwork for the auction? **APPLY HERE!** Applications are due March 2nd.

At the Holter Shop

MARY JEAN (MJ) MARTIN



Mary Jean Martin is a Montana born and raised artist who first discovered her love of weaving while stationed at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina during her time in the Army. It is here that a lovely woman taught her how to use a loom in a craft room on base. After many years spent away from weaving, Mary Jean returned to the craft, describing it to be “like finding an old and beloved friend.” You can find hand-woven greeting cards from Mary Jean in the Holter Shop, great for any occasion or a small decoration! If you are a veteran, active military member, or their caregiver, you can join MJ in an upcoming session on weaving as a part of our Courage to Create class scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, February 24 from 10am – 12pm** and **Tuesday, March 3 from 10am – 12pm**.

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