

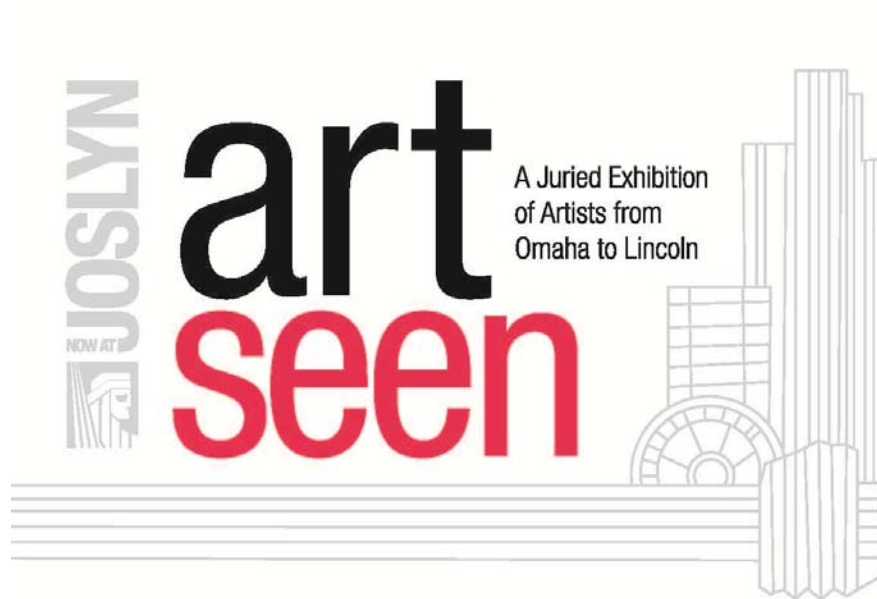


NEWS RELEASE

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Exhibition of Artists from Omaha to Lincoln Opens to the Public Sunday at Joslyn Art Museum, Continues through October 11

(Omaha, NE) – Shortly after opening its doors to the public in 1931, Joslyn Art Museum began regularly staging juried exhibitions. Intended to bring the work of artists from throughout the Midwest to Omaha audiences, these exhibitions showcased painting, sculpture, graphic arts, and utilitarian design. In the 1950s, Joslyn initiated a regional biennial that continued until 1988. In the 1990s, the Museum organized a popular series of juried exhibitions focusing on regional art across Nebraska and its six contiguous states. The series, *Midlands Invitational*, featured painting and sculpture (1990), installation art (1992), photography (1997), and works on paper (2000).

Art Seen: A Juried Exhibition of Artists from Omaha to Lincoln honors Joslyn's traditions and celebrates the vibrancy of the current artistic moment in our area. While the Museum's programming is often national or international in scope, *Art Seen* provides an exciting opportunity to carefully consider Joslyn's immediate

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Art Seen: A Juried Exhibition of Artists from Omaha to Lincoln

PRESENTING SPONSORS

Carol Gendler, Paul and Annette Smith,



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Robert H. Storz Foundation
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Additional support provided by Nebraska Arts Council
and Nebraska Cultural Endowment

context. Featuring thirty-seven artists who live and work in Nebraska's two largest cities, this exhibition represents a broad cross-section of the artist communities that thrive in Omaha and Lincoln. Selected from a pool of more than 200 submissions by Karin Campbell, Phil Willson Curator of Contemporary Art, and Bill Arning, Director of the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, these artists work across media to respond to issues of personal, local, and global relevance. Political concerns, such as sexual and racial identity, gender roles, and environmental change feature prominently in *Art Seen*. Other artists are deeply engaged with topics that originate within the art world, including the importance of the handmade in an increasingly digital world, the intersection between written language and visual art, and the ongoing relevance of abstraction in American art. Placing the work of younger artists alongside that of more established artists, this exhibition opens up the rich dialogue taking place among the local creative communities to a broader public. *Art Seen* is open to the public June 21 through October 11.

The *Art Seen* Artists

Littleton Alston, *Omaha*
Byron Anway, *Lincoln*
Jess Benjamin, *Omaha*
Sarah Berkeley, *Lincoln*
James Bockelman, *Lincoln*
Jamie Burmeister, *Omaha*
Michael Burton, *Lincoln*
Peter Cales, *Omaha*
Kim Darling (Kim Reid Kuhn), *Omaha*
Angela Drakeford, *Omaha*
Catherine Ferguson, *Omaha*
Nancy Friedemann-Sánchez, *Lincoln*
Charley Friedman, *Lincoln*
Camille Hawbaker, *Lincoln*
Aaron Holz, *Lincoln*
Keith Jacobshagen, *Lincoln*
Heather Johanson, *Omaha*
Josh Johnson, *Lincoln*
Jun Kaneko, *Omaha*

Laurie Victor Kay, *Omaha*
Holly Kranker, *Omaha*
Dylan Lilla, *Omaha*
Rich Mansfield, *Omaha*
Avery Mazor, *Omaha*
Marjorie Mikasen, *Lincoln*
Mo Neal, *Lincoln*
Joshua Norton, *Omaha*
Bradley Peters, *Lincoln*
Walker Pickering, *Lincoln*
Sarah Rowe, *Omaha*
Matthew Sontheimer, *Lincoln*
Therman Statom, *Omaha*
Joy O. Ude, *Lincoln*
Watie White, *Omaha*
Shea Wilkinson, *Omaha*
Ying Zhu, *Omaha*
Mary Zicafoose, *Omaha*

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Art Seen: A Juried Exhibition of Artists from Omaha to Lincoln

Exhibition Tickets and Tours

Art Seen is a ticketed exhibition. Admission is FREE for Joslyn members. \$10 for general public adults; youth ages 17 and younger & college students with ID are free. Special Thursday pricing (4–8 pm): \$5 for general public adults. All visitors, including members, must obtain a ticket at the admissions desk for entrance to the exhibition. Programs with visits to the exhibition will be priced accordingly for general public adults. Docent-guided tours of the exhibition are offered weekly (ticket pricing applies; view the calendar of events at joslyn.org for tour offerings).

Exhibition Programs & Events

Friday, June 19, 6–8 pm; and Saturday, June 20, 10 am–4 pm

Members Preview Event & Preview Day

Every ticketed special exhibition at Joslyn opens first and exclusively for members. The members preview day for *Art Seen* is Saturday, June 20. The exhibition will open to the general public the following day. From 10 am to 4 pm, members show their membership card at the admissions desk for tickets to the exhibition on preview day (reservations not required during the day). Curator gallery talks will be offered that day at noon and 2 pm by Karin Campbell, Joslyn's Phil Willson Curator of Contemporary Art.

Joslyn members are invited for a private preview event celebrating *Art Seen* on Friday, June 19, from 6 to 8 pm (doors open at 5 pm). At 6 pm, Karin Campbell, Joslyn's Phil Willson Curator of Contemporary Art, and Bill Arning, director of the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, will give an overview of the show in the Witherspoon Concert Hall. Discussion moderator is Jack Becker, Joslyn's executive director & CEO. The presentation will be followed by exhibition viewing, complimentary light hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar in the Storz Fountain Court from 6:30–8 pm.

An optional paid dinner service, Dine at Joslyn, is offered to Joslyn members the night of the preview. Menu options include grilled filet with stilton portabella sauce, pan seared bone-in chicken hind quarter with balsamic reduction, grilled tilapia with lime cream sauce, and spinach linguini with pistachio pesto. Dinners include sides and a choice of soup or salad. Desserts are a choice of Lithuanian Bakery torte cake or chocolate cheesecake.

To inquire about joining Joslyn and/or attending this preview, call the Member Relations and Database Manager at (402) 661-3858.

Thursday, July 9 @ 5–8 pm (cash bar @ 5 pm)

Omaha Under the Radar

This event is free. Regular exhibition ticketing applies (\$5 Thursday evening pricing).

After the success of its first year, Omaha Under the Radar returns with 11 events at six venues featuring over 80 performers from around the country. This year's festival, held July 8–11, promises to entice

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Art Seen: A Juried Exhibition of Artists from Omaha to Lincoln

audiences with the best experimentalists in dance, music, and theatre from Omaha, Chicago, Kansas City, New York, San Francisco, St. Paul, and more. Performances will invade these local venues: Bancroft Street Market, House of Loom, KANEKO, Omaha Public Library, Sokol Auditorium – and Joslyn Art Museum!

At Joslyn on July 9, Omaha Under the Radar celebrates the *Art Seen* exhibition. Performances will be spread throughout the Museum, creating an immersive and exploratory artistic experience.

- 5 pm – Sophia Potter (Omaha), solo cello music in the *Art Seen* galleries
- 5:30 pm – Zephyrus (Christine Beard, Tomm Roland; Omaha), flute and percussion music on Strauss Bridge
- 6 pm – Quince (Kayleigh Butcher, Liz Pearse, Carrie Henneman Shaw; Chicago), a cappella vocal music in the Storz Fountain Court
- 6:30 pm – In the Witherspoon Concert Hall, Atlas Percussion (Scott Shinbara, Kyle Maxwell-Doherty, Alex Wier; Phoenix, New York, Omaha), percussion ensemble music; composer Stacey Barelos (Omaha), new chamber music work based on the visual art of Ying Zhu whose work is on view in *Art Seen*; and AperiDance (Monya DeBoer, director; Lincoln), newly choreographed work.

Omaha Under the Radar is an annual experimental performance festival in the Midwest, featuring four days of performances, multiple venues, and inspiring performers from around the country. Details at undertheradaromaha.com.

Thursday, July 16 @ 5:30–7:30 pm (cash bar @ 5 pm)

Homegrown: Edible Omaha Release Party

This event is free. The first 20 general public adults in the door receive a free *Art Seen* ticket (regular exhibition ticketing applies thereafter; \$5 Thursday evening pricing).

Celebrate local art, local food, and the release of *Edible Omaha* magazine's summer issue (copies available at the event). Visit the permanent collection galleries, browse merchandise by local artisans in the Hitchcock Museum Shop, see food-inspired artworks by Joslyn art class students, and enjoy:

- *Garden Tour @ 6 pm*
Kyle Johnson, Joslyn's landscape maintenance technician, will introduce guests to the Museum's predominantly organic campus, showcase his tools of the trade, and answer questions throughout the event.
- *It's Not Too Late to Plant a Vegetable Garden*
Experts from Paradigm Gardens and Common Soil Seed Library, along with independent Master Gardeners, will answer questions about late-summer and fall planting, vertical gardening, strengthening the food system, and more.
- *Let Them Eat (and Drink) Local*
Offerings for purchase in Café Durham (\$5–7): local cheese plate with La Quartier Baguette and local honey; locally sourced short-rib with Asian slaw; fresh hummus with pita; heirloom tomato caprese salad; and summer soups. Cash bar will include locally distilled Cut Spike whiskey and vodka as well as the locally brewed Lucky Bucket beer.

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Art Seen: A Juried Exhibition of Artists from Omaha to Lincoln

Thursdays, July 30 & September 3 @ 6:30 pm (cash bar @ 5 pm)

Artist Gallery Talks

Regular exhibition ticketing applies (\$5 Thursday evening pricing).

Selected *Art Seen* artists will speak about their work, shedding light on practice, process, and what inspires them to create.

July 30 – Featured Artists

Shea Wilkinson creates intricate, thread-based works that allude to imaginary and mythical worlds, eliciting a sense of magic.

James Bockelman's richly-layered compositions bring together the artist's idiosyncratic brand of studied abstraction with his desire to reflect on the world around him.

Holly Kranker's practice uses a variety of mediums to examine sense of place, personal memory, and efforts to suspend moments in time.

Matthew Sontheimer engages in a continual conversation using verbal and visual language to discuss and illustrate the endless field of questions and solutions he encounters on a daily basis.

September 3 – Featured Artists

Sarah Berkeley works across media to question cultural norms, such as the 9–5 work day, the office environment, indoor living, gender stereotypes, and the voluntary sharing of personal data. She creates public interventions and durational performances which she documents using photography, video, and GPS.

Mo Neal mines art history, popular culture, and personal narrative to sate her fascination with movement and precarious spaces, both physical and social.

Josh Johnson draws upon Post Minimalist notions and a scrounger's resourcefulness to create sculptures that navigate traditional processes and commonplace materials.

Jamie Burmeister explores his conscious experience of the world through 3D printing, animation, programming, sculpture, and sound, among many other outlets.

Saturday, August 22; 1–5 pm (off-site locations)

Open Studios

Free for Joslyn members; \$10 general public. Visit joslyn.org to register in advance; check-in available at all studio stops on the tour. Tickets may also be purchased with check or cash the day of the tour at all studio stops. Members are asked to bring their membership ID cards. Cash bar at 1912.

Art Seen artists working in a variety of media and styles will open their studios so visitors can see the creative process first-hand. The artists will be present to discuss their work and offer demonstrations. Light refreshments will be served at each location. Participants provide their own transportation at their own pace and may visit studios in any order they wish. A printable guidebook will be available online in early August (search the calendar of events at joslyn.org). Following the tour (after 5 pm), participants are invited to gather for drinks at 1912: A Benson Rooftop Tavern (6201 Maple Street). Space may be limited; cash bar only.

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Art Seen: A Juried Exhibition of Artists from Omaha to Lincoln

Participating Artists & Studios

Littleton Alston, Alston Art Studio, 20th & Cuming

Littleton Alston has lived in Omaha for over 25 years, where he maintains a sculpture studio and teaches at Creighton University.

Jess Benjamin, 6523 Maple

Jess Benjamin's ceramic artwork focuses on water usage in the Great Plains area: a regional concern that is related to the phenomenon of global drought.

Kim Darling (Kim Reid Kuhn), 1114 Jones

Kim Darling's (Kim Reid Kuhn) painting and drawing works utilize iconic imagery and mark making generated in a method much like automatic drawing.

Joshua Norton, The Union for Contemporary Art, 2417 Burdette

Joshua Norton is a printmaking artist from Minnesota, now happily living in Omaha. When he's not working at The Union for Contemporary Art, he's filling his time with monsters and rock 'n roll.

Sarah Rowe, 1114 Jones

Lakota artist Sarah Rowe confronts issues regarding self-identity and exploitation. She is co-founder of Omaha's Sweatshop Gallery.

Watie White, 1314 William

"I'm a socially-engaged painter and printmaker who values the personal impact of art in the social sphere. I love to bring something profound to common experiences and something absurd to the overly serious." – Watie White

Art Camps and Classes

Joslyn offers summer camps for kids visited by *Art Seen* artists and classes for teens and adults taught by *Art Seen* artists. Visit joslyn.org > Education > Classes to view the Summer 2015 camps and classes brochure; 24/7 online class registration available. Members receive discounts on art camps and classes.

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Our Mission – Joslyn Art Museum collects, preserves, and interprets the visual arts of the highest quality, fostering appreciation and enjoyment of art for the benefit of a diverse audience.

Our Vision – To be cherished and respected as a premier art museum.

Joslyn Art Museum showcases art from ancient times to the present. The Museum was a gift to the people of Omaha from Sarah Joslyn in memory of her husband, George, who made his fortune as president of the Western Newspaper Union. The Museum's original 1931 building is one of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture in the nation, with 38 types of marble from seven countries. The Walter and Suzanne Scott Pavilion, a 58,000-square-foot addition built in 1994, was designed by renowned British architect Norman Foster as his first U.S. commission. The Museum features galleries, a 1,000-seat concert hall, fountain court, education technology gallery, lecture hall, classrooms, sculpture garden, café, shop, and Art Works, an interactive space for art exploration (new in 2014).

General Museum Admission: Free (additional charge for general public adult tickets to *Art Seen*).

Regular Museum Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am–4 pm; late 'til 8 pm on Thursday; closed Monday and major holidays.

www.joslyn.org | (402) 342-3300 | 2200 Dodge Street | Omaha, NE 68102