

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Gifts for our Community, Virtual Exhibit Opening June 18, 2021

The legacy of an artist is found through exhibition of their artwork. Families, artists, and businesses gift works to our collections so that future generations will gain an appreciation of art. Join Pablo Center in celebrating the newest contributions to our Laurie Bieze Permanent Art Collection.

ROSE DOLAN-NEILL, CURATOR

Visual & Literary Arts Manager

Pablo Center at the Confluence

There is so much beauty tucked away in our art collection. We are proud to offer you a glimpse into the Laurie Bieze Art Collection. Contributions to the Laurie Bieze Permanent Art Collection enrich the art experience for anyone who walks through the doors of Pablo Center. Donate at www.pablocenter.org/support/donate.

ARTIST STATEMENTS AND BIOGRAPHIES

Statements and biographies are written by the individual artists and are published with their permission. The views expressed are their own. Thank you.

All works on display are on loan from the Laurie Bieze Permanent Art Collection.

GORDY BISCHOFF, Luthier

JUSTIN VERNON, Creative Collaborator

The 1608

2012, Baritone Guitar made of white oak Bushmills whiskey barrel staves | 42" x 14" x 2.25"

Donated by Tuning Tree

Bischoff, a Master Luthier for 37 years, utilized a combination of his woodworking skills with moisture and heat to mold and soften the fibers to bend the wood into place, and develop the shape needed to create a guitar. This baritone guitar is made almost entirely out of the white oak wood from the whiskey barrels, with only a touch of additional wood added to the internal structure. The nine-pound guitar features two separate pickup systems, an acoustic transducer and two passive electric pickups, and features a neck made from hard rock maple and Ebony. The finishing touches tie the entire collaboration together, featuring Bushmills bottle caps as the volume and tone control knobs, with a bit of Bushmills Irish Whiskey added to the guitar humidior in the case to enhance the aroma of the iconic brand.

Justin Vernon, the Grammy-award winning singer-songwriter and frontman of Bon Iver, has teamed up with longtime friend and Master Luthier Gordy Bischoff to develop "The 1608" – a baritone guitar made with original white oak wood from Bushmills Irish Whiskey barrels. This guitar is 1 of 4 made and will be auctioned off to benefit The Confluence Project: a community arts center that will be built in Vernon's hometown community of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The name

"The 1608" references the year when Bushmills received its original grant to distill making it one of the oldest whiskey brands in the world.

"As co-owners of Tuning Tree, Katie and I felt that the temporary COVID-19 closing down of our business, the Pablo, and so many others was a perfect time to bring some energy to the downtown core. We recognize and appreciate the Confluence Center's value both artistically and economically to the city and we are proud to be a small part of the resurgence of life in the heart of Eau Claire.

A guitar is meant to be played. The 1608 baritone guitar is also meant to be displayed, here at home, at the Confluence Center of Eau Claire.

May it remind us to enjoy our own unique song, let go of limiting beliefs and collaborate to make something new, something better."

- Anthony McMorran | June 1, 2020

Learn more about Bischoff at www.bischoffguitars.com. Learn more about Tuning Tree at www.tuningtree.com.

REBECCA CROWELL

Patina,

2007, Cold wax, oil on panel | 48" x 36"

Donated by the artist

I've been involved in art my whole life and working professionally in the art world since the mid-1980s. In 1982 I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and went on to earn my Master of Fine Arts at Arizona State University in 1985. After my graduation, my husband and I returned to our home near Osseo and started our family, and within a few years we had built a nice studio behind the house there. I taught as an adjunct art instructor at UWEC and UW La Cross for several years and began exhibiting my paintings in Minneapolis in the early 1990s. Over time, the galleries representing my work expanded to a number of locations around the country and I quit teaching to spend more time in the studio. Today my work is shown in galleries in Atlanta, Chicago, Santa Fe, Tucson, Telluride, CO; Lafayette, California; Dublin, Ireland, and Belfast, Northern Ireland. Locally, my work is handled by Riverwood Art and Frame in Eau Claire.

Artist in Residence programs have been an important source of ideas and growth in my work for years. An artist residency involves spending 3-6 weeks of concentrated studio time with other artists in a unique creative community. Beginning in 2001, I have attended residencies in Spain, Sweden, and three different locations in Ireland. I've returned every year since 2013 to The Ballinglen Arts Foundation on the wild western Irish coast and have made strong connections with the landscape and artists there.

Although I explore printmaking and drawing in mixed media, most of my work is done on wood panel using oil paint mixed with cold wax medium, a pasty substance that adds body, texture, and luminosity to the paint. I began experimenting with this material about 20 years ago and developing ways to use it that suited my growing interest in abstraction. In 2009, I began teaching workshops about the techniques I had developed with cold wax medium, and this new venture grew each year. Eventually I began to teach not only around the US, but internationally in Ireland, Italy, Spain, Greece, New Zealand, Canada, and Mexico.

In 2015, I was approached by a California artist, Jerry McLaughlin, with a proposal to co-author a book on the use of cold wax medium, based on what I had developed and was teaching. We published *Cold Wax Medium: Techniques, Concepts & Conversations* in 2017, and along the way formed our company, Squeegee Press, as a resource for other materials on the topic. We followed the book with a full-length video workshop, and currently run Cold wax Academy, an Online teaching platform at www.coldwaxacademy.com.

I have long been drawn to the dramatic, rugged landscapes of New Mexico, and in 2017 my husband Don Ticknor and I bought an old adobe to renovate in a small village about halfway between the cultural centers of Santa Fe and Taos, in an area surrounded by mountains, mesas, and canyons. With mixed feelings of sadness at leaving Wisconsin but anticipation of exciting change, we are currently making a permanent move to New Mexico.

Patina shows my long interest in complex surfaces inspired by nature. It is part of a series of paintings I created between 2007-2012 in which I joined separate panels together to create contrast between soft organic surfaces and geometric divisions. I am very pleased that this painting will be on view at the Pablo Center in acknowledgment of my long connections to the Chippewa Valley.

View Crowell's art at www.rebeccacrowell.com.

DASHA KELLY HAMILTON

Wisconsin Poet Laureate

Life in Motion,

2020, Poem, framed, hand printed by the artist

Donated by Dr. Louis & Janet Frase

LIFE IN MOTION

*I see you
Trying to snip yourself
Free from the clash of fabric patterns
Outsize the outline of your fierce
and stunning soul
Coast be not ocean
Edge be not your end
I smell the salt water in your conversation
A slow leak of truth from the corners of your grin*

*I see you
Fumbling to wrap yourself
In the wind
But I know a costume
When I see one
You carve your journey through fire
Blaze ash compacting in your chest
Footsteps forged into scorched Earth rising like breaths of sage
Glancing backwards will always be an inclination*

*Forward is your instinct
I see you
Hobbling together a truth of your own
Reconsidering the broken pieces
Polishing the gemstones in your scars
You are incomplete and you are the universe
You are an ever evolution
Ever evolution*

You.

Are.

Dasha Kelly Hamilton is a writer, performance artist, curator and facilitator. Ultimately, she's a creative change agent, leveraging the creative process toward human and social wellness. Dasha has written for national, regional and local magazines; produced three collections of poetry; recorded four spoken word CDs; published two novels; been included in several anthologies; and performed in the last season of HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*. Her nonprofit, Still Waters Collective, initiated literary arts programming for 20 years, creating platforms for thousands of voices to be honored and heard. Through the organization, she still partners on impact projects and manages a creative leadership fellowship.

Dasha served as an Arts Envoy for the U.S. Embassy to teach, perform and facilitate community building initiatives in Botswana and the island of Mauritius. She was also an artist in residence in Beirut. Dasha has been an adjunct professor at Mount Mary University, Alverno College, Bryant & Stratton and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University and an MA in Marketing Communications from Roosevelt University. A collection of her micro stories, *DashNettes: Life, in Short*, will release Fall 2020. Her stage production, *Makin' Cake*, will tour nationally beginning in 2021. A former Artist of the Year for the City of Milwaukee, Dasha is the city's 11 th Poet Laureate.

Visit www.dashakelly.com to learn more about Dasha Kelly Hamilton.

CYNDEE KAISER

Breakup,

2020, Collage | 20" x 27"

Donated by the artist

The pandemic presented a series of challenges and opportunities. Being isolated and homebound I started using materials I had at my home, like blurry or old photos and discarded windows, and discarded frames. It opened new possibilities of using magazine pictures or photos in a mosaic or in some cases almost stained-glass approach. New possibilities, and I was energized! For this piece, "The Breakup", I first thought of the isolation and space between us all, but then found a male and female face to cut apart and distort. Angry words, the breaking apart of bonds and ultimately the final "Breakup". It seemed the ideal time to voice frustration and betrayal.

As an artist my purpose is to innovate and challenge myself and create fun, colorful and joy filled works for the eye. I am a lifelong artist, having studied at UWEC receiving a BFA and Art Education degree. My working career included teaching art at all levels, graphic design at UWEC and illustrating for a publishing firm and the past 25 years as a mural painter. My many works can be seen at schools, businesses and in homes.

TERRY MEYER IN COLLABORATION WITH FLOWt

Donated by Mary Tlusty

Untitled,

2020, Acrylic on canvas | 25" x 103"

Untitled,

2020, Acrylic on canvas | 25" x 103"

Untitled,

2020, Acrylic on canvas | 96" x 96"

Terry Meyer created three large canvas paintings as part of a collaborative, live art paint experience, FLOWt, which streamed live at Pablo Center's recent fundraising gala. The result of Mr. Meyer's creative endeavors was auctioned off and then donated back to Pablo Center's art collection by Mary Tlusty. Gladly accepted, these three works of art tell the story of visual and performing arts colliding beautifully at Pablo Center.

Terry Meyer is a self-taught artist, working for the past 40 years in several mediums, including silk screening, wood/steel sculpture, clay, oils watercolor and acrylics. He currently works with watercolors and oils out of his 5 Mile Creek Studio and does sculpture (steel) at his studio as Artisan Forge Studios. Meyer has won numerous awards as he participates in shows in several states and often donates his work to community organizations. He has many individual and corporate patrons across the country* as well as representation in many fine art galleries. Most recently he has been invited to show one of his sculptures in Venice, Italy.

As an artist, He tries to connect with the energy and motion in the environment around him. His artwork serves as a conduit for expressing that connection. It is the assimilation of this spirit - energy and motion - that inspires my work. Within the medium of painting, watercolor provides a flow and softness that is almost meditative as he translates this energy through brushstrokes. Oils are more kinesthetic. "I can feel the substance of the paint and its power, translating the environment around me". And his sculptures take all of that into the third dimension. The work often evokes an emotional response from viewers, feeling a spiritual connection, drawn from their own personal experiences.

Learn more about FLOWt at www.terrymeyerfineart.com/flowt.

LAURIE BIEZE

Untitled,

1982, Stained-glass | 32" x 26.5"

Donated by Barbara Gramenz

Laurie Bieze made a lasting impact on the lives she touched. Her splashes of color can be found almost everywhere you look at Pablo Center reflected in the glass touched by her masterful hands. A newly acquired work of hers is a perfect example of her fluid and feminine approach to stained glass. Donated by long-time friend, Barbara Gramenz, this work was created by Laurie in the spirit of sisterhood and the mother moon. We always enjoy welcoming home to Pablo Center a work of Laurie Bieze's to be loved by future generations.

"Fire in the belly" is that quality of mind which has guided Laurie Bieze, stained glass and multimedia artist, from the beginning. She never really wanted to do anything else but create, and that intense dedication to her craft led her on

a merry chase as something of a gypsy, until she landed in Eau Claire. After completing her studies at the Colorado Institute of Art, she took various jobs across the US, as well as abroad, doing art for movies, TV and print media, as well as other design work. While she was working at the University in Oregon, her skill as an artist who could actually draw, loved to sketch, and produce original designs, opened the door to getting involved with designing stained glass windows for other glass artists. Her subsequent study of the art of stained-glass processes gave her the confidence to think that she could work for herself and actually make a living as a stained-glass artist in Eau Claire.

She began designing for homes, as well as producing windows, doors, sculptures, mobiles and other spectacular stained-glass art for churches and restaurants, CVTC, the IBC, Luther Hospital, among many other clients. One can follow Laurie Bieze's footsteps as an artist, by traversing the Chippewa Valley from one glistening shimmer of evocative color to another.

Laurie Bieze had a studio at Banbury Place for over fourteen years. The ambiance seemed to attract a broad spectrum of creative tenants, who of course come and go, but mutually benefit from the eclectic mix. Laurie Bieze described the energy in downtown Eau Claire as wonderful... "positive and forward thinking." In a reflective mood, she described herself as a very spiritual person who had a lot of freedom in her days, which suited her just fine. The last window she planned to do in Eau Claire was at the Unitarian Church, a place where she had special ties. Laurie Bieze passed away at the age of 70, on June 22, 2014 after a 3-year battle with breast cancer. Throughout her life and even through cancer, she strived to live her life according to one of her favorite quotes, "To thine own self be true". Listening to her inner voice, pursuing her love of art, and finding the light in others were values she held dear to her heart.

This content was taken from a November 2011 interview of Laurie Bieze from www.ChippePedia.org and from Laurie Bieze's obituary in the Leader Telegram on June 29, 2014.

TIM WAKEFIELD

Another Brick in the Wall Parts 1, 2, 3,

2018, Photographic print on canvas, original signed by Pink Floyd artist, Roger Waters, | 40" x 40"
Donated by Sam Murty

This original artwork was signed by Roger Waters in his New York office in 2018 to benefit MusiCorps. This artwork was created and signed by Tim Wakefield by capturing and customizing the sound waves of Pink Floyd's iconic "Another Brick in the Wall".

Roger Waters, singer, songwriter, and composer co-founded Pink Floyd in 1965. Some of Pink Floyd's most successful music came from their concept album, *The Wall*, which included the songs "Another Brick in the Wall Parts 1, 2, and 3". Released in 1979, this rock opera focuses on the journey of rock star, Pink, in his isolation, creating a metaphorical wall around himself.

Led by Tim Wakefield, Soundwaves Art Foundation (soundwavesartfoundation.com) is a philanthropic foundation that combines music, modern art, and technology by capturing the digital heartbeat of some of the world's most iconic music in order to raise money for nonprofits addressing the world's most pressing problems. To create each of his Soundwaves Art pieces Tim colors, distorts, and manipulates the actual sound waves of songs through a proprietary art process he has created and honed for the past 11 years. Each piece is signed by the musician(s) behind the song, and 100% of profits are donated to charities focusing primarily on social justice, the environment, disaster relief, music education, and mental health.

All of our artwork is created by Tim Wakefield. To create each of his Soundwaves Art pieces Tim colors, distorts, and

manipulates the actual sound waves of songs through a proprietary art process he has created and honed for over a decade. The artwork you see is made from a snippet of the sound wave of each song, making them a true collaboration between Tim and the musician who created the song.

BRUCE WARREN

Orcastraws in Concert,

Silver Gelatin Print | 19.75" x 17.25"

Donated by the artist

Orcastraws In Concert is a photograph from a series of visual puns I produced years ago. It was shot in my studio onto Kodak T-Max 400 4 x 5 black and white film using a Sinar view camera and Schneider-Kreuznach 210mm lens. I made six copies in my darkroom on Ilford Multigrade Deluxe Pearl 11 x 14 paper. This will be the first print to be put into circulation. It is not a numbered series of prints, but I have no plans to print anymore. The print may or may not be signed on the back lower left corner in black sharpie. The mat is signed in pencil on the front lower right corner. There is another version of this image with a single "Orcastraw" in the same glass titled *Orcastraw*. One of the six prints is in circulation.

I am a fine art photographer who specializes in large format black and white film-based photography and related chemical processes. The subjects of my photographs vary widely, including landscapes, still life, architecture, and abstracts. I began to take photography seriously around 1974. In 1988, I decided to "go pro" splitting my time between teaching sociology at UWEC and doing photography. In 2000 gave up my "day job" to pursue photography exclusively. I have exhibited my work extensively with other photographers and artists and have had several solo exhibitions.