

curator's statement

CENTRAL WASHINGTON ARTISTS EXPLORE THE WOODS

This year (the 7th in the series) the work investigates WOOD. As before, twelve artists were given identical formats to work with and then asked to interpret the theme in any way they wanted with the medium they normally work in. The resulting artwork speaks for itself. The artists hope their work will create within you some thoughtful responses and questions.

The Art on the Wall series is part of a multi-cultural exploration into the nature of creativity and understanding. The theme for the first four years comes from the Classical Greek elements (earth, air, fire and water) that underscore Western understanding of the world around us. These were followed by stone (a component of earth) then the Chinese elements of metal and wood which are also components of earth. For example, water (enriched with earth's minerals and metals) nourishes wood; wood fuels fire and creates ash from which metals are derived.

**Carol Hassen
2017**



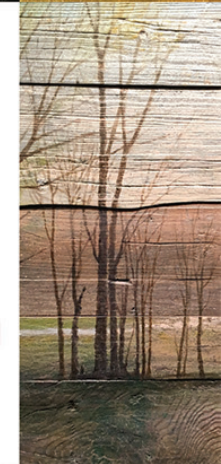
More than a performing arts venue, the 4th Street Theatre also showcases a variety of other art forms created by local talent. As you enter the space you will discover snippets of poetry, the grand chandelier, etched mirrors, and a neon sign illuminating your way to this year's Art on the Wall exhibit.

Each year a piece from the exhibit is chosen to be part of the permanent collection and displayed in the Noel Lobby.

Images above represent the collection chosen from previous years. Eyakemka by Gloria Gonzales Garcia, Yakima; Kittitas Valley from Vanderbilt Gap by Robert A. Fisher, Ellensburg; Whoosh by Deborah Ann, Yakima; Exactly Where I Was When I Felt it by Scott Bailey, Wenatchee; World on Fire by Harry Thompson, Yakima; Anthem in Stone by Becky Blair, Yakima; and A Common Bond by Holly Mahre, Yakima.



ART ON The WALL



CAPITOL
THEATRE  YAKIMA

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 capitoltheatre.org



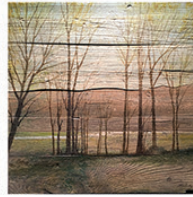
REVERIE: ARTEMIS, FOREST GODDESS
Price: \$1,500

John Barany
Yakima

media: mixed wood, paint, and dye

"Wood Artist: That's me, it's what I do, a reason to wake up, a life. The Magic Black Forest is a square mile of trees north of Coeur d'Alene. It defines me as I define it. It's mine. Reverie: Artemis, Forest Goddess tells the forest story. Any forest, all forests."

Barany cuts and carves wood, paints/textures/embosses/drills/fills/dyes/fusses/frets at every process from green life on the hill to new life on the wall, desk, table... He studied medicine for 13 (count 'em) years, worked in Critical Care Pulmonology the next 27, then repurposed as a lathe-based wood artist. Everything round and brown.



THE ANCIENT ONES
Price: \$450

Rob Blackaby
Selah

media: mixed media, barnwood, and hardwood scraps

"Wood has always been a favorite natural element for me, and I am addicted to its endless potential for creative efforts. The range of colors and textures with it are fascinating, and I love the entire spectrum, from highly polished works, to the severely distressed and aged patinas."

Blackaby, an oil painter, has also been a woodworker since the 9th grade. His professional background included commercial art and graphic design. He also works with acrylics, stains and various chemicals merged into his wood works, a multi-media experimentation approach that goes in many directions.



PETRIFIED WOOD
Price: \$250

Duane Reed
Yakima

media: digital inkjet print

"For me, photography is about looking--seeking the abstract quality of the details found in nature, urban environments, and human forms. More than 'show' something, the image must 'do' something for me, and hopefully for viewers. The qualities of light and shape found in petrified wood satisfy this goal."

Reed, from Yakima, learned photography while in Viet Nam, and became a professional photographer doing weddings and portraits. After retirement from YVC as an English instructor, he returned to fine art photography drawn to the basic elements of the craft, the abstract image, color and digital processes.



HERITAGE
Price: \$350

Robin Mayberry
Ellensburg

media: fabric

"Heritage speaks of the resiliency of wood, and the structures it creates in our lives. Even chopped down, cut up and pieced back together, the fundamental substance of wood retains its dignified beauty, and contributes harmony as well as utility to the human family."

Mayberry is a fiber and mixed media artist whose work is richly layered, with a focus on surface quality and gentle palettes. She teaches and exhibits regularly in the central Washington area.



TORSO
Price: \$1,100

Chris Schambacher
Ellensburg

media: mixed media

"The Torso is formed from the inverted crotch of an elm tree. With hips like stumps the silky wood reveals with whimsy, under its bark attire, the structures in common with plants and animals"

Schambacher's Elephant Desk can be seen on the second floor of Science 1 Building, Central Washington University.



HARVEST BOWL
Price: \$350

Charles McGehee
Ellensburg

media: color photography

"I don't seek to create a copy of the world but strive to recreate the vision in my mind's eye following 19th Century German Romanticism. The camera is a marvelous device, but I have to fight it continually to realize the truth of my vision which is not nature or the camera."

For 35 years, McGehee taught sociology at CWU. In retirement he returned to his childhood love of photography, an art form which allows sharing his experiences and perceptions with others. He has traveled widely "painting with pixels." His work has been exhibited in Washington, San Francisco, New York, and Germany.



OLD SIENNA HOMESTEAD BUILDING ON UMPATANUM ROAD
Price: \$1,700

Veronica Fowler-Arends
Ellensburg

media: oil on panel

"The crumbling remains of a once standing building is my inspiration. In the barren structure lies the history of lives once lived and untold forgotten stories. The decaying wood will, with time, return to the soil from which it once grew. I hope to preserve a glimpse of the past for the future."

Fowler-Arends grew up with the desire to paint. For the last 30 years she has been able to realize this desire from her youth, which is to put brush to canvas and paint.



METAMORPHOSE
Price: \$350

Lena Davidson
Union Gap

media: digital photograph

"According to Norse mythology the first humans, Ask and Embla, were formed out of driftwood by the god Odin. I thought that the two pieces of driftwood on the beach looked like they were in the process of mutating into human form."

Davidson has been working as a photographer since the 1980s and her photos have been exhibited in numerous art exhibits. For years she shot black and white film in natural light and the images were completely unretouched. The past 3 years she has been experimenting with digital photography.



CRIMSON KING CONNECTION
Price: \$800

Mary Lou Rozdilsky
Yakima

media: graphite on paper

"From my family Tree Farm in Pennsylvania to my Yakima garden, trees are important in my life. I have been interacting daily with the Crimson King maple in my backyard for 17 years. It has become an intimate friend both revealed and hidden as we age together."

Rozdilsky took her first art class in 2014 and now cannot imagine life without making art. Much of her work is inspired by landscapes that hold meaning in her life and by capturing family history and memories in places, objects, figures, and faces. Graphite is a favorite media.



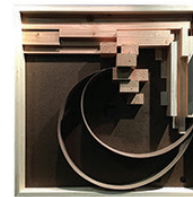
AMERICAN POLITICAL SUPPORTERS
Price: NFS (Ins. \$5500)

Richard Allen
Yakima

media: basswood, tupelo, and mahogany

"The political climate and discourse in our country at this time made me pause and reflect what America really represents. My piece speaks to this. For 74 years I have been trying to stay within the lines, apply the paint upon the canvas, and reshape wood and stone. Wood is my closest companion."

Allen migrated from Alaska to retire in Yakima where he built his wood studio and started working on life-size wildlife sculpture and complex intricate items found in real life. The challenge was to see if it could be done in wood.



SPROUT
Price: \$400

Scott Faulkner
Ellensburg

media: Douglas fir plywood and veneer

"Ideas need time to grow and develop. The idea for Sprout came from a lifetime of being fascinated by wood. Trees sprout, grow, and offer life to many. From a sprout, to a series of growth rings, to becoming a material for man-made objects, wood is natural, beautiful, and limitless."

Faulkner began working with wood as a child; building boxes, turning wood on a small lathe in his father's garage, and building tree houses. The opportunities fascinated him. Starting with carpentry and cabinet-making, education helped him understand design, work helped him understand material, and through both, wood became a way of living.



HDX
Price: \$900

John T. Bissonette
Yakima

media: acrylic, airbrush, wood, and plexiglass on panel

"This piece uses the fundamental element of illusionist depth, the vanishing point, as a structure to guide painterly abstraction. The tension created between the implication of infinite space and the acknowledgement of flatness is meant to be in dialogue with the history of abstraction and digitally mediated experience."

Prior to his current position as instructor of Art and Humanities at Yakima Valley College, Bissonette taught painting and drawing at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. John is an internationally exhibited artist and educator.