

Thirty-seventh Annual Rock Island Fine Arts Exhibition

Written by Bill Hannan
Monday, 11 March 2013 12:11

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The **Thirty-seventh Annual Rock Island Fine Arts Exhibition**, an annual juried competition co-sponsored by the Rock Island Art Guild and Augustana College, will be displayed at the Augustana College Art Museum through April 21, 2013. The competition was open to visual artists working in any media except video, and residing within a 150-mile radius of the Quad Cities. There were 100 participating artists. Juror Pamela Blotner quipped “It may be snowy and cold outside, but the Augustana College Art Museum radiates with color and energy. Inside the galleries one finds a ‘patchwork quilt’ of the Quad City area, its cityscapes, rivers, forest and farmlands.” Blotner selected 50 art works from 41 artists for the final exhibition. More than \$3,500 in awards will be presented at the reception on Friday, April 5, at 5:40 p.m.

The awards include:

First Prize (\$1000): Pam Echeverria (Cedar Falls, IA), *Qutang Gorge*, acrylics

Second Prize (\$500): Teresa Mesich (Rock Island, IL), *Bird Circus*, acrylic on canvas

Founder’s Award (\$300) for 2013 in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. G. Pierson (Pete) and Ruth

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Brauch:

Tom Voss (Bettendorf, IA), *East by West*, wood—black walnut and American chestnut

Sally MacMillan Watercolor Award (\$500): Rosalie Waranius Vass (Batavia, IL), *Spinning*, opaque watercolor

Two-dimensional Entry Award in Memory of Bernice and Stanley Harris (\$500): Peter Xiao (Rock Island, IL), *Six Heads to be Hatted*, oil on canvas with wood

Three-dimensional Freestanding Entry Award in Memory of Zeivel Harris (\$500): Dean Kugler (Davenport, IA), *Blind Control*, resin

4 Honorable Mentions, Each \$100:

Peter Van Ael (Montgomery, IL), *Swimmingly*, reduction woodcut montage

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Richard Ankeney (Galesburg, IL), *Lobster Buoys*, digital photograph

Jane L. Koski (Rock Island, IL), *"Stillness" on a Cool Summer Morning*, watercolor

George Olson (Woodhull, IL), *Prairie Study: White Vervain*, watercolor

During the exhibition visitors can vote on the People's Choice and Children's Choice awards of \$50 each. Hours for this exhibition are noon to 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays, and Sundays in April excepting the Easter break of March 29-April 3.

The 2013 juror is San Francisco Bay Area artist and curator Pamela Blotner. Over the last 20 years, much of Blotner's work has been informed by her experiences as an Illustrator/Mission Specialist on missions for Human Rights Watch, Physicians for Human Rights, and the Human Rights Center at the University of California at Berkeley. Blotner is an adjunct professor at John F. Kennedy University and St. Mary's College, on the faculty of Pixar University at Pixar Animation Studios, a member of the Women Environmental Artists Directory, and an advisor to the board of Artist's Rescue Mission in Houston, Texas. She concludes "The artists in this exhibition draw upon their native surroundings, but they take us to worlds beyond our borders. And it is a wonderful journey."

For more information, contact [309-794-7231](tel:309-794-7231) during weekday business hours.