

McDonough Museum of Art

YSU's Center for Contemporary Ideas, Art, Education + Community

Sanctuary

September 7 – October 26

Public Reception, Friday, September 7, 5-7pm

For Immediate Release:

The John J McDonough Museum of Art, on the campus of Youngstown State University opens the fall season with Sanctuary, paintings by John Guy Petruzzi. This exhibition, along with RESORT, works by Susanne Slavick and Andrew Ellis Johnson, is one of two exciting shows that will be on display in the galleries September 7-October 26. An opening reception for both exhibitions will take place on Friday, September 7 from 5-7pm. Susanne Slavick and Andrew Ellis Johnson will give a gallery talk at the reception beginning at 5pm.

John Guy Petruzzi is an Ohio artist and YSU alumnus whose watercolors explore issues of climate change, habitat loss, extinction, and ecological imbalance. In Sanctuary, he presents 11 native birds of Ohio that are classified as threatened, endangered, extirpated, and even extinct. Petruzzi uses realistic detail and coloration in combination with an unnaturally intense green tone to create flocks of birds that seem to be both magically multiplying and struggling to free themselves. This vision of plenty seems to evoke a sense of both irony and loss but is also a call to action and a message of hope. Photographs by the artist that were taken at the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary will also be on display.

Petruzzi received his M.F.A. from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in partnership with Tufts University in 2011, and his B.F.A. with an emphasis in painting from Youngstown State University in 2008. His work has been widely collected, nationally exhibited, and has been featured in publications including Hi-Fructose, New American Paintings, and the Boston Globe. He has worked as an artist in residence at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, painted professionally in the Manhattan studio of Jeff Koons, and has instructed a variety of 2-D arts at undergraduate and graduate levels.

There will be several events taking place in conjunction with the exhibition including:

John Guy Petruzzi, Sanctuary Gallery Talk

Wednesday, September 19, 5:10pm

John Guy Petruzzi, Bird Walk at Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, September 22, 9am | Guided bird walk at the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary. Register at 330.740.7107.

Sanctuary Panel Discussion: The Fate of Birds

Wednesday, October 3, 11am-12pm | Dr. Brian Bonhomme (History), Dr. Ian Renne (Biology) and John Guy Petruzzi (Art)

Sanctuary and RESORT are made possible in part by state tax dollars allocated by the Ohio Legislature to the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). The OAC is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically.

Youngstown State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, disability, age, religion or veteran/military status in its programs or activities.

McDonough galleries are open Tuesday through Saturday from 11am until 4pm.

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm.

The Museum is open to the public and admission is free.

The annual exhibition and events calendar is posted on our website
mcdonoughmuseum.yzu.edu • Follow us on facebook and Twitter!
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