

news release



akron area **arts** alliance

140 East Market Street Akron, Ohio 44308 330-376-8480 www.akronareaarts.org

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Contact: Jessie Raynor, Director
info@akronareaarts.org

For Immediate Release

Images Available on Request

News in this Release:

- **First Sculpture Show May 3-June 14**
- **Free Public Reception Friday, May 2 5-7 pm**
- **Free Sculpture Workshops**

8 Sculptors Featured at Summit Artspace

(AKRON) -- Summit Artspace Gallery is featuring its first exclusively sculpture exhibition May 3 through June 14. Titled *Off the Wall*, the show includes work by Kate Budd, John Freiman, Kenn Hetzel, Robert Huff, James Leslie, G.A. Lewis, Carey McDougall and Jessica Schlachter-Townsend. The public is invited to a meet-the-artists reception Friday, May 2 from 5 to 7 pm.

The exhibition's curator is sculptor Don Parsisson, a member of the gallery's advisory committee. *Off the Wall* includes sculpture created in a variety of traditional and non-traditional media – metal, ceramics, wood, wax, and found objects. The works also deal with a variety of ideas and emotions.

“As in the past, much contemporary sculpture still concerns itself with an object,” Parsisson said. “But today’s sculptors often draw our attention to something beyond the object itself. In *Off The Wall*, I wanted to present a collection that invites viewers to examine both what the works are and what they might mean.”

During the show, there will be two free Saturday workshops:

May 17 Fanciful Wire Sculpture with Mark Jaroszewski

May 31 Wire & Plastic Sculpture with Nina Rasmussen

Both are from 1 to 3 pm. Interested people should register by email at psargent@neo.rr.com.

Summit Artspace is a project of the Akron Area Arts Alliance in cooperation with Summit County government. The gallery is located at 140 E. Market St. in a historic, art deco building one block east of the Akron Art Museum. Admission and parking are free. Exhibition hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday noon to 5 pm.

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*The Akron Area Arts Alliance is a non-profit advocacy group.
Its membership includes 48 arts and cultural organizations plus 80 arts supporters.
The gallery is supported by the Akron Community Foundation, Mary S. and
David C. Corbin Foundation and Ohio Arts Council.*

About the Artists

West Akron residents

Kate Budd -- An associate professor at Myers School of Art, University of Akron, Budd works in carved wax and mixed media. She was born in 1969 in Nairobi, Kenya and has degrees from Grays School of Art in Aberdeen, Scotland and Southern Illinois University. Her luminous wax forms often hint at psychosexual drama.

John Freiman – A member of the Artists of Rubber City, Freiman will be presenting an installation piece of wood.

Robert J. Huff – Huff, who creates in stone, teaches sculpture at Myers School of Art, University of Akron. He earned a BFA from the University of Akron in 1977 and MFA degree from Ohio State University in 1980.

Wadsworth resident

G.A. Lewis -- A self-taught artist with the exception of several classes at the Myers School of Art, University of Akron, Lewis's works in stone and bronze.

Mantua resident

Kenn Hetzel – Hetzel, a teacher at Chagrin Falls High School, works in wood, cast steel and stone.

Streetsboro resident

Jessica Schlachter-Townsend – This graduate student is a metalsmith. She will be showing large vessels created in copper and enamel.

Canton resident

Carey McDougall -- This mixed media artist, who teaches at Kent State University, will be presenting works in fabric and embroidery. A graduate of Oberlin College, she also earned a MFA from the University of Connecticut. Her work often deals with individuality and women's identity issues.

Rootstown resident

James Leslie – Leslie creates clay sculptures that celebrate the diversity of life that is revealed in natural objects and living organisms in and along the ocean and its shores. He recently earned an MFA from Kent State University.