Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum

Birds in Art
September 10 – November 27, 2022

Presenting Sponsor

Media Sponsor
Majestic yet fragile, birds connect us with the natural world. Heralding each sunrise and gathering at dusk, these harbingers of seasonal and environmental change endlessly fascinate and enthrall. The 47th annual, internationally renowned exhibition features all-new paintings, sculptures, and graphics by 118 worldwide artists. Visit often this fall to explore the varied array of perspectives.

Birds in Art Opening Day
Saturday, September 10

Meet the Artists  9 am – Noon
Dozens of artists migrate to the Museum from throughout the country and world for Birds in Art opening festivities. Renew artist acquaintances, foster new friendships, and get your 2022 catalogue and posters signed.

Artist Presentation  9:30 – 10:30 am
Elizabeth Turk talks about her work and her exhibition, Tipping Point: Echoes of Extinction.

Artists in Action  10:45 am – Noon
How do artists create and achieve astounding results utilizing an array of honed skills and techniques? Gain insights while watching Birds in Art artists at work in various mediums in the sculpture garden.

Wausau’s Artrageous Weekend
Saturday & Sunday, September 10 & 11
This four-venue, admission-free extravaganza features artwork in various styles; for details, check www.lywam.org/birds-in-art/wausaus-artrageous-weekend.

Art in the Park  Marathon Park
Saturday 9 am – 5 pm; Sunday 9 am – 4 pm

Festival of Arts & Center for the Visual Arts Downtown Wausau
Saturday 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am – 4 pm

Birds in Art  Opening Weekend
Saturday 9 am – 5 pm; Sunday 10 am – 5 pm
Tipping Point: Echoes of Extinction
September 10 – October 23

Visualize avian voices via sculptures inspired by the recorded calls of extinct or endangered birds. Resembling a forest of vertical forms, the sculptures by California- and New York-based artist Elizabeth Turk are enhanced by interactive elements: scannable recordings of the lost or endangered birds’ voices.

The recordings, many sourced from the Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, are visually represented by lines of varying lengths. After California wildfires drastically depleted bird populations, Turk began re-orienting the sonograms vertically and into three dimensions for her sculptures. “These structures,” Turk said, “are made for interaction to prompt thought and spark conversation by begging the question, ‘Are we creating a silence?’”

Turk is the featured speaker on opening day of Tipping Point and Birds in Art, Saturday morning, September 10.

Clockwise, Ivory-billed Woodpecker, 2020, walnut; Hyacinth Macaw, 2020, anodized aluminum; The Air We Breathe 2, Suite of 5, 2020, charcoal and Getty fire ash on paper, photos courtesy of Hirschl & Adler Galleries

Support for the Elizabeth Turk exhibition and public program comes from the Community Arts Grant Program of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, with funds provided by the Wisconsin Arts Board, a state agency; the Community Foundation; and the B. A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation.

September 22 Thursday 10:30 am – Noon

SPARK!

Adults with early-to-mid-stage memory loss and their care partners enjoy an interactive, guided experience in the Birds in Art galleries followed by hands-on art making inspired by avian themes. Register online at www.lywam.org/learn-do/program-registration or call 715.845.7010.

Programming for adults with memory loss is generously supported by Abbie Spire in memory of Dr. Lyman J. Spire.

On each Thursday evening during Birds in Art, the Museum remains open until 7:30 pm. On four evenings, Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra ensembles provide music to enhance gallery strolls at 5:30 & 6:30 pm on Thursdays, September 29, October 13 and 27, and November 10. Several Thursday evenings also include presentations or gallery walks, too.
September 28  Wednesday 10 am – Noon
Making @ the Museum
Watercolor
Drop-in for creative experimentation with watercolor techniques in the Museum’s classroom studio.

October 6  Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Gallery Walk
Explore two-dimensional artworks in Birds in Art as Museum educator Rachel Hausmann-Schall offers guided observation and conversation.

October 13  Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 pm
“Why Do Birds Sing?”
Guest-Speaker Presentation
Join Lauren Ritters, University of Wisconsin-Madison professor in the Department of Integrative Biology’s area of Behavioral Neuroscience, for a presentation exploring the means and motivation behind bird song. Although scientists have known for decades how birds sing, why they sing remains a puzzle. Do they sing for pleasure, love, or to mark a territory? How do birds know when and what to sing? During her presentation, which complements Elizabeth Turk’s Tipping Point, Dr. Ritters explores these questions and addresses what birds learn by listening to songs, all in tandem with the Wisconsin Science Festival.

October 20  Thursday 10:30 am – Noon
SPARK!
Adults with early-to-mid-stage memory loss and their care partners gather for an interactive, guided experience in Elizabeth Turk’s Tipping Point: Echoes of Extinction exhibition, followed by hands-on art making inspired by observations and conversations. Register online at www.lywam.org/learn-do/program-registration or call 715.845.7010.
Programming for adults with memory loss is generously supported by Abbie Spire in memory of Dr. Lyman J. Spire.

October 20  Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Gallery Walk
Explore three-dimensional artworks in Birds in Art as Museum educator Catie Anderson offers guided observation and conversation.

October 22  Saturday 10:30 am – Noon
Art Beyond Sight
Individuals with low vision and blindness explore avian-themed artworks via multisensory experiences with Museum educators. Time in the galleries is followed by guided art making in the Museum’s classroom studio. Register online at www.lywam.org/learn-do/program-registration or call 715.845.7010.

Go to www.wisconsinsciencefest.org for the entire Wisconsin Science Festival schedule, October 10-16.
October 26  Wednesday 10 am – Noon
Making @ the Museum

Contour Creations
Line drawings and sketches designed to become wire sculptures are the focus of this month’s drop-in art making for all ages.

Call for High School Poetry
Submit Entries November 1 – January 15, 2023
The Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, organizer of an annual student poetry contest, joins forces with the Woodson Art Museum, inviting high school students to participate in a statewide ekphrastic poetry competition. Students will write and submit poems inspired by artwork images from the Museum’s collection. Additional information and entry guidelines will be available on the Museum website beginning October 1. Entries accepted November 1 through January 15, 2023. An installation of the winning poems and collection artworks will follow.

November 3  Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Gallery Walk
Join curator of collections Amalia Wojciechowski for insights into Midwest Modernisms, featuring artwork from the Museum’s collection.

Exhibition Extras

Birds in Art Catalogue & Posters
The re-designed catalogue features every artwork along with artists’ statements; $22.50. Three distinct posters; $7.50 each.

Audio Tour Birds in Art artists are highlighted via videos on the Museum’s YouTube channel, accessed on your smartphone or tablet; all free!

Activity Guide Use this free guide, designed for all ages, to enhance bird-themed gallery ventures. Available in print at the Museum and online at www.lywam.org/activity-guides.

Art Kits & Stop-by Studio Pick up Art Kits – free, take-and-make art materials for all ages – in the Museum or from the always-open Stop-by Studio, for in-gallery or at-home art making.

Art Park Explore avian-themed, hands-on activities in the Museum’s interactive family gallery, where imaginations take flight.

Art à la Carte Gather at a table and chairs with an Activity Guide or for art making with an Art Kit. Seize pop-up opportunities, too, when the Art à la Carte appears.

From top: Rose Tanner, Long Migration, 2022, oil on Belgian linen; Tony Craig, Blue Jay Way (with Book Art by Walter A. Weber), 2022, watercolor and acrylic on Aquarelle hot press watercolor paper
Wausau native and first-time *Birds in Art* artist Sean Russell uses photographic transfer processes as the foundation for his mixed-media artworks. By building up layers of texture and imagery, Russell explores themes like beauty and destruction and growth and decay. Learn about Sean’s inspiration and techniques during a Night Out @ the Woodson talk and a weekend workshop.

**November 10** Thursday 5:30 – 6:30 pm

**Guest Artist Talk**

Join *Birds in Art* artist Sean Russell as he discusses the concepts and techniques inspiring his artwork. Featuring varied subjects, from geographical landscapes to flora and fauna, Russell’s artwork combines photography with mixed-media processes.

**November 12 & 13** Saturday & Sunday 10 am – 4 pm

**Mixed-Media Workshop**

During this two-day workshop for teens and adults, *Birds in Art* artist Sean Russell teaches participants mixed-media techniques inspired by subjects of their choice. Learn image-transfer processes and how to combine drawing, painting, photography, and collage into mixed-media creations on panel. Total fee: $85 for members; $100 for non-members; includes all materials and lunch both days. Scholarships available. Register online at https://www.lywam.org/learn-do/program-registration or call 715.845.7010.

A grant from the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation supports the Sean Russell artist residency.

**November 16** Wednesday 10 am – Noon

**Making @ the Museum**

**Mixed Media**

All ages are invited to explore mixed-media art making in the Museum’s classroom studio, incorporating found images with layers of applied color and pattern.

August 28, 2022 through January 29, 2023

The idea of the Midwest as a geographic region with fluid borders in the mid-twentieth century when artists navigated, negotiated, and incorporated international and regional influences, is at the heart of this exhibition drawn from the Museum’s collection.

Artists such as Schomer Lichtner and Ruth Grotenrath, who translated wide-reaching, global inspirations including the collages of Henri Matisse and the silkscreens of Pop Art, exemplify this negotiation. Homegrown subjects seemed natural to others, like Andy Warhol, who referenced their birthplaces and mined Midwestern themes throughout their careers.

The exhibition highlights how artists embraced modernism in its many forms, while anchoring their imagery in local landscapes and avian themes. Through more than forty artworks, the exhibition explores how New York City-centered modernism is fractured and translated into multiple art movements—modernisms—with distinct regional characteristics.

From left: Andy Warhol, Rooster, ca. 1957, ink and watercolor on paper; Chaim Gross, Mother Bird, 1961, bronze; Schomer Lichtner, Untitled (Rooster), ca. 1940, casein on kraft paper

For refreshing, alfresco views, step into this rooftop space featuring sculptures along with a pergola and seating options, all designed to encourage visitors to enjoy art, nature, and seasonally changing vistas. Artwork includes recently installed sculptures by Deborah Butterfield, Lucinda McEachern, and Paul Rhymer; also featured are sculptures by Walter T. Matia, Bart Walter, Don Rambadt, Simon Gudgeon, Louise Peterson, Ken Newman, and Harriet Whitney Frishmuth.

Rooftop Sculpture Garden
Acknowledgments

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Museum Hours

Tuesday – Friday 9 am – 4 pm
Thursdays during *Birds in Art* 9 am – 7:30 pm
Saturday – Sunday Noon – 5 pm
Closed Monday and holidays, including Thanksgiving

Contact Us

Phone: 715.845.7010
Email: info@lywam.org
Online: www.lywam.org

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Weekly blog Woodson Wanderings

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Cover: Sherrie York, *Out of the Blue* (1/20), 2021, reduction linocut on Rives BFK paper

This page, from top: Marcel Witte, *Multicultural* (detail), 2022, acrylic on Belgian linen; Harro Maass, *Treasure Hunters*, 2022, acrylic on linen