

## VISUAL ART

## 2007 GUEST VISUAL ARTS CURATOR

**Shannon Stratton** completed both her MFA and MA in Art History, Theory and Criticism from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In 2004 she joined Jonathan Rhodes, Jeff M. Ward and Sonia Yoon in founding ThreeWalls, a non-profit organization dedicated to art and art education. She currently teaches at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Harrington College of Design and writes exhibition essays, criticism and nonfiction. Stratton was recently awarded a 2007 Graduate Research Award from the Craft Research Fund in support of her thesis research, which she will present at the November 2007 conference Neocraft: Modernity and the Crafts at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

**Preferred Lofts**

1552-54 N Milwaukee Ave,  
2nd and 3rd Floors

Friday, October 12; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Saturday, October 13; 11<sup>am</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Sunday, October 14; 11<sup>am</sup>-6<sup>pm</sup>  
\$10, Free with Festival Pass

Nearly 100 emerging visual artists will be exhibiting on two floors of this gorgeous loft building donated for festival use by Preferred Development. Many of these artists are first time festival participants and are graduates of some of the best art schools in Chicago and across the country. There are also four Project Spaces on each floor of the building dedicated to the exhibition of installation art and sculpture. Be sure to catch projects by Veronica Felix (2nd Floor, Project Space A) and Fereshteh Toosi (2nd Floor, Project Space D). Also stop by booths featuring some of Wicker Park's newest galleries, all members of the Wicker Park Bucktown Gallery Association ([www.wpbga.com](http://www.wpbga.com)).

**Flatiron Arts Building**

1579 N Milwaukee Ave  
Friday, October 12; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Saturday, October 13; 11<sup>am</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Sunday, October 14; 11<sup>am</sup>-6<sup>pm</sup>  
\$10, Free with Festival Pass

Over 60 visual artists will be exhibiting in their studios and throughout the hallways of this historic Wicker Park building. This venue combines artists of many styles and backgrounds, both seasoned festival artists and new exhibitors. Be sure to stop by the studio of well known Chicago painter, Adam Siegel (studio 300) and also the studio of new resident, William August Hunter (studio 225). Don't miss paintings by Agata Czeremuszkin (201A) and new work by Lauren Levato (322C). Finally, don't forget to visit the Around the Coyote Gallery (studio 228) for live music, literary performances, film and video presentations, and the Curator's Choice exhibition.

**Wicker Park Fieldhouse**

1425 N Damen Ave  
Friday, October 12; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Saturday, October 13; 11<sup>am</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Sunday, October 14; 11<sup>am</sup>-6<sup>pm</sup>  
\$10, Free with Festival Pass

Nearly 40 artists will be showing at the Wicker Park Fieldhouse this year! Don't miss work by some great artists including photographer Nathan Hill (#9) and painter Kristin Komar (#18). After checking out the visual art, be sure to see outdoor mixed media sculptures by Sze Lin Pang, Rich Mansfield, and Emily Gustafson.

**Shops of Wicker Park**

1240 N Ashland Ave  
Friday, October 12; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Saturday, October 13; 11<sup>am</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>  
Sunday, October 14; 11<sup>am</sup>-6<sup>pm</sup>  
\$10, Free with Festival Pass

Nearly 30 artists working in a variety of media – painting, sculpture and photography – will be exhibiting. Winter 2006 Curator's Choice Award winner Kiley Piercy (SWP 7) and veteran festival artist Oana Sturza (SWP 10) are two must-sees.

## SPECIAL VISUAL ARTS PROJECTS

### Curator's Choice Exhibition

Around the Coyote Gallery, 1935 ½ W North Ave

Friday, October 12; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>

Saturday, October 13; 11<sup>am</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>

Sunday, October 14; 11<sup>am</sup>-6<sup>pm</sup>

\$10, Free with Festival Pass

This year's guest curator, Shannon Stratton, has curated a selection of the festival's strongest artists into the Curator's Choice Exhibition, on display at the Around the Coyote Gallery. Considered the 'best of the fest,' this select group of works will be available for sale, with a portion of the proceeds going toward Around the Coyote's arts and education programming. Stratton, co-founder and Chief Curator of ThreeWalls, has worked as both artist and administrator. She has both an M.A. (Art History, Theory and Criticism) and an MFA from SAIC. She currently teaches at SAIC and Harrington College of Design and writes exhibition essays, criticism, and nonfiction. Curator's Choice Artists: Agata Czeremuszkin, Mara Baker, Craig Anderson, Leah Hessler, Sophia Pichinos, Iwona Biedermann, Lisa Lindvay, Austin Eddy, Sari Maxfield, and Robert Burnier.

### WPBGA Second Saturday Gallery Walk

Saturday, October 13; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10<sup>pm</sup>

Participating Galleries Include: Around the Coyote Gallery, Caro D'Offay Gallery, Johnsonese Gallery, David Leonardis Gallery, The Green Lantern Gallery, Gosia Koscielak Studio & Gallery,

Check out some of Wicker Park's most interesting spaces at The Wicker Park / Bucktown Gallery Association's Second Saturday Gallery Walk at multiple venues throughout Wicker Park and Bucktown. The WPBGA is an organization of galleries in the Wicker Park and Bucktown neighborhoods (roughly defined with the southern border at Division, the northern border at Fullerton, the western border at Western, and the eastern border at the Chicago River). The WPBGA is made up of a myriad of spaces including commercial, non profit, as well as alternative, mixed use, and apartment galleries.

The WPBGA works to promote Wicker Park and Bucktown as a visual arts destination for collectors and art world professionals, while actively working to attract new galleries to the neighborhood. The WPBGA promotes the artists and programs of its members through advertising, public programs, and collaborative events.

The WPBGA will have a free shuttle service provided by their sponsor iGo Car Sharing for all those not into the "walking" part of the Gallery Walk or for those who just don't have a lot of time, but want to see all the galleries. Two cars will stop approximately every 15 minutes at each of the galleries participating in the Gallery Walk offering to shuttle patrons on to the next gallery. The drivers will announce themselves at each gallery, making it easy to jump on the shuttle!

## VISUAL ART AT THE CHOPIN

### Tragic Result

Curated by Tracey Drobot, Around the Coyote Curatorial Intern

Chopin Theatre, 1543 W Division St

Friday, October 12; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10:30<sup>pm</sup>

Saturday, October 13; 4<sup>am</sup>-10:30<sup>pm</sup>

Sunday, October 14; 2<sup>am</sup>-9<sup>pm</sup>

\$10, Free with Festival Pass

In correlation with The Hypocrites production of Desire Under the Elms this exhibition explores the human condition and the visual and emotional reaction to tragedy. In Desire Under the Elms, themes of greed, lust, love, and loss unfold as a family struggles with the human condition. Artists Bill Stone and Pamela Johnson each provoke raw emotions, as a sole figure is the focus of their paintings. Fear, isolation, loneliness, chaos, and aggression are all represented in these powerful pieces.

Pamela Johnson's latest body of work explores many of the emotions that are inherent in humanity. Isolated, bare, and stripped of all visual distractions, the emotional state of the model is the central component to the painting. Through these images the complexities of the human condition and all of its struggles are examined. Images are carefully composed on the canvas to intensify the feelings presented.

Bill Stone's new collection of work, Living in Fear, is created in response to the violence that surrounds us. Domestic abuse. School shootings. Random violence. We know the victims. The setting is familiar. At the time of confrontation, the innocent flinch.

### Examination of Self and Body

Curated by Tracey Drobot, Around the Coyote Curatorial Intern

Chopin Theatre, 1543 W Division St

Friday, October 12; 6<sup>pm</sup>-10:30<sup>pm</sup>

Saturday, October 13; 4<sup>am</sup>-10:30<sup>pm</sup>

Sunday, October 14; 2<sup>am</sup>-9<sup>pm</sup>

\$10, Free with Festival Pass

This exhibition explores the transition of the body as seen through and examined by artists Jaime Andersen, Agata Czeremuszkin, and Aneka Vanderhill. These women have a very different interpretation of the same subject, the human form.

Jaime Andersen's images are constructed from experiences both internal and external. Sources include fashion catalogs, dance performances, children's books, cognitive therapy, and childhood memories and fantasies. Her work is defined by the conflict between self-conscious presentation and raw expression. *continues on the next page ...*

## Examination of Self and Body

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Agata Czeremuskin's style can be described as a mixture of a new figurative representation and geometric movements of the 20th century, when color was most important. But for years Agata's main theme has remained the same - the human body. The way she paints the body is becoming clearer and clearer and she is more conscious of it with each work. The new series of her oil paintings are inspired by the human figure in pure biological sense.

Aneka Vanderhill has always loved to study the faces of people as she talks with them. Her work begins by taking photographs, collecting images, and recalling memories of people. She then extracts the features that touch her and excite her to create a new face, layering colors that transform into emotions that these people are feeling. They are pensive, introspective, and scarred with pigment. These women she paints confront us with their gaze, through layers of superficial adornment. Their skin says something about their life experiences, but their eyes tell us about their spirit. Making these portraits helps her to find her own sense of being and confidence in individuality, and yet she also feels there is unity in the female experience.

## CURATED VISUAL ART VENUES

### Visual Art from the Theatre Collaboration Workshop

Curated by Jessica Cochran,  
Around the Coyote Festival Coordinator

#### Chopin Theatre, 1543 W Division St

Visual Art by Sadie Harmon and Caroline Voagen Nelson  
On view during performances. For complete schedule, see page 27

#### Shops of Wicker Park, 1300 N Ashland Ave

Visual Art by Shawn Stucky and Caroline Picard  
On view during performances. For complete schedule, see page 29

This year, Around the Coyote, in partnership with the Chicago Improv Festival, is proud to present our first ever Collaboration Workshop, an attempt to foster dialogue across disciplines while asking relevant questions about the difficulties and particularities of collaborative practices. The workshop united playwrights and improv groups with visual artists and musicians—the results of their collaborative efforts—full scale theatrical productions—are debuting during the festival at the Chopin Theatre and our theatre space located at the Shops of Wicker Park.

The visual art on display at each of these venues were the works that served as creative inspiration for each workshop production. In addition to their installation as temporary exhibitions in each of the venues, each work has been creatively integrated into the performances themselves.

## Fall 2007 Artist-in-Residence, Haseeb Ahmed

Around the Coyote Gallery, 1935 ½ W North Ave

On view throughout the festival weekend

\$10, free with festival pass.



Haseeb Ahmed is the principal builder, artist, and caretaker of this site-specific work created throughout the month of August in our gallery. The project is called Sheet Mosque, and seeks to provide two prayer spaces that serve as mosques for the individual. This project was part of a larger installation on view throughout September at the Around the Coyote Gallery titled Common Sense, in which Ahmed sought to illustrate the ways in which geography and dependence on grand structures can be stripped away from the practice of Islam, refocusing the practice on the individual believer. Ahmed is a native of Toledo, Ohio and will be receiving a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Architecture and a Bachelors of Arts in Visual and Critical Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In addition to this project Ahmed is working on a reading room, a critical and intellectual space, for the Downtown Islamic Center as a founding member of Studio Jeeraan. Haseeb Ahmed has exhibited in alternative and commercial galleries in the United States, Germany, Switzerland, and Israel.

The Around the Coyote Artist-in-Residence program occurs twice a year and offers our gallery to an artist for a month for the creation of a site-specific, non-market driven art installation. There is a \$750 stipend for each project and it is curated through open applications. To find out more about the program including how to apply, visit [www.aroundthecoyote.org/gallery/residence/](http://www.aroundthecoyote.org/gallery/residence/).

Haseeb will be giving a lecture on his piece, October 14 at 1<sup>pm</sup>.  
See page 17 for more details

## Fall 2007 Muralist-in-Residence, Mike Nelson

Nelson has created a mural in the entryway of the Around the Coyote Gallery (1935 ½ W. North Avenue) that will be in place until September 2008. The mural, titled Invasive Species, deals with cycles and processes of fictional historical and scientific events, specifically the colonization of the New World. Nelson has also created murals specifically for this festival above the Chopin Theatre entrance (1543 W. Division) and a 200 foot long mural that wraps around the Flatiron Building at the corner of North Ave and Milwaukee Avenue (space donated by Clune Construction Company and Bank of America). Around the Coyote's year-long muralist-in-residence program seeks to provide public art opportunities for the outstanding muralists and graffiti artists around the country. The residency is awarded through an open application process.

For more information go to [www.aroundthecoyote.org/education/murals](http://www.aroundthecoyote.org/education/murals).

