



**NEWSLETTER**  
Winter-Spring 2015

University Museum  
Sutton Hall, first floor  
1011 South Drive  
724-357-2397  
[www.iup.edu/museum](http://www.iup.edu/museum)

2015 M.F.A.  
Thesis Exhibitions  
Through March 5  
in the Museum  
and in  
Sprowls Hall Galleries

Museum collection  
grows

Meet the  
University Museum  
Board of Directors

View art  
by appointment in  
the Official University  
Residence



## 2015 Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition opens in the University Museum and Sprowls Hall galleries

by Laura Krulikowski



Nicole Gencarelli, art student, views Eric Brennan's 16-foot pastel and charcoal landscape depicting a comparison of the unique qualities of human skin to the topography of the world. (Kipp Gallery Annex)

THE 2015 MASTER OF FINE ARTS THESIS EXHIBITION celebrates the creative accomplishments of eight emerging artists who are in the final stages of their graduate program. The M.F.A. degree signals the highest level of academic achievement for visual artists in the USA. Culminating three years of hard work, the artworks on view explore the intersection between each medium's tradition, contemporary practice, and personal vision. The exhibition is installed across three IUP venues, the University Museum, Kipp Gallery, and Kipp Annex Gallery and features M.F.A. candidates Bayan Albaheth, Eric Brennan, Garick Tai-Lee, Danna Rzecznik, Nicole Paulina, Peter Mullen, Jim Battistelli, and Tyler Rahl.

*continued on page 4*



## Museum collection grows with recent gifts and purchases

by Donna Cashdollar

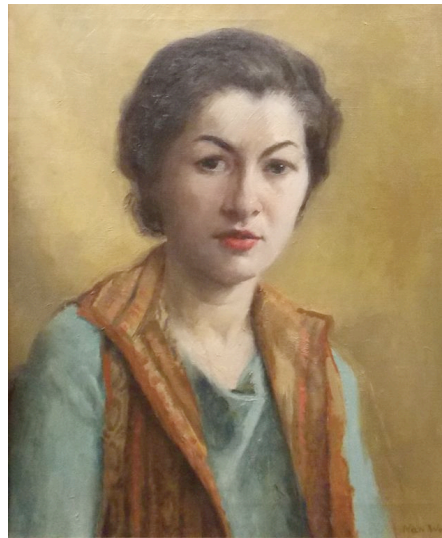
ENTERING THE HOME of retired faculty artist Robert Hamilton in November 2014 was like opening an early holiday present. On the



walls and around the floor of one room were 31 works of art that Mr. Hamilton has donated to the University Museum from his personal collection, including several of his own mixed media sculptures and pieces of sculptural jewelry.

Paintings, drawings, and original prints by past IUP faculty artists Robert Cronauer, James Innes, Orval Kipp, Joanne Lovett, Jean Slenker, and Ned Wert were included in this and other gifts to the museum since July 2013 – a total of 48 art works donated.

Also among the works in the Hamilton gift were six drawings by Milton Bancroft, an American artist who was active early in the



20th century. Bancroft made these drawings in France at the end of World War I, where he sketched the devastated landscapes of the battle zone and the activities of French citizens and American soldiers at the war's end.

The other gifts to the museum included a gouache painting of the exotic **Horned Guan, Mexico**, donated by bird artist and preservationist David Tomb from the museum's spring 2014 exhibition "Roots and Wings."

Clyde McGeary donated an oil portrait of **Mrs. Rodriguez** by the Scots-American artist Nan Watson (active 1900-1950).

In 2013-2014, the museum bought several American works for the collection, using funds raised at the museum galas and endowed funds dedicated to purchasing art. A cast-bronze sculpture by local artist John McCombie, **Red Tail Hawk**, was purchased at auction (in cooperation with IUP) and will be installed on an outdoor pedestal at the IUP president's residence. Other auction purchases were **Elm Street** by IUP alumnus Chuck Olson; **Path in the Forest**, an oil landscape by Lila Hetzel of our region's Scalp Level Group; and a watercolor **Portrait of Faith Reyher** by 20th-century modernist William Zorach.

The museum also purchased three works directly from artists or their galleries: **The Passage**, an oil painting by Maura Koehler Keeney from the exhibition "Roots and Wings," and **The Ogun Sisters** and **Men of Iron**, original limited edition prints by Newark artist Willie Cole that appeared in the museum's fall 2014 exhibition "Irons: Functional Tools to Art Objects."

Many of these works will be shown at The Artists Hand Gallery on Philadelphia Street, April 7 through May 2, when the University Museum goes downtown. ☺

Clockwise from top left: Robert Hamilton's silver pendant mounted in a walnut shadow box; **Mrs. Rodriguez** by Nan Watson; **Hatteras Light, Outer Banks** by Robert Cronauer

Page 3: **Coming Through the Rye** by Frederic Remington; **Walrus Hunter** by Putugu Matiusi



## Meet the Board: Exhibitions Coordinator Bill Double

by Becky Driscoll

WHEN BILL and Linda Jane Double decided to retire to Indiana, it was not yet clear that moving closer to their daughter in the Pittsburgh area would also move Bill into new projects that would keep him busy. Very busy.

The Doubles decided to attend the University Museum gala as a way to meet people in town. As a retired art teacher, Bill was a great fit for the Museum board, and was soon recruited. After working for a time with the graduate assistant in charge of hanging exhibitions, Bill took over those duties, and is now Exhibitions Coordinator and chairs the exhibition committee of the Museum board.

So far, Bill has worked to put on some 35 shows in the Museum, and continues to plan for exhibits years into the future. “We’re looking right now at the schedule for 2017,” Bill says, “as well as putting finishing touches on exhibits for this summer. The iron exhibit (“Irons: Functional Tools to Art Objects,” Sept. 13-Nov. 8, 2014) took four years to put together, from working with the donor through opening the show.”

Asked which of the shows he’s worked on is his favorite, one gets the sense that it’s like asking a fond parent to choose between his children. “Roots and Wings” (April 5-May 16, 2014) turned out very well—



of President Michael Driscoll and his wife, Becky.

The collection exhibited in the Official University Residence features works by locally celebrated artists (the newest piece to find its place there is by John McCombie), as well as works by the internationally famous (e.g. Picasso and Remington). “One of the most amazing things about the group here,” says First Lady Becky Driscoll, “is how eclectic it is. We’ve got



a teacher, along with work by her students.”

On Bill’s wish-list for the museum is more collaboration with other PASSHE schools. He continues to be active in the local arts community, and at the Artist’s Hand. And he’s gone from meeting new people at the gala to co-chairing this year’s event. Busy indeed. ∞

Above: Bill can often be found on a ladder in the Museum, installing an exhibition. Inset: Sporting steampunk style at the 2014 museum gala.

## View art by appointment in the Official Residence

IN ADDITION TO EXHIBITS IN the Museum proper, the University Museum at IUP shares its treasures in many locations on campus. One you may not have seen yet is the collection in the home

a large collection of indigenous sculpture in the same room with **Coming Through the Rye**, a Remington sculpture featuring four cowboys riding hard. We have small traditional landscapes as well as a few large pieces, abstract and representational, bright and subtle. There’s something for every mood.”

While there are no established visiting hours, Becky welcomes appointments.

You can contact her at 724-357-2661 or [rdriscoll@iup.edu](mailto:rdriscoll@iup.edu).

“I really love showing these pieces off. Every time someone new sees them, I get a fresh look.” ∞



Graduate Coordinator and Professor of Painting Susan Palmisano describes the exhibition as “a chorus of rich and varied artistic voices, culminating three years of intense preparation and research. Sources of creative inspiration vary widely, with some artists looking inward to their spiritual, intellectual or emotional selves while others gaze outward, locating experiences from everyday life. These motivations then intersect with contemporary culture and the traditions of craft to express timely relevance.”

The exhibition is on view February 7 through March 5, 2015 with a public reception Saturday, February 7, 6-8:30 pm in all venues. Opportunities to hear the candidates speak about their work are scheduled for Tuesday, February 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the University Museum and Tuesday, February 24 at 5:00 p.m. in the Kipp Galleries.

This exhibition is supported, in part, by the Student Cooperative Association at IUP. The University Museum at IUP receives state arts funding through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, through the Pennsylvania Rural Arts Alliance. For more information please contact the University Museum at 724-357-2397. ☞



Above: Six of the eight M.F.A. candidates gathered in the University Museum for a group photograph. From left to right they are: Peter Mullen, Garick Tai-Lee, James Battistelli, Nicole Paulina, Tyler Rahl, and Eric Brennan. Not pictured: Bayan Albaheth and Danna Rzecznik

Inset left: Bayan Albaheth's sculpture inspired by Arabic calligraphy

## 2015 M.F.A. THESIS EXHIBITION

### University Museum

Sutton Hall First Floor,  
1011 South Drive  
Indiana, PA 15705

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday  
2:00-6:30 p.m.

Thursday 12:00-7:30 p.m.

Saturday 12:00-4:00 p.m.

### Kipp Gallery & Gallery Annex

Sprolws Hall First Floor  
470 South 11th Street

Indiana, PA 15705

Tuesday-Friday 12:00-4:00 p.m.

## MUSEUM CALENDAR Winter•Spring 2015

“2015 M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition”  
February 7 through March 5  
Public reception 6:00-8:30 p.m.

M.F.A. candidates speaking  
February 17, 5:00 p.m.  
in the University Museum  
and  
February 24, 5:00 p.m.  
in the Sprolws galleries

Exhibition in the Museum:  
“High School Art Invitational”  
March 28 through May 16  
Public reception April 11,  
1:00-5:00 p.m.

Exhibition in The Artists Hand:  
“Recent Acquisitions”  
April 7 through May 2  
Public reception April 10,  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

## ADMISSION - FREE MUSEUM REGULAR HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday  
2:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday 12:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday, Monday, and  
all university holidays