

ARToledo 2018: Chrysalis
Our Emerging Artists Exhibit
July 13 – September 29, 2018

20 NORTH
GALLERY
18 N. St. Clair Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604 419-241-2400
20northgallery.com — info@20northgallery.com

An exhibition of paintings in three separate media—oil, acrylic and digital—by three Toledo-area emerging artists, Samantha Bell-Koch, Martha Evans and Kerry Kirkpatrick.

Since its founding in 1993, 20 North Gallery has periodically hosted emerging artists exhibits, promoting the development of promising new talent in the Toledo art landscape. *ARToledo* is a small group exhibition artists which provides the opportunity to nurture and retain Toledo's rising artistic talent, giving new artists a chance to enter the commercial art market in their home community—while providing Toledo collectors the opportunity for a first view of the future of Toledo's rich, continuing art legacy.

Samantha Bell-Koch
MIXED-MEDIA PAINTING
Martha Evans
OIL PAINTING
Kerry Kirkpatrick
DIGITAL IMAGING AND PAINTING

View the online catalogue at 20northgallery.com

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Our Emerging Artists Exhibition
July 13 - September 29, 2018

Free Public Reception
Friday, July 13, 6 - 9 p.m.



Detail images by: Martha Evans; Kerry Kirkpatrick;
Samantha Bell-Koch. © 2018, 20 North Gallery. All rights reserved.



20 NORTH
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Gallery Hours:
Wed. - Sat.
Noon - 4 p.m.
Or By Appointment

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The use of blue text for the artist's name indicates a link to the artist's website.

All measurements provided for artists' work reflect image size, without framing.

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About the Exhibit

Designed as a competitive show, the 2018 *ARToledo* exhibition was open to Ohio and Toledo-area artists who have prepared a body of work, but who have not yet been a featured artist in any commercial gallery venues prior to the *ARToledo* exhibit. The 2018 exhibition juror is Maralee Hope. Ms. Hope's professional career in the arts began in 2009, as 20 North Gallery's first academic intern. She received her B.A. in Art History from the University of Toledo (Ohio) and her M.A. in Contemporary Art and Sales from Sotheby's Institute of Art (New York). She currently works as the Presale Shipping Coordinator at Christie's auction house in New York City.

Ms. Hope has curated an engaging exhibit of beautiful and vivid paintings by three talented women in our community. Although each artist works in a different style and medium of paint, their work contains interlocking narratives of life, mortality and our relationship to the natural world.

Samantha Bell-Koch and Kerry Kirkpatrick are recent graduates from The University of Toledo (Ohio) and Bowling Green State University (Ohio), respectively. Martha Evans received her degree in art from The University of Toledo more than two decades ago, but has worked professionally outside the arts since then. All three have enjoyed regional community exhibitions, yet still identify as 'emerging.' Their common pursuit of commercial representation in *ARToledo*, marking a transition in their careers—paired with their combined themes of nature and rebirth—has inspired the subtitle for this exhibit, 'Chrysalis.'

After this exhibit at 20 North Gallery, we look forward to following their future careers, to see in what new splendor their talents emerge.

A Note from the Juror

I feel so honored to be asked to judge this show. 20 North Gallery was my starting point. Art director emerita Peggy Grant, current art director Condessa Croninger, and gallery owner Eric Hillenbrand are the reasons I am where I am today, by supporting my development and encouraging me to pursue my career in New York. Working at 20 North Gallery was the most positive experience I've had in the arts, even a decade after the fact. Their love for art, their eye for good art and their joy in sharing art with the community, in addition to their commitment to fostering new talent, makes them truly one of Toledo's greatest treasures.

Understandably, almost all artists (and gallerists) begin their exhibition experience in an academic or non-profit environment, but there is a great difference between those and the world of commercial gallery representation. 20 North Gallery's *ARToledo* gives emerging artists the opportunity to learn the intricacies of the commercial market in a supportive environment.

I hope each artist, selected or not, will use the gallery's feedback to build their portfolios and commercial careers. Feedback and encouragement from my former colleagues at 20 North is truly invaluable.

It was a joy to look through all the art that was submitted. Currently working in the auction world, engagement with the artists (through reading what they've currently written or having the opportunity to comment on and provide feedback for them) isn't something I get to do in my career anymore. It's wonderful to engage directly with artists and watch their art and ideas grow and change.

I loved searching for and finding the cohesive story between each artist in this year's show, how their paintings work together and how they stand out on their own, each telling a story within the bigger story (the exhibit). The theme that most struck me was that of cycles of life and nature, an ephemeral feeling of transition from one phase of being to the next.

— Maralee Hope

Samantha Bell-Koch

Toledo, Ohio

Artist Biography

Samantha Bell-Koch is an artist/designer from North Carolina, currently working in Toledo, Ohio. She pursued Interactive Game Design at Savannah College of Art and Design (Atlanta, Georgia) before transferring to The University of Toledo (Ohio), where she graduated in 2015 with a B.A. degree in Visual Art. Since then, her acrylic paintings on found wood have appeared in a number of large exhibitions in the area, including *Damned VIII* and *Damned X* at the Tangent Gallery (Detroit, Michigan) and *Wondrously Dreadful* (Monroe, Michigan), where she won a first award.

Artist Statement

Art has always been my preferred language. I grew up awestruck with everything around me; whether it was observing the way the muscles move in an arm, how shadows played on the back of the deer in the forest, or watching a mantis snatch a wasp straight out of the air. Most of my work is inspired by personal struggles and victories and is influenced by my belief in a God who will never change. When I think about the Universe and its infinite expanse and I think of Him who gave me breath, and how he designed each and every particle of my being, every grain of sand, every atom of every planet and star. When I think about the fact I am connected to the ultimate artist, and the greatest designer, I feel so inspired to create. I do not wish to make art simply for myself, but to glorify God through the exercising of the gifts He has given me. To create a work is to transfer your soul into a form that others can see. The process is the most important part for me because of this. Art, like life, is not simple, but messy, uncertain, and is sometimes a struggle. But when you push through to the end, beauty can appear out of the ashes.



Samantha Bell-Koch
Photo courtesy of the artist

Samantha Bell-Koch Artwork



Pangolin
acrylic on wood; 2018;
20"H x 13"W



Decay
acrylic and pastel on canvas; 2016; 28"H x 24"W



Introspection; acrylic on wood; 2014; 24"H x 48"W



Chasing Oblivion
acrylic on wood; 2018
48"H x 24"W



Flight
acrylic on wood; 2015;
29"H x 20"W



Inhabited
acrylic on cardboard; 2018;
42"H x 30"W



Futility
acrylic on wood; 2018;
26"H x 14"W

Martha Evans

Swanton, Ohio

Artist Biography

Martha Evans grew up in Maumee, Ohio. She attended Merced Junior College (California) and graduated with an A.A. degree. In 1994, she received her B.A. from the University of Toledo (Ohio) with a concentration in painting. She began painting at age 34 after the passing of her father. Painting on location around her home, she creates immersive scenes in oil, watercolor, pastel and acrylic.

Martha Evans has received two grants from The Arts Commission (Toledo, Ohio), the first of which was for the annual "Back to Jack" poets' presentation in the mid-1990s of the work of Jack Kerouac. Evans painted twelve large-scale panels on Masonite depicting events in the Kerouac stories read by the poets Nick Muska, Joel Lipman and Arnie Koester, among others. The second grant, received in 1998, was comprised of a collection of nine paintings of nine Metroparks, all painted on site. Additionally, Martha Evans' paintings have been represented in the museum store at the Toledo Museum of Art.



Martha Evans
Photo courtesy of the artist

Artist Statement

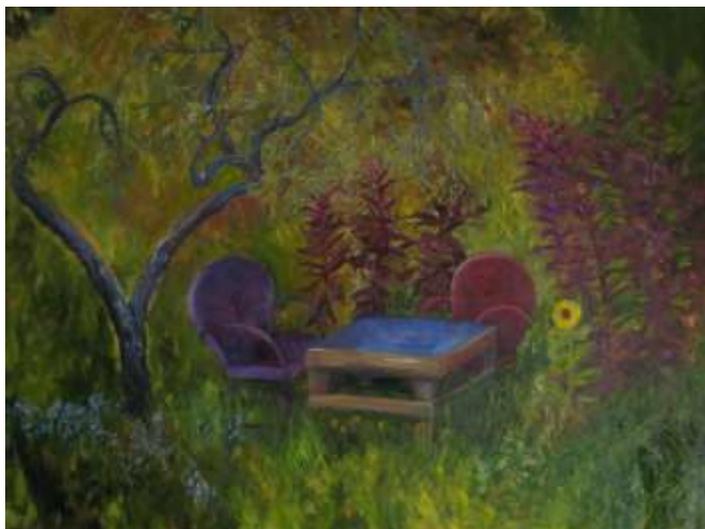
Can one be an artist and not be emerging? A painting is begun in the mind. Releasing oneself from the conscious mind is the challenge and fulfilling the vision is the art.

When I look at paintings I have done in the past, it is as if they were done by someone else; surely not this woman who spends most days alone with her dog rambling around in the woods and tending her gardens. Who is the other?

There is no lack of subject matter to make a painting. That is everywhere. It is when the looking becomes seeing that the idea for the painting emerges. What is this desire to work out the problems that turn idea into color on canvas? Does it have to be seen by others to be complete? By exploiting the potential of the paint, canvas, oils and turpentine to convey the visionary experience I arrive at a place when I can put down the brush, step back for the last time and know there is no more I can do.

My art will never be made into wallpaper. I do not paint subjects. I paint what is beyond the eye to do what any artist hopes to do; share that bit of humanity we call beauty.

Martha Evans Artwork



The Waiting Place
oil on canvas; 2017;
30"H x 38"W



Le Moulin Blue
oil on canvas; 2017;
24"H x 28"W



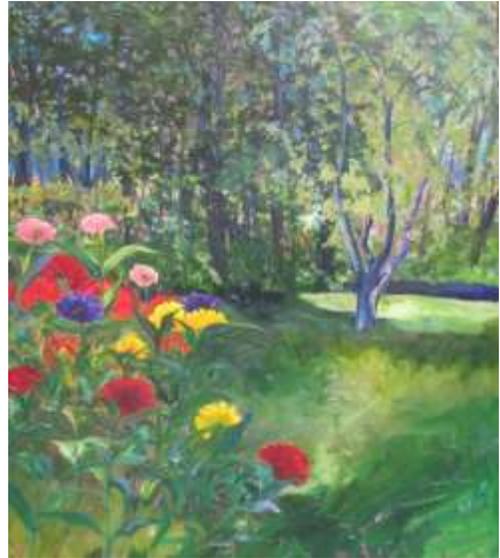
Squall on 295
oil on canvas; 2018;
33"H x 46"W



Eos on los
acrylic on canvas; 1999;
22"H x 21"W



It's All About the Woods
oil on canvas;
2017; 40"H x 38"W



Let the Zinnias Lead the Way
oil on canvas; 2013;
36"H x 31"W



The Guardian Oak
oil on canvas; 2014;
36"H x 44"W

Kerry Kirkpatrick

Toledo, Ohio

Artist Biography

Kerry Kirkpatrick received her B.F.A. in Digital Art at Bowling Green State University (Ohio) in May of 2016 and has since sharpened her skill set in visual storytelling and concept art. As a visual artist, she tells stories through the purposeful placement of elements in each of her paintings. Her work ranges from images of everyday life to conceptual and fantasy pieces. She believes an individual can find a story in anything as long as one is to look close enough.



Kerry Kirkpatrick
Photo courtesy of the artist

Kirkpatrick's affinity for computer graphics has led her to become involved in the international organization, The Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques (ACM SIGGRAPH). While being a member of this prestigious organization, she has served as Chair of the Bowling Green State University Chapter and Student Volunteer at the annual conference in 2016, located that year in Anaheim, California. Since then, she has served on the ACM SIGGRAPH Professional and Student Chapters Committee which oversees and assists chapters located all over the world. In the summer and fall of 2016, Kerry was an intern for the Arts Commission (Toledo, Ohio) where she helped run the Toledo Art Loop in its first year of operation. She remains involved with this program.

Artist Statement

This body of work encapsulates visual storytelling and the idea that one can find a story in everything. I challenge the viewer to examine each element in my digital images so that the story can take form. Interpretation can vary due to the viewers own individual experiences. Aesthetically, I use varying digital techniques to invoke different emotions throughout each of my pieces.

The *Gateways* series uses slit scanning methods and photo manipulation techniques. These slit scans take an image in slices from left to right which shows many moments in time in one image. These images have a dreamlike aesthetic and contain many layers and textures. The *Chronic Agony* diptych represents pain and emotions caused by chronic illness. This is a digital image that has been transferred to metal, exaggerating the image's surrealism. The specular highlights of the aluminum add to the haunting feeling that I wanted to deliver to the viewer.

Color plays a big role in setting the mood of my images. The dark blues and purples in *Research Outpost* set an ominous and mysterious mood. The bright pink and purple hues in *A Cat's Underwater Adventure*

symbolize hope and finding wonder in the unknown. The colors in *Kayla* give a cozy and warm feeling despite the subjects surrounding environment.

I have the firm belief that stories play key roles in our lives for teaching empathy and compassion. Through these images I aim to set a mood and invoke emotion from the viewer. Whether these paintings portray a small story of daily life or an extraordinary adventure, they serve as a portal into memories and dreams.

Kerry Kirkpatrick Artwork



Kayla
digital painting;2017;
18"H x 18"W



Gateways—Reflection
digital imaging; 2016;
8.89”H x 6.667”W



Gateways—Transformation
digital imaging; 2016;
8.89”H x 6.667”W



Gateways—Perspective
digital imaging; 2016;
8.89”H x 6.667”W



Chronic Agony
alternative digital print; 2016;
7.5”H x 11”W



A Cat's Underwater Adventure
digital painting; 2017;
14.4"H x 12"W



Research Outpost; digital painting; 2017; 14"H x 26"W

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Catalogue editor, Condessa Croninger

Art Director, 20 North Gallery

Anastasia Wagner, Gallery Associate

All photography provided by the artists.

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For purchase inquiries, please contact 20 North Gallery.

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