



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY JON BOLTON

"Vessel," an Earthenware piece by Margaret Ascencio (circa 1980) is part of the upcoming "Precedents" exhibit.

## Past meets present in RAM exhibit

RACINE — "Precedents: Past meets Present in Contemporary Glass and Clay" — opening Feb. 9 at the Racine Art Museum — will "offer new contexts for understanding how motifs and decorations resurface regularly through generations, how much variety is possible within the dynamic of objects made in a certain material of relative size and how artists might look at each other's work for inspiration," according to museum officials.

The exhibit runs Feb. 9 through Sept. 24 at the museum, 441 Main St.

Artists gather influences from an almost endless variety of sources including cultural, social and historical people, places and ideas, as well as personal experiences and perspectives — and even the work of other artists and creatives.

Whether or not an individual contemporary artist is directly inspired by an object or image from the past, it can be useful to

compare and contrast recent creations with older similar examples, officials said.

While RAM's permanent collection contains a wide array of art media, this exhibit was specifically spurred by the recent acquisition of numerous 19th-century glass goblets and mid-20th-century ceramic vessels.

A selection of contemporary goblets — part of a gift to RAM from Alan and Barbara Boroff and the Kohler Foundation of more than 100 works from various artists — will be paired with historic pieces. The goblets of Fritz Dreisbach and James Minson, to name just two, reflect contemporary approaches that incorporate tradition yet also expand upon it.

The Racine Art Museum is open noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens (62 and older) and students.

## Watercolor show at Wustum Museum

RACINE — "Watercolor Wisconsin," now in its 55th year, is on view through April 23 at Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts, a campus of the Racine Art Museum at 2519 Northwestern Ave.

"Watercolor Wisconsin" is an annual statewide competition that has been organized by the museum since 1966.

Limited only by their materials — aqueous media such as acrylic and watercolor — artists are free to create two- and three-dimensional works on paper. Contemporary artists bring both traditional and experimental approaches to the established guidelines, resulting in a varied and dynamic exhibition each year.

More than 50 years of "Watercolor Wisconsin" exhibitions have established Wustum Museum as a center for watercolor activity in the Midwest. Encouraged to experiment and explore the potential of painting on paper, the artists in this show have created works as diverse as their own imaginations.

Jurors Sarah Cox and Carole Hennessy selected the 110 works by 97 artists on display in this exhibition.

Cox is manager of exhibitions and collections at Elmhurst Art Museum. Hennessy is president of the Watercolor Honor Society and an internationally recognized watercolor artist.

Racine and Kenosha county artists in the exhibition are: Sue Horton, Frankville; Dennis Bayuzick, Dean Habegger, Don Hinrichs, Diane Levesque, Carlotta Miller, Dyan Tishuk and Sheillah Walsh, Kenosha; Robert W. Andersen and Jerrold Belland, Mount Pleasant; Judy Bal-



JON C. BOLTON

"Farmstead," an acrylic by Thom Petersen of Racine, is part of "Watercolor Wisconsin" at Racine's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts.

lard, Pleasant Prairie; Doris Caye Christensen, Deedee Beaudry, Karen B. Broman, Dumont, Mary Dwyer, Lisa

Englander, P.M. Fallon, Pat Gilbert, Ann Henkes, Karen Mathis, Sharon Mellberg, Janet Mrazek, John Nowicki, Thom Petersen, Lance Raichert, Cheryl Sachs, Susan M. Sorenson, Dina Walker and Kelly Witte, Racine; Jenny Pham and Mai Lee Yang, Sturtevant; Bruce Boeck, Peggy Thurston Farrell and Charles Wickler, Waterford; Ann Schubert, Wind Lake; and Catherine Gaspero, Wind Point.

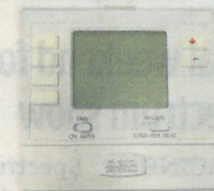
Four new works from "Watercolor Wisconsin" 2021 have been purchased for RAM's permanent collection, adding to the museum's holdings of Wisconsin artists.

Wustum Museum is open from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. There is no admission fee.

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