

Racine Journal Times
Get out + About
LOCAL ART EXHIBITS

RAM show focuses on abstract art

RACINE — “RAM Showcase: Abstraction” is on view through June 11 at the Racine Art Museum, 441 Main St.

The show features works by contemporary artists of color that “address intellectual, philosophical and spiritual concepts through abstraction,” according to organizers.

Abstract art — a term that can be applied to work that ranges from non-representational to that with imagery more closely aligned to perceived reality — is considered a product of a modern, so-called Western world.

As technological and industrial advances began to greatly impact everyday life, artists in turn began viewing abstraction as a way of addressing more intangible and hypothetical concepts.

In the United States, abstract art gained hold as a



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY JON C. BOLTON
A cerulean spin brooch by Laritza Garcia is part of the “RAM Showcase: Abstraction” exhibit.

visual language in the wake of World War II. Contemporary artists who adopt abstraction as part of their practice often use it to explore intangible ideas and emotions, the nature of materials, and/or formal art elements such as pattern, color, shape and line.

The “RAM Showcase” series of exhibitions highlight conversations around the work of artists of color. Some of the artists featured — Sam Gilliam in particular — have historically come under fire for preferring abstraction and not addressing

contemporary social, political or cultural issues directly in their work.

Gilliam did not want to be pressured by anyone to make a certain kind of work, exhibit organizers explained. He felt abstraction could be more powerful than political subject matter.

When asked if he “considered his art Black art,” Gilliam answered, “Being Black is a very important point of tension and self-discovery. To have a sense of self-acceptance, we Blacks have to throw off this dichotomy that has been forced on us by the white experience.”

“I think there is a need to live universally.”

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

Gallery show features art giveaway

RACINE — “Wear A Heart — Get Some Art!” is on display through March 6 at Spectrum Gallery, located in the east building of the DeKoven Center, 600 Caron Butler Drive.

Spectrum Gallery artists are showcasing pieces based on the many aspects of love,

with many of the items for sale.

These artists have also created a variety of artwork including drawings, paintings, ceramics, photography and mixed media to give away to anyone wearing a heart to the gallery (one per person

while supplies last). Those who don’t have a heart on their sleeve or elsewhere will be given one.

Spectrum Gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and by appointment; call 262-634-4345.

Photo realistic paintings on view



A photo realistic painting by artist Margaret Clark

KENOSHA — “The Figure in the Story — An Art Exhibit by Margaret Clark” features photo realistic paintings by Margaret Clark that convey “captivating narratives through a combination of seemingly unrelated images.” The exhibit continues through March 3 at Kenosha Creative Space, 624 57th St.

Through the juxtaposi-

tion of images from multiple sources and painting of an imagined environment, Clark contrasts the past and the present. Her work creates an immersive and thought-provoking experience for the viewer as they step into her world of magic realism. Clark’s artwork has been showcased in exhibitions around the world for decades.

Exhibit features a variety of art

KENOSHA — Lemon Street Gallery, 4601 Sheridan Road, will showcase the artwork of its support staff in the Brick Gallery through Feb. 27.

There is an assortment of mediums such as sculpture, painting, photography, ceramics, print-

making and fiber arts on display and available for purchase by artists Elizabeth Dary, Betsy Davis, Missy Isley-Poltrock, Lynn A. Johnston, Jude Linden, Eileen Martin and Shelby Nesmith.

Additionally, a new member exhibit has been

installed in the remaining galleries and features all member artists. The exhibit continues through April.

Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission fee.

‘Anything Goes’ at Pollard Gallery

KENOSHA — The Pollard Gallery, 518 56th St., hosts its “Anything Goes” show through Feb. 26.

The show features 2D and 3D art.

Also in February, the gallery is showcasing “Shades of Red,” with all the pieces highlighting the color red. This show will feature the

work of the Pollard Gallery artists.

On Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon, the gallery is open for artists to “network, socialize and share ideas with other local artists.”

Gallery officials invited area artists to “bring your art supplies and a project

you are working on. In addition to associating with local artists, setting aside a designated time and place to work on projects, free from distraction, is always a good thing.”

The gallery is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.