



Tweed Museum of Art



To bring art and people of our communities together for delight, to discover, and to learn is the mission of the Tweed Museum of Art. I think we'd find it especially difficult to accomplish the mission if the only way our friends and neighbors were to know about Tweed programs

was by word of mouth. So, we find other ways to inform the public about the programs we produce for you. And to do so, we employ social media, radio, movie theater screens, advertising, and this newsletter you are reading. But that only addresses the mechanical part of how we get the word out. What we say and how we say it matters. Those of us who work at the Tweed, and those of us who provide volunteer service, do so for a reason.

Recently our Board Marketing Committee, under the direction of Patrice Bradley from Swim Creative and her creative team of Andy Bennett and Jenna Kowaleski, with the assistance of Manny Rivas from Aimclear, engaged members of the Museum to help refine Tweed messaging in two focus-group sessions. Those participants in the process included David Beard, Sarah Brokke Erickson, Pat Burns, Shannon Cousino, Joanne Ellison, John Goldfine, Bruce Hansen, Teresa Hardaway, Matt Kania, Elaine Killen, Ann Klefstad, Rob Leff, Ed Newman, Kathy McTavish, Jake Peters, Linda Rochford, KeKe Sirjord, Jonathan Thunder, DeeDee Widdes, and Tim White.

The results have been inspiring, and Tweed has found a clearer voice in the process. We believe in the power of art to transform our understanding and appreciation of the world around us. We see ourselves helping to fulfill our mission to open minds and hearts in a world tending toward division. We affirm that art is the expression of many voices, much imagination, and so much hope that leads us toward compassion for others. And we are determined to shine a light on the stories, through museum collections, of our collective past and present so that we might better understand our hopes for the future.

— Ken Bloom

IMAGE RIGHT: ANNE LABOVITZ, *INSPIRED BY DULUTH FOR DULUTH*, ACRYLIC ON TYVEK®, DIPTYCH: LEFT 410.5", RIGHT 323" BY 66", 2018



122 CONVERSATIONS

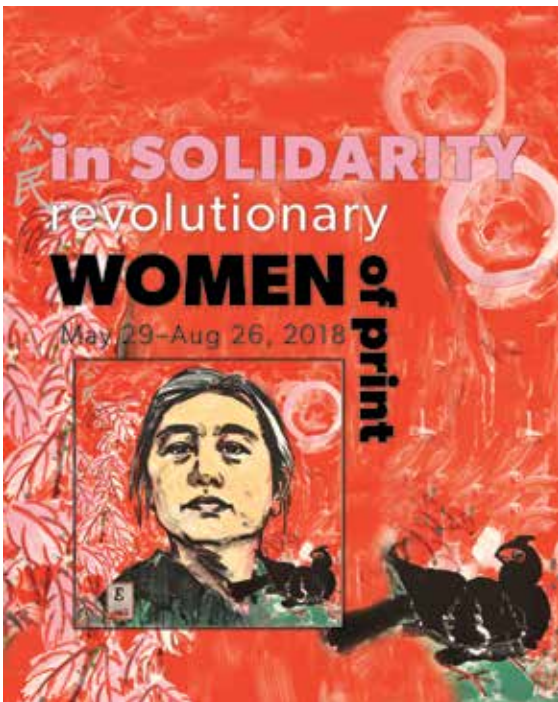
THIS AUTUMN, the Tweed Museum of Art will host the culminating exhibition of a six-year project created by visual artist Anne Labovitz and citizens of Duluth's Sister Cities in Thunder Bay, Canada; Rania, Iraqi Kurdistan; Växjö, Sweden; Petrozavodsk, Russia; and Ohara Isumi City, Japan. The project was organized by Labovitz and the Tweed Museum of Art in collaboration with Duluth Sister Cities International and University of Minnesota Duluth, School of Fine Arts. The project, entitled *122 Conversations: Person to Person, Art Beyond Borders*, was conceived as an outreach with the citizens of our Sister Cities and celebrates the combined 122 years of the relationships.

The artist-led project was inspired by the art of engagement. The sculpture-like scrolls in the exhibition were motivated by the intense, person-to-person 60 Skype or in-person interviews with ten residents, including the mayor of each of the six Sister Cities. The overall project is a large-scale body of work that explores cross-cultural connections through these interviews, paintings, and performative participatory art as a catalyst for positive social change. Labovitz explains, "This work reflects conversations about generosity, friendship, reciprocity, community building, emotional exchange, and how these ideas are experienced through art. By utilizing text as an intuitive interpretation of human connection, I archive my experiences, visually chronicling them to find a universal language."

Through text, color, and mark making, Labovitz created artworks containing layered, purposeful marks. Each painting contains an interpretation of the collective conversations as a vision drawing and represents the engagement with the sister city. "My use of overlapping text and color is a metaphor that attempts to unite through a common experience that humanizes each of us, including myself, through the process. I feel more human when I hear stories of others, and it is my hope that this project evokes a similar experience from its participants and the public," according to Labovitz.

From 2013 to 2018, each Sister City hosted an exhibition of the Labovitz artworks. Many people added to the exhibition by making their own art, creating works by writing, mark-making, and drawing on small canvases. The messages in these intimate artworks were legible and illegible, colorful and abstract, yet all embody the message of the show—to explore cross-cultural connections through art as a catalyst for positive social change. The culminating show at the Tweed will present representative elements of the entire project, including Labovitz's paintings, collected materials, artworks, photographs, video, and documents.





In Solidarity presented print works from the Tweed's collection created by 31 revolutionary women artists (from the 1960s to the present) who employed art to express their resistance to social injustices. These women were active during and after the second-wave generation of the feminist movement as self-proclaimed women artists whose artwork emphasized the female experience. Artists included Mariam Schapiro, Judy Chicago, May Stevens, Faith Ringgold, Nancy Spero, Jaune Quick-To-See Smith, and Yreina Cervantez, among others, all of whom demanded visibility and respect from the larger art world, which historically privileged the white, heterosexual male experience.

The summer exhibition conveyed important insights into these first and second-generation feminist women's lives and their artwork, both of which coincide. They sought to redefine female identity, oppose the prescribed roles of women, and reclaim the female body. As art critic Lucy Lippard explained about feminist art, it was "neither a style nor a movement," but instead "a value system, a revolutionary strategy, a way of life."

IMAGE ABOVE: POSTER FROM *IN SOLIDARITY* FEATURING THE ORIGINAL PRINT BY HUNG LIU (CHINESE, B. 1948), *OFFICIAL PORTRAITS: CITIZEN*, 2006, COLOR LITHOGRAPH COLLAGE, COLLECTION OF TWEED MUSEUM OF ART, UMD, SAX BROTHERS PURCHASE FUND, D2018.3

INTERSECTIONS, an exhibition of contemporary Native art from Minnesota-based artists, features 43 Tweed-owned artworks, including a large diptych by Anishinaabe artist Jim Denomie entitled *The Creative Oven*, which he completed in 2013. In 2014, this 12' x 7' work became part of the Museum's permanent collection. For several months, Denomie has been in consultation with museum staff to organize the exhibition, which runs from October 16, 2018 to August 18, 2019 in the main gallery.

In recent years, the Museum has collected a number of artworks by renowned local and regional contemporary Native artists. *Intersections* features significant Minnesota artists beginning with George Morrison and Patrick Desjarlait, both of whom were at the forefront of the contemporary Native art movement and have influenced subsequent artists since the modern era. Others highlighted in the exhibition are Jim Denomie, Carl Gawboy, David Bradley, Dyani White Hawk, Joe Geshick, Julie Buffalohead, Karen Savage-Blue, Gordon Van Wert, Leah Yellowbird, Al Wadzinski, Star Wallowing Bull, Frank Big Bear, Francis Yellow, John Feather, and Andrea Carlson. The exhibition also includes *Manifesto*, a multi-media installation by Jonathan Thunder located on the second floor of the Museum.

A key theme is how these artists have informed and influenced each other and continue to intersect with their artistic styles, medium, and/or choices of subject matter. These influences are reflected in socio-political messages about stereotypes in popular culture, notions of "Indian" authenticity, the effects of assimilation and discrimination, negative institutional and corporate practices, the power of Native humor and resilience, the environment, our cultural landscapes, the significance of storytelling, and the belief that all lives—animals, humans, plants—are connected.

Intersections is a continuation of the Tweed's focus on the development of Native arts in our region and the first time the Museum features contemporary Native art after more than a decade of collecting. Five new amazing artworks from Dyani White Hawk, Karen Savage-Blue, Al Wadzinski, and Leah Yellowbird will be on display. A public opening reception, featuring Briand Morrison on the guitar, is scheduled for November 15, 2018 from 6-8 pm.

IMAGE RIGHT: JIM DENOMIE (LAC COURTE OREILLES OJIBWE, B. 1955), *THE CREATIVE OVEN*, 2013, OIL ON CANVAS, COLLECTION OF TWEED MUSEUM OF ART, UMD, SAX BROTHERS PURCHASE FUND AND MARGUERITE L. GILMORE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FUND, D2014.41.1.1-2



INTERSECTIONS

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT

The Tweed Museum provides wondrous exhibitions, compelling publications, and services for education and research. The quality and breadth of the program depends upon Tweed's communities of support. Below we would like to share a sketch of the data that illustrates what we do with the support we receive from you and others. Let's look at the past year (Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018) for which the Tweed was named best gallery in the *Duluth News Tribune* Poll.

OUR PEOPLE

24,000 Visitors to the Tweed

Participating artists: **277**

New and renewing members and donors: **175**

Board members: **15**

Full time staff: **7**



OUR PROGRAM

Exhibitions : **12**

Events: **15**

Group tours of the Museum: **106**

Artworks on display: **631**

CONTRIBUTIONS

memberships and donations: **\$30,520**

value of in-kind contributions: **\$387,000**

COLLECTION

The original Tweed collection of artworks **500**

10,327 Artworks in the collection today.

Newly acquired in 2018: **243**

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TWEED MUSEUM of ART

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH
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A new line of mugs, designed in conjunction with the recent *In Solidarity* exhibition, has been created by ceramist and UMD Professor Elizabeth James and is available exclusively in the Tweed Museum Store. Liz's collection is included among many artistic objects available in the Museum Store ideal for the home and gift giving.

FRONT COVER IMAGE: DYANI WHITE HAWK (SICANGU LAKOTA, BORN 1976), DETAIL, *UNTITLED (QUIET STRENGTH SERIES, III)*, 2018, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, COLLECTION OF TWEED MUSEUM OF ART, UMD, MARGUERITE L. GILMORE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FUND, D2018.19.