



MOTIVATION

It's the little things...

"You guys do a better job at this than almost anyone I've encountered in several years of showing around the country. The catalog is tremendous!"

— David Dorsey (Paint)

We love what we do here at Manifest. Every exhibit is like Christmas for us, opening gifts of all shapes and sizes to find fresh art to arrange and install on the walls and share with an eager public. Only we get to do this nine times each season! Even now, in our sixth year, we meet folks who either say they'd never heard of Manifest, or that they'd heard good things but never visited - and that they weren't quite sure why because they are seriously impressed by what we do. Artists often come in from out of town to deliver or pick up their work, and to participate in an opening reception. They know we're a humble non-profit to begin with, and maybe this and their previous experiences with other such small 'alternative' galleries have prepared them for the worst. But time and again the artists are themselves humbled by the quality they find upon arriving at our space, interacting with our interns and staff, and strolling down Woodburn Avenue for a quick coffee at Moca. Needless to say their pleasant surprise is fulfilling to us. I have a folder full of heartfelt thank-yous and comments from people with whom I've interacted by email. Some of the most memorable of these come from artists who have just received a notice of rejection for their submission to one of our exhibits - thanking us for the most kind and genuine rejection letter they had ever received. Good-will, honesty, and sincerity go a long way to fulfilling our mission, even for artists who do not exhibit at Manifest.

It's important that Manifest is small. Yes, we grew our exhibit space by 40% at the start of this season, and we hope to expand a bit more in the not so distant future. But we realize it is essential that we maintain a careful balance of facility vs. programming and staff. Being small allows us to be true to our goal of exhibiting extremely high quality work time and again. It enables our highly selective process and standards, and underscores our organization's identity. Every once in a while an artist rejected from an exhibit will complain about how few works were included. We take great pains to answer these comments and explain our rationale and philosophy. We have no quota of number of works, besides the limitation of our physical space. Our only quota is quality. The fact that our gallery is small (by some standards our current 1000 square feet and 160 linear feet of wall space is small) makes participating in our exhibits even more valuable, because of what inclusion means - that the art shown is truly the cream of the crop. This has worked well to establish little Manifest on the big stage of international awareness, and create feverish competition by artists dearly hoping to show in our small space on Woodburn Avenue one day.

- Jason Franz, Executive Director and Co-founder

WOW!

A long time ago, in mid-2004, we thought 'we'll draw a line in the sand, put a stake in the ground, light up a small spot on Woodburn, and prove that this can be done!'. Within a short period of time our entire building, which had been empty, was now full of residents and artists' studios. For over five years our beacon burned brightly, serving as a proof of life and creative potential on an otherwise dark street. Gradually things began to stir nearby. What had been the threat of an infamous Dollar Store instead became One More Stitch. Streetscapes, delayed year after year, finally became implemented and realized. Vacant buildings either became condemned and razed, or renovated. Weston Bolling Gallery in O'Bryonville expanded to include the PAC gallery south on Woodburn. StrebArt portrait studio opened in the charming Felix. The Shop at 2801 opened to include pottery and crafts by local artists. Jamshid Rugs and Lucky John's Market opened as well. None of this was part of our *mission*. But it was our *vision*. And all along we worked at doing what we do best knowing full well it'd pave the way for more. Now, as of early 2010, Manifest's opening receptions head up the community-organized Walk on Woodburn event where the shops, galleries, and restaurants coordinate hours to maximize the synergy originally developed by people attending Manifest's receptions. The stake in the ground has turned into a tree.

"Where the spirit does not work with the hand there is no art."

LEONARDO DA VINCI

SEASON 6

donors + members

Farron Allen
Marcia Alscher
Ron Bates
William Baumann
Jessica Bechtel
Maria Blake
Karen Bondarchuk
Richard Boydston
George & Kathleen Brinkman
Daniel Brown
Roger Brown
Sharon Butler
Nancy Fletcher Cassell
Matthew Clark
Lynne Ambrosini & Rob Contin
Joyce M. Corum
Bruce Crippen
Joseph Curry
Christy Dakin
Jim & Jane Dean
DeSales Crossing Marianist
Community
Jane Durrell
Sandy Eichert
Chip Finke
Suzanne Fischer
Diane Fishbein
Elizabeth Fisher-Smith
Mark Flaspohler
Barbara Flick
Fred Franz
Alexandra Sophia Franz
Jason Franz
Gary Gaffney
Scott Glaser
Stewart Goldman
H. Drewry Gores
Tamara Harkavy & Matt Kotlarczyk
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Barbara Henshaw
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Nancy Kopp
Kim Krause
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Amy Mauck
Constance McClure
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Daniel O'Connor
Brigid O'Kane
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Tim & Linda Potter
Kirstine Reiner
Chuck Rekow
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John Robinson
Roy Robinson
Andrew Schaub
Elena Schaub
Barbara Schulman & Herbert Hood
Elaine Suess
Leslie Shiels
Marcia & Paul Shortt
W.D. Shuster
Mu and Robin Sinclair
Andrew Smith
Liz & Carl Solway
Kristin Spangenberg
Jane Stanton
Nicole Staun
Gina Stevenson
StrebelArt
Margaret Szempruch
Sheldon Tapley
Richard & Vanessa Wayne
Dawn S. Wilson
Patricia Wilson
Ruth Wise
Melissa Wolf-Krummen
Boris Zakic
Steve Ziebarth

SEASON 6

remaining schedule

Now on view through May 14

**6th Annual Rites of Passage +
TEMPO: Works About Time**

May 28th Reception

**GuideBook: Contemporary Collage
and Assemblage +
6th Annual Magnitude 7**

July 9th Reception

**2nd Annual NUDE +
Chris Sickels of Red Nose Studio**

Aug. 13th Reception

4th Annual Master Pieces



WELCOME

Joanna Vance!

In April, after a year and a half, we said goodbye to Laura McNeel as Manifest's second paid staffer and first administrative assistant. Having done much to help establish and expand our three-part staffing structure, she departed saying that Manifest's was the best job she had ever had. Laura is off on the next leg of the adventure of her life, travelling and exploring new paths. We wish her all the best.

Now stepping into the all-important support position at Manifest is Joanna Vance. Originally a native of Pennsylvania, Joanna graduated from Houghton College in New York with a B.A. in Writing and Humanities. As a *Shaw Fellow* with *Image*, a Seattle based arts journal, she developed her knowledge of administration within the context of a popular and successful arts non-profit. Joining Manifest in April, Joanna brings order and energy to the details of the organization's weekly management. We are excited to welcome her to our Manifest engine of creativity.

You're bound to encounter her at the gallery or during receptions, so be sure to say hello, and welcome to Cincinnati!



Left:
Cast Drawing by Shane Wolf who will lead a one-week
workshop at the Manifest Drawing Center in mid-August.

Above:
Joanna Vance joins Manifest's staff in April 2010.

executive director

Jason Franz

assistant director

Tim Parsley

admin. assistant

Joanna Vance

board of directors

Christina Dakin

Jason Franz

Debbie Heuer

Tamera Lenz Munte

Brigid O'Kane

Elaine Potter

CONTACT

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www.manifestgallery.org
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gallery hours

Tuesday to Friday 2-7pm
Saturday 12-5pm