

THE YEAR OF...

MANIFEST PRESS, NATIONAL RECOGNITION,

FRIENDSHIPS ABROAD, MANIFEST DRAWING CENTER



It always surprises me when I find myself writing the final newsletter of a membership season. Fall is already making inroads out my window on this mid-September afternoon, my daughter is a few weeks into first grade, I return to teaching drawing at U.C. this week, and the last show of season 7 is packed and in the process of shipping back to the artists. All this brings me to a pause to consider what we've done this past year.

Most notably, this has been the year of somewhat unseen yet significant progress at Manifest. First, **we launched, juried, curated, and designed the first International Painting Annual**. One thousand copies of this new sister publication to the now five-volume-old International Drawing Annual have been printed and are, as I write, on a ship heading towards the United States from Asia. The book is stunning. I cannot wait to share it with the artists, the public, and you when it arrives in mid-October! This comes on the heels of another landmark for Manifest Press. **The International Drawing Annual 5 received a silver medal award** from the Independent Publisher Book Awards earlier this year in their New York City ceremony. Needless to say, this gave our spirits a boost and reinforced to the artists and the world that we mean it when we claim to stand for excellence. Prior to this great news, **we also had the pleasure of attending our first national book and trade fair as part of the College Art Association's 2011 conference** in New York City. Here we showcased all of Manifest Press's publications and exhibit catalogs and reached out to one of our important constituent groups – professors and students at national colleges of art and design. Our booth attracted folks throughout the conference, gaining word of mouth attention, and stood proudly near the Harvard University Press's booth just a few tables away. It was here that our staff members gained a tangible new insight into the magnitude of the reach and impact of Manifest's mission. Countless people stopped by to say 'Hey! I know Manifest!' or 'It's so good to see Manifest here and to meet you all in person! I love what you're doing.' And so on. Most of these people were from far corners of the United States. Our little booth full of books and banners (see image at upper left) was being the academic 'Switzerland' and a bastion of creative goodwill that we've always envisioned Manifest to be. And it was being this in the middle of New York City, the *arts capital of the world*! And lastly, but not least, **we accomplished the complete relocation of Manifest's Drawing Center to its new home on Whetsel Avenue in Madisonville**, and began refining our offerings to better suit the new and vastly better space, resulting in a more than 50% increase in participation over the previous year.



All these accomplishments have occurred behind the scenes, quietly for the most part, in the fringes of the shadows of the core of what is Manifest - *the neighborhood gallery for the world*. Needless to say, it was a good year.

- Jason Franz, Executive Director and Co-founder

"If you don't see what you want in the world, then go out and make it."

A MANIFEST FOUNDING PRINCIPLE

SEASON 8

upcoming schedule

executive director

Jason Franz

assistant director & drawing center director

Tim Parsley

office manager

Joanna Vance

gallery manager

Rob Anderson

board of directors

April Besl

Christina Dakin

Jason Franz

Pamela K. Ginsburg

Debbie Heuer

Brigid O'Kane

September 30* - October 28

ABSTRKT + City-Haze: Recent paintings by David Smith (Hong Kong, China)

November 11* - December 9

The Observed + Solo exhibit of sculpture by Alysia Fischer (Oxford, Ohio)

December 16* - January 13, 2012

TAPPED 2 + ONE.2: The Manifest Prize

January 27* - February 24

*Solo exhibit of sculpture by Travis Townsend (Lexington, Kentucky)
+ Out of the Gray: Graphite*

March 9* - April 6

Textuality + Ink and Air + Solo exhibit of paintings and drawings by David Kassan (Brooklyn, New York)

April 20* - May 18

Botanical + Selections from the INDA 7

June 1* - June 29

Rites of Passage 8 + Magnitude 7.8

July 13* - August 10

Master Pieces 6

August 17* - September 14

Nude 4 + Solo exhibit of works of printmaking by Sean Caulfield (Alberta, Canada)

**opening night*

the cycle renews

We get into a rhythm at Manifest. By the time a season ends, we've already planned the full schedule for the next one. So as a staff we only notice the cycle of our work on occasion. But early this summer we took a moment, taken aback by the realization that we had just reviewed 130 proposals to fill the six solo/group spots in our schedule for such exhibits. It eventually struck home that these numbers were hugely meaningful to our work. It was no secret to

these artists, submitting from across the country and beyond, that they were competing for just a handful of spots. But something about Manifest, our humble gallery in East Walnut Hills, inspired them to submit their work anyways. This happens year after year, and is a silent engine behind the national reputation that Manifest has come to cherish. It is also a testament to the quality of the solo exhibits we have on tap for the season ahead. We find the *cycle* to be an upward spiral!

CONTACT

2727 Woodburn Avenue
East Walnut Hills

www.manifestgallery.org
513 861 3638 phone

gallery hours

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

Below: Tim Parsley working with students at Drawing Camp 2011.



drawing camp 2011!

Our dream when founding Manifest was that the studio in particular would be a place where students of various levels and from various programs in different schools could come together and enjoy a neutral culture of shared pursuit towards excellence in drawing. This has been a challenging goal to realize. So this summer, in our new space, we offered the first Manifest Drawing Camp. This was open to advanced high school students, those about to become college freshmen, or those just finished with their first year of study in a college art or design program. We were delighted that this one week offering had full enrollment, with a healthy mix of students at various levels. Throughout the week they experienced lectures, demonstrations, readings, and received personalized instruction in drawing. They were also treated to visits by a range of professionals to learn about their work and gain personal insights. We look forward to offering Drawing Camp again as an annual summer program for the young artists-to-be!

THOUGHTS ON BECOMING A MANIFESTER

Sometimes the universe calls; sometimes we answer. That's what happened to me in the summer of 2009 when I realized that I missed being around people who love the arts. Literally a week later I learned of a program through Arts Wave that connects business people with arts organizations that are in need of board members. I called. I learned of many Arts organizations in Cincinnati. I was shuffled through a match making experience not unlike one that you would find at a singles bar, only this time the "lovers" were Arts organizations and potential board members. I met Jason and Andy that fated night...and I was hooked.

It's tough not to fall in love with Manifest. In a world that is filled with people and organizations focused on money or popularity, it is refreshing to find an organization that is focused on a mission that is pure and noble. And as you would expect, this focus draws an amazing group of people to it with an energy that is beyond anything that I could have imagined when I first browsed the website.

I constantly marvel, not only at the quality of the exhibits, the breathtaking beauty and professionalism of the books produced and the variety of programming offered, but at the passion, drive, energy, creativity, initiative and good humor of the staff, interns, and volunteers. This cadre of people produces world class exhibits on a shoe string and they do it for 18 exhibits each year. Jason personally documents each exhibit, and designs every full-color catalog, and this year has designed the 1st International Painting Annual (a 180 page book!) while working as a professor, curator, volunteer executive director, and master craftsman. From what I can see, Jason and Tim could have full time work as contractors as I've heard about them building pedestals and God knows what else for each exhibit. If you ever have the opportunity to see the before and after video of the creation of Manifest from a blighted store front to its current state, you'll understand my admiration. And let's not forget the women—Brigid and Joanna have worked tirelessly on grant writing, communicating, teaching and building too. It's a team effort and it shows. Then there are the interns and volunteers who staff the gallery so that it is available to the public daily. Aspiring to world class standards is a lot of work—and these people do it over and over and over again. What's not to love?

I spend my days talking to leaders in business; they talk about vision, mission, change, innovation, growth and "staying the course". And I marvel that Manifest embraces all of these ideals and it does so for the sole purpose of declaring the importance of visual art in society: of declaring the importance of quality and integrity in the presentation, documentation and experience of the visual arts; of declaring that without creativity our society cannot be whole; of declaring that artists are important. WOW! That's *attractive*.

Sometimes your spirit calls you to do something; mine calls me to get others to recognize, experience and support this Cincinnati treasure. Manifest needs support to continue its growth and to extend its amazing energy to more people—artists and non-artists alike. It is a worthy endeavor and it is energizing to be a part of the Manifest experience.

Debbie Heuer
Manifest Board Member January 2010 - present
Founder and President, Talent Springs LLC

THANK YOU FOR OUR SEVENTH YEAR!

You're one of our accomplishments. We mention often enough that our numbers here or there have improved, even shocked us. More artists, from more places, and more art shown... and so on. Usually growth of numbers is a good thing. Sometimes this becomes a compulsion, unhealthy in and of itself. We're aware of this too. But when we can boast that our supporting members (you) have increased in number by 55% over last year, I don't think we should be self-conscious. This is absolutely incredible! And it's all because you believe in Manifest's mission, and our ability to see it through, enough to contribute to the effort and join our list of 'manifesters.' Our supporting members have grown from 109 last year to 169 this year. What's more, your support originates from *seventeen* states and four foreign countries! THAT is a story to tell—that Manifest is meaningful to people both within our region (about one-third of you are from within our immediate community) but also to those who have little chance to benefit directly from gallery exhibits or studio programs, but who feel served by Manifest's presence in the world, our publications, and our efforts. I cannot express how meaningful this is to all of us here. To know you care, that you're out there, and that you have our back. We work fueled by the momentum your support lends us. It's been a big year, and I would suggest **our progress is proportional to the growth in our supporting member numbers.** Thank you for being a part of this!

A MANIFEST FOUNDING PRINCIPLE

hvac + expansion update

Jason Franz

***assistant director &
drawing center director***

Tim Parsley

office manager

Joanna Vance

gallery manager

Rob Anderson

current interns

Mike Bale

Linda Ding

Joanne Easton

Mary Frede

Gina Jager

Sydney Kreuzmann

Chrissy Rother

Greg Swiger

Kevin Varney

board of directors

April Besl

Christina Dakin

Jason Franz

Pamela K. Ginsburg

Debbie Heuer

Brigid O'Kane

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As you are probably aware, we began a major initiative in 2010 to raise funds for the installation of badly needed heating and air-conditioning systems in our facilities. Currently we have only window units and baseboard heaters as sources of heating and cooling. We raised nearly \$5000 in support from some of you directly towards this project (thank you!). Since we are part of a pilot program with the Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance we are understandably experiencing the hand-me-down delays of getting such support programs off the ground. The good news is that they have in turn extended the deadlines associated with projects receiving their funding—and increased their support pledge from 25% to 35% of total project costs. This project is very much

new faces

This year we welcomed two new members to the Board of Directors. Pamela Ginsburg has been a member of the litigation defense and business litigation groups of Ulmer & Berne LLP since 1999. She has also been an adjunct faculty member at the University of Cincinnati, College of Law since 2002. Pam was matched with Manifest through the ArtsWave Boardway Bound program.

in progress! We still need to raise \$16,000 to be able to greenlight the actual work. We are very hopeful of finding larger sponsorship to help make up this difference, or at least to match the individual donations already received. This fall we will be continuing the effort, and also engaging in discussions with the GCEA about their new non-profit loan program to support such energy-efficiency initiatives. We're first on their list of potential loan recipients. (But we would really prefer not to fund this project with debt, of which we currently have none!) Related to this project, and Manifest's goal for facility expansion, we will soon have news of another development that promises to greatly enhance the value of achieving the HVAC installation. Stay tuned!

Also joining the board this year is attorney April Besl. April is a member of the intellectual property practice group and litigation department of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP. She focuses her practice on intellectual property issues including trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, social media, advertising, and internet law. April also came to Manifest by way of ArtsWave.

SEASON 7

donors + members (you!)

* denotes renewing member from season 6

Farron Allen*, Kit Anderson, Ron Bates*, William Baumann*, Jessica Bechtel*, Sharon Bergman, April Besl, Maria Blake*, Kathie Bledsoe, Karen Blocher, Karen Bondarchuk*, Richard Boydston*, George & Kathleen Brinkman*, Daniel Brown*, Nancy Brown, Sharon Butler*, Harvey C. Hubbell Trust*, Tim Clorius, Roger Collins, Betty Conlon, Lynne Ambrosini & Bob Contin*, Tess Cortes, Joyce M. Corum*, Ellis Crean, Bruce Crippen*, Mark Crousure, Joseph Curry*, Christy Dakin*, Jim & Jane Dean*, Laurence Deprez, Milos Djordjevic, Julie & David Doepeke, David Dorsey, Jane Durrell*, Brett Eberhardt, Valerie Escobedo, Sarah Fairchild, Sally Fennell, Chip Finke*, Todd Fischer, Diane Fishbein*, Laura Fisher, Daniel Fisher, Elizabeth Fisher-Smith*, Mark & Susan Flaspohler*, Alexandra Sophia Franz*, Fred Franz*, Jason Franz*, Gary Gaffney*, Suzanne Gagnet Fischer*, Tish Gayle, Don Gilmore, Pamela Ginsburg, Scott Glaser*, Drew Gores*, Chris Griffin, Elizabeth Guffey, Karla Hackenmiller, Kenneth Hall, Camilla S. Haneberg, Kathleen Harrison, Polly Hart*, Mary Heider*, Jack Hennen*, Barbara Henshaw*, Debbie Heuer*, Marta Hewett, Will Hillenbrand, Cynthia Hoskin, Janalyn Hubbell*, L. Brian Huehls, Helen Hummel, Billy Inabnitt*, Yumiko Irei-Gokke, Stacy Isenbarger, Kim Flora & Bill Jacobs, Jay Jansen, David T. Johnson*, Caitlin Johnson, Vesna Jovanovic, Stewart Katz*, Sol Kjek*, Ricki Klages, Vivian Kline, Nancy Kopp*, Kim Krause*, Lou Kroner*, Carole P. Kunstadt, Polk Laffoon IV*, Krista Leemhuis, Scott Lenkowsky*, Allen & Elaine Leung-Wolf, Maria Lewis*, Craig Lloyd, Julie Loboyko, Phillip & Whitney Long*, Al Lopez, Ramses Luquis, Joseph Gibbs MacVeigh*, Sara Maloney, Kathy & Mike Maloney, Amy Mauck*, Constance McClure*, Dan McCormack, Armin Mersmann, Dept. of Art, Miami U. of Ohio, Murray S. Monroe, Jr., Tamera & Kevin Muentse*, Elsa Munoz, Anne Nally*, Daniel O'Connor*, Brigid O'Kane*, Cindy Olmes*, Marilyn Z. Ott*, Felicity Papp, Ellie Parker, Vickyle Payton, Daniel Pfahl, Carol Pfetzing*, Edwin Pfetzing, Rebecca Phillips, Trevor Ponder*, Ross Racine, Scott Ramming, Jay & Marilyn Richey*, Roy Robinson*, John Robinson*, Chrissy Rother, Robert Scherfman, Sally M. Sherman, Leslie Shiels*, Marcia M. Shortt*, William Shuster*, Murray & Robin Sinclair*, Elizabeth & Paul Sittenfeld, Paul Schulte & Velda Smiley, Andrew D. Smith*, Liz & Carl Solway*, Marie Spaeth, Kristin Spangenberg*, Jane T. Stanton*, Becky Stevens, Gina Stevenson*, Morgyn Stranahan, Anne Straus, Carol Strebel*, Allen Strous, Damian Billy & Margaret Szempruch*, Filippo Tagliati, Sheldon Tapley*, Randall Tiedman, Dana Tindall, Judith Titchener, Joanna Vance, Mike Walsh, Jan Warren, Richard & Vanessa Wayne*, Emily Weinstock, Dawn Shaw Wilson*, Wendi Wilson, Patricia Wilson*, Ruth Wise*, Melissa A. Wolf-Krummen*, Bob Woodiwiss, Bruno Zabaqlio, Boris Zakic*, Raphael Zammit, Alice Zwarts