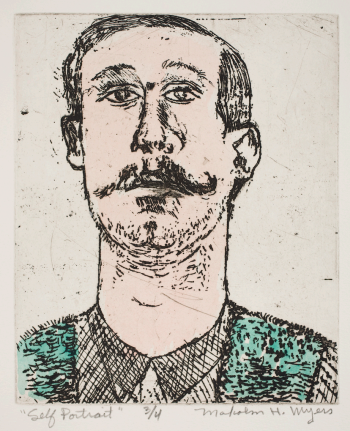


# MEDIA ALERT

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Mellow under the moonlight at WAM: Celebrating the opening of WAM@20: MN and Northern Spark



**Selection Criterion: UMN Students' Choice** Malcolm Myers, *Professor*, circa 1980, intaglio and watercolor on paper.

MINNEAPOLIS – *WAM@20: MN* (June 14 through September 7, 2014) is the third and final gallery installment of the yearlong celebration of twenty years for the Weisman Art Museum (WAM) in the iconic Gehry-designed building at the University of Minnesota. [WAM@20](#) highlights 20 works x 20 years from the museum's collection.

The *WAM@20: MN* exhibition opens the same night as Northern Spark and will celebrate the great people of Minnesota. WAM traditionally focuses on Minnesota artists or topics for summer exhibitions. This exhibition continues that tradition by featuring eighty works in four sections: Minnesota State Fair Votes, UMN Students' Choice, Minnesota Artists, administered through the online site for Minnesota artists, [mnartists.org](#), and individual selections by twenty Minnesota Notables (Ann Bancroft, Governor Mark Dayton, Jack El-Hai, Jon Hallberg, Kao Kalia Yang, Eric Kaler, Senator Amy Klobuchar, Chris Koza,

Brenda Langton, Adam Linz, Fiona McCrae, Jeremy Messersmith, John Munson, Associate Justice Alan Page, Scott Pampuch, Peter Remes, Robyne Robinson, R. T. Rybak, Marla Spivak, and Mark Wheat).

Northern Spark, presented by Northern Lights.mn, is a citywide dusk-to-dawn arts festival. Weisman Art Museum will present projects along with University of Minnesota participants the Institute for Advanced Study, Northrop, Bell Museum of Natural History, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, U of M Department of Art, and University Dining Services.

The following projects will be presented at WAM on the night of June 14 (9:01 p.m.) to June 15 (5:26 a.m.):

#### **Opening for WAM@20:MN**

9:01 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Visitors will have the first view of the summer exhibition *WAM@20: MN* celebrating twenty years in the Gehry-designed building.



**Selection Criterion: Minnesota State Fair Votes** William Wegman, *Backview*, 1993, photolithograph on paper.

### **Pop-Up Cafe on the Plaza**

*9:01 p.m. to 5:26 a.m. – WAM Plaza*

Nosh on street food inspirations from award-winning chef Scott Pampuch. The café on WAM's plaza is in partnership with University Dining Services.

### **Minnesota Astronomical Society**

*9:01 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. – Washington Avenue Bridge (walking level)*

View the stars with a volunteer guide from the MAS. Look through telescopes on the Washington Avenue Bridge and discover the mysteries of stars, planets, and galaxies.

### **Eco-Oracle with artist Christine Baeumler**

*9:01 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. – WAM Plaza*

Visit Christine Baeumler the Eco-Oracle, as she gives you a reading with art-tarot cards representing the WAM collection. All your ecological mysteries will be revealed.

### **Birds of a Feather**

*11:00 p.m. to 11:50 p.m. – WAM Plaza*

Back by popular demand, interact with live raptors perched outside the museum. Get in touch with your night owl and learn about the different raptors in Minnesota.

### **The Ark of the Anthropocene by artist Sean Connaughty**

*9:01 p.m. to 5:26 a.m. – WAM Lawn (East River Road)*

Encounter this immersive ecosystem in the great stone egg before it is swept away, beginning its long journey to the sea.

### **Conversant Portraits with artist Anne Labovitz**

*9:01 p.m. to 5:26 a.m. – WAM Plaza*

Sit and converse. Push the boundaries of traditional portraiture. Anne Labovitz will transpose your words and visually synthesize them into paintings.

### **Glassicles by artist Karl Unnasch**

Co-presented with SooVAC

*9:01 p.m. to 5:26 a.m. – Riverview Gallery*

Dance under the moonlight with UMN student dance groups. Large glass chandelier sculptures, made from recycled glass, provide the ambience for your dancing inspiration.

### **Gossip Orchestra**

Presented by Northern Lights.mn

*9:01 p.m. to 5:26 a.m. – WAM Plaza*

Gossip Orchestra is an interactive installation consisting of twenty musicians positioned in a large circle. Audience members will have the opportunity to step within this circle and take the role of “conductor” and “composer.”

## **Sacred Harp Singers**

Presented by Northern Lights.mn

*9:01 p.m. to 5:26 a.m. – Riverview Gallery*

Sacred Harp is a uniquely American tradition that brings communities together to sing four-part hymns and anthems. Not affiliated with any denomination, Sacred Harp “singings” act to continue a tradition that is a living, breathing, and ongoing practice passed by generations of singers. All beginners and new comers are welcome to join in the fun. UMN student group Vocal U will perform with the Sacred Harp Singers.

The University of Minnesota is a proud partner of this year’s Northern Spark arts festival. By encouraging artistic collaboration across a variety of disciplines, the U is helping light the way to a more innovative and creative future. University department participants include the Institute for Advanced Study, Northrop, Weisman Art Museum, Bell Museum of Natural History, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, U of M Department of Art and University Dining Services.

### **ABOUT WAM**

Since its origin in 1934, the Weisman Art Museum has been a teaching museum for the University of Minnesota. Today, education remains central to the museum’s mission to create art experiences that spark discovery, critical thinking, and transformation, linking the University and the community. The Weisman Art Museum is located at 333 East River Road, Minneapolis, on the University of Minnesota campus. Admission to exhibition galleries is always free.

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