

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

UME Museum of Art announces Fall Exhibitions

BANGOR – The University of Maine Museum of Art, located at 40 Harlow Street in downtown Bangor, opens two new featured exhibitions in September. UMMA is open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am - 5 pm and brings modern and contemporary art exhibitions to the region, presenting approximately 12 original exhibitions each year. UMMA's fall exhibitions open to the public on September 23 and run through December 31, 2016. Admission to the Museum of Art is free in 2016 & 2017 thanks to the generosity of Deighan Wealth Advisors.

CONTEMPORARY CURRENTS: NINE NEW BRUNSWICK ARTISTS

Sept. 23 - Dec. 31, 2016
Contemporary Currents: Nine New Brunswick Artists highlights a diversity of creative approaches and genres—from representational to conceptual—by artists from throughout New Brunswick. Also varied is the wide range of media in the exhibition that includes ceramic, photography, oil painting, assem-

blage, mixed media, sculpture and printing processes. The works in Contemporary Currents underscore the refreshingly pluralist nature of contemporary art across the globe. Like the briskly moving currents of divergent thoughts winding through today's art world, these artists offer multiple points of view on the complex nature of contemporary artistic practice.

The University of Maine Museum of Art, a cultural resource of Maine's flagship land and sea grant university, partnered with the New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage & Culture on this landmark exhibition. UMMA Director George Kinghorn, who curated Contemporary Currents, states, "It has been a distinct pleasure to bring together works by these accomplished New Brunswick artists for the enjoyment and educational enrichment of audiences throughout Maine, New England and beyond. We hope projects such as this will inspire future collegial and worthwhile col-



Stephen Scott, Self Portrait, 1986. Oil on canvas.

laborations between Maine and New Brunswick institutions."

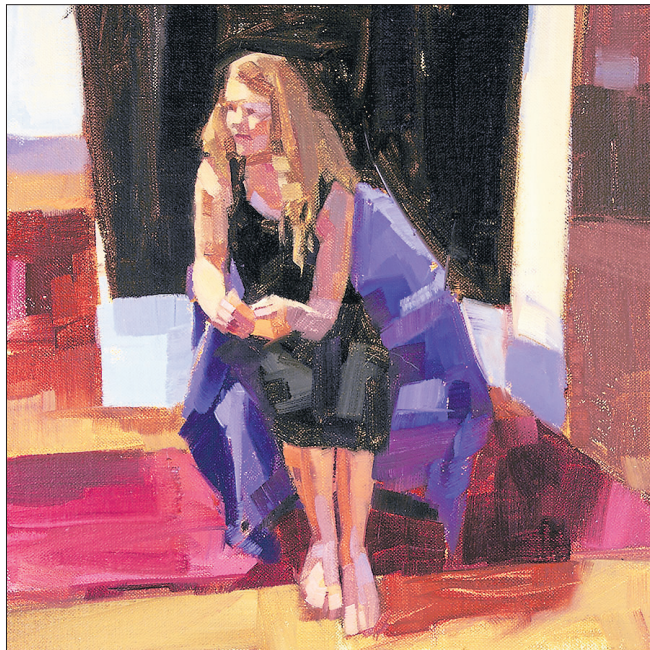
Featured artists: Erik Edson, Darren Emenau, Mathieu Léger, Neil Rough, Stephen Scott, Anne-Marie Sirois, Dan Steeves, Anna Torma and Istvan Zsako. Our exhibition partner: New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture, and our exhibition sponsors are Machias Savings Bank and the Maine Arts Commission

PHILIP FREY: PARALLELS

Sept. 23 - Dec. 31, 2016

Parallels features a new assortment of oil paintings by Maine artist Philip Frey. The artist, most known for his expressive images of the Maine landscape, provides varied glimpses of other subjects and approaches in this exhibition including cityscapes, portraits and abstract compositions.

Frey explains that these



COURTESY OF PHILIP FREY

Philip Frey, Adjusting (Heather), 2016. Oil on linen panel.

works address "a need to explore, discover and stretch my limits as a painter" and that "by design, the explorations in one series influence the other and vice versa." While the new abstract works allow Frey to investigate a more intuitive and

improvisational process, the paintings exhibit color relationships and sensitive brushstrokes that are often seen in his representational works.

Admission to the Museum of Art is FREE in 2016 thanks to the generosity of Deighan Wealth Advisors.

'Moo': a new novel by Maine author Sharon Creech

Award-winning novelist pens new narrative about big family moves... and cows

SARAH WALKER CARON
BDN STAFF

Moving to a new town can be hard for kids. And when that move is from a busy city to a rural area, it's even more challenging. A new book by a Maine-based John Newbery Medal-winning author explores the complexities of this, and how opening up to a new experience can help.

"Moo," by author Sharon Creech, is a middle-grade novel that tells the story of a family's move from the city

to rural Maine, and the relationships that develop as a result — including between 12-year-old Reena and a stubborn cow named Zora. This is Creech's 20th book, all published with HarperCollins, a rarity for authors.

Told in both poetry and prose, the book is a little different from most novels.

"The character Reena started in this kind of lyrical way and then she evolved," Creech said. "I think it works better if she alternates because she has these two different kinds of voices

... like people in real life."

Creech liked being able to mix poetry and prose in the book because it added an element of playfulness, which she said enhanced the reading of it.

"I've been wanting to do that in a book for a long time," Creech said.

The story was inspired by her grandchildren's real-life move to Maine, as well as her own.

"[My husband and I] had been living overseas for almost 20 years in England and Switzerland," Creech

explained. When she and her husband moved back to the United States, they were planning to settle in western New York in a house they had renovated. But when their daughter and her husband decided to move with their kids to Camden, everything changed.

"When they decided to move, they said, 'Why don't you come too?'" Creech said. "My husband said, 'We'll put our house on the market and if it sells we'll move.'"

It did. And they did, and they've been living in

Maine ever since.

Creech's granddaughter began volunteering at a farm in Rockport, mucking stalls, leading 800-pound cows around and feeding them. That led her to join 4-H, and participating in fairs, which she found she loves.

"It's this whole new delightful world," Creech said. "We were full up with this whole new experience. ... This living here, and living and breathing cows."

While Creech's grandchildren are used to inspiring

her work, she said that she had a special moment with her grandson Niko when the advanced readers' copies of the books arrived. He wanted to be the first to read it and did, with Creech reading the last 20 pages of the novel with him.

"It was the most moving experience to me. Seeing your words being read by your own grandchild ... At the very end, he [said], 'Awww, it was the right ending,'" Creech said.

"Moo" is available where books are sold.

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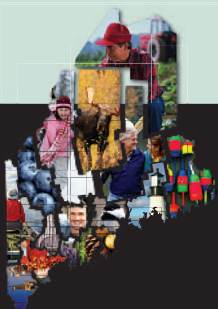
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