

# L'innamorato Pushes Borders

Lowbrow art, also tagged as pop-surrealism, caught the attention of Fort Wayne gallery owner, Dan Hudson, about six years ago. He was intrigued by the movement which is a mash-up of rockabilly, punk and hot rod culture captured by edgy comic book-style illustrations topped with a dash of Dali-inspired surrealism.

Hudson, who operates the Potter's Wife Gallery at 1421 Broadway, has had his eye on the artistic trend for several years as he waited for the perfect time to bring a lowbrow show to Fort Wayne. After an overflow of support from patrons during the 2012 FWMoA Trolley Tour, Hudson planned for a spectacular event in 2013. He decided to reach beyond his usual circle of local artists to create a collection of work representing a genre rather than a geographical region.

*L'innamorato* is a show put together with an approach that is unusual for Hudson. Rather than curate a collection based on a series of work or a particular piece of art, he, along with co-curator Aunia Kahn, hand selected a group of artists, gave them a common theme and let each one interpret it in his or her own way.

"I think the process resulted in something a bit more interesting than what I would have normally picked," said Hudson. "The concept pushed my own personal borders."

As the paintings arrived at the gallery, Hudson describes himself as unwrapping each one with the anticipation of a child at Christmas. *L'innamorato* artists represent places both near and far, including Fort Wayne, Kalamazoo, Los Angeles and Seattle as well as Italy and Scotland. Social media allowed Hudson to tap into high quality artists from all over the world.

"What we received is not what we thought we wrote for the theme, but we decided to let the artists run with it," says Hudson. When translated, *L'innamorato* means "the enamored." The theme challenged each



## Art Fix Heather Miller

artist to think about the people and forces in nature that deeply affected the core of his or her individuality. Artists were asked to respond visually to "that feeling that changes us forever."

Many responded with examples of portraits combined with layers of symbolism. One portrait, painted by Jane Corrado of Orlando, Florida, shows a young girl with three cicadas. Two of the insect exoskeletons are entangled in her hair and rest on the top of the figure's head. One live cicada seems to find peace resting on the thin, pale figure's shoulder. At first the image may be a bit off-putting to a viewer, but after giving the insects a moment to settle in, fear subsides giving way to a feeling of tranquility and balance.

The viewer's experience is similar for many of the pieces in the show. At first the images may shock, but given time, layers of meaning and understanding begin to come forth. The works can tap into a place within the folds of human identity and carry one to a private place. These paintings prompt thought and question, which are two high qualities for a collection of art.

To view individual artist information visit [Linnamorato.com](http://Linnamorato.com). The Potter's Wife Gallery will highlight *L'innamorato* during the Downtown Gallery Hop, Holiday Edition on Saturday, November 30. Eight galleries will be featured on a self-guided tour that runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Galleries included on the hop include 3R Gallery, Artlink, Castle Gallery, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Hedgehog Press, Lotus Gallery, Northside Gallery and PottersWife Gallery.

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## Student Film Seeks Cast, Crew

Writer/director Scott Carelli is casting actors for *The Cupid Division*, a 25-minute student film about a young couple that refuses to fall in love. Shooting will take place January through May with the possibility of reshoots in the summer. The lead roles are Meg and Tom, charmingly endearing cynics in their mid-to-late twenties. Both actors should have comedic backgrounds. "Meg" should have stage combat experience and "Tom" should have dance experience. Supporting, minor, and background roles are available for actors in their twenties and above, as well as a five-year-old boy. Crew members are also needed, including a dance choreographer, fight choreographer, CCG animation (familiar with and having access to Adobe AfterEffects or similar), a production assistant, and general crew members. Auditions are by appointment only. Interested parties should contact Lyssa Troemel at [lyssa.troemel@gmail.com](mailto:lyssa.troemel@gmail.com) to see a script and schedule an appointment. Class and/or work schedules should be available at the time of the audition. Actors should be prepared to read sides pulled from the script. Those interested in crew positions should include a resume and/or reel.

## Vagina Monologues at IPFW

IPFW Women's Studies, Campus Feminists in Solidarity and the Center for Non-Violence in Fort Wayne are collaborating on an upcoming production of *The Vagina Monologues* in conjunction with V-Day, February 14 and 15, 2014. Auditions were held last week, and additional auditions will be 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, December 3 at IPFW's Walb Student Union, G21 and G21A. Rehearsals will be 7-9 p.m. Thursday, January 30, and Tuesday February 4 at IPFW, with a dress rehearsal on Wednesday, February 12, at the IPFW Studio Theatre in Kettler Hall (where the per-



## The Green Room JEN POIRY-PROUGH

formances will take place). No experience in performing is necessary.

For more information, contact [vdayfwvtwm@gmail.com](mailto:vdayfwvtwm@gmail.com). The production is not affiliated with the IPFW Dept. of Theatre.

## First Pres Dinner Theater

First Presbyterian Theater's original *Christmas Revue* opens December 5 and runs through December 22. The revue – created by Jack Cantey, Thom Hofrichter and Jim Mergenthal and choreographed by Sara Black – features sacred and secular holiday songs, dances and comedic sketches suitable for the entire family.

The theater will offer a one-night-only dinner theater prior to the December 6 performance with a menu to include chicken Alfredo, green salad, fruit kabob, rolls and cheesecake. Appetizers will be served at the gallery opening prior to the dinner. For reservations, call 422-6329 or 426-7421 ext. 121. Dinner theatre price is \$35 (\$33 for seniors, \$15 for students).

## O'Connell Wins Artie Award

John O'Connell received the Margaret Ann Keegan Award at the November 6 Artie Awards ceremony held by Arts United. Nominated by Susan Domer and IPFW, O'Connell was recognized for making a significant contribution to furthering arts education in northeast Indiana. Recently appointed as dean of the IPFW College of Visu-

## Current Exhibits

### ALCOVE AND FRIENDS HOLIDAY SHOW

— Works by members of regional artists cooperative, **Monday-Friday thru Dec. 20** Arts Place, Portland, 726-4809

### A LITTLE BIT OF BIG ART

— Invitational exhibit curated by the Artist Panel of large artwork, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 4**, Feature Gallery, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, suggested \$2 donation (opening reception free), 424-7195, [www.artlinkfw.com/category/exhibitions/](http://www.artlinkfw.com/category/exhibitions/)

### ART FOR THE HOLIDAYS: FEATURING HANDMADE ORNAMENTS & NATIVITIES

— Holiday-themed ornaments and art from regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 31 (except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day)**, The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

### ART SQUARED

— Juried show featuring bodies of work by 60 artists in their chosen media displaying 20 small square panels together in a group of 4 panels across and 5 panels down, **daily thru Jan. 4, 2014**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

### BILL SHEWMAN AND PAUL DEMAREE

— Paintings by Bill Shewman and Paul Demaree; Demaree's works focus on the unattainability of the American Dream to citizens, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 4**, Betty Fishman Gallery, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, suggested \$2 donation (opening reception free), 424-7195, [www.artlinkfw.com/category/exhibitions/](http://www.artlinkfw.com/category/exhibitions/)

### CASH & CARRY HOLIDAY EXHIBIT

— Holiday art, **daily, Dec. 4-Jan. 5**, Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102, [www.honeywell-center.org](http://www.honeywell-center.org)

## Calendar • Art & Crafts

### C.W. MUNDY: AMERICAN IMPRESSIONIST

— Recent paintings by Hoosier artist C.W. Mundy and other local and national artists, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru Dec. 7**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568, [www.castlegallery.com](http://www.castlegallery.com)

### DECATUR SCULPTURE TOUR

— Features 20 sculptures on display, **daily thru May 31**, 2nd & Monroe Streets, Decatur, 724-2604, [www.decatursculpturetour.com](http://www.decatursculpturetour.com)

### ELECTRICITY

— Traveling exhibition exploring electricity through highly engaging hands-on displays with live currents, motors, batteries, wires and more, **Wednesday-Sunday thru January 5**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$8 (2 and under, free), 424-2400 ext. 423

### FESTIVAL OF TRAINS

— 15th annual exhibition of model trains, **Friday-Sunday, Nov. 29-Dec. 1**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$7-\$8 (2 and under free), 424-2400

### FIRESIDE CHRISTMAS

— Holiday showcase, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Jan. 5**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, 427-6440

### FORT WAYNE ARTIST GUILD BUSINESS EXHIBITIONS

— Works by Toni Murray at Aldersgate Methodist Church, Cheri Droege at Allen County Retinal Surgeons, Carolyn Stachera and Sue Joseph at Citizens' Square, Robert Einhaus at Lutheran Rehab Hospital, John Kely at Ophthalmology Consultants SW, Linda Hall and Linda Galloway at Ophthalmology Consultants North, Dick Hefflefinger at Parkview Physicians' Plaza, Anita Trick at ResCare Adult Day Care Service, Brenda Baumeier at Townhouse Retirement Center Library, Doni Adam at Visiting Nurse Hospice, Carolyn Stachera and Roddy Dammeier at Will Jewelers and Karen Harvey at Ivy Tech Café, **daily thru Nov. 30**, [www.fortwaynearestartistsguild.org](http://www.fortwaynearestartistsguild.org)

al and Performing Arts, O'Connell is well known for his contributions to the field of arts education as a professor, mentor and leader of the IPFW Dept. of Theatre. His work has connected IPFW students and faculty to the community through partnerships with nonprofit arts organizations and area school systems.

O'Connell has also been named the new regular host of *Arts Weekly*, a weekly half-hour program that airs Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. on WFWA39. The program, started by former VPA Dean Chuck O'Connor and subsequently hosted by Melinda Haines, is now in its fifth year. The show features regional artists, musicians, dancers, directors and actors discussing their work and how people in the community can enjoy it, making the arts part of their lives.

## Meet Dan Butler

Theater patrons are invited to meet Dan Butler, Richard Waterhouse and the entire cast and crew of the IPFW Dept. of Theatre production of *Our Town* at a special opening night reception immediately following the Friday, December 6 performance at the IPFW Alumni Center.

*Our Town* tickets for the reception are \$15 and include a selection of hors d'oeuvres, a complimentary drink and a wine and beer cash bar as well as the opportunity to meet one of the IPFW theatre department's most ardent supporters. Not only has Butler created an endowed scholarship for the department, but he returns on a regular basis to conduct a workshop with the students on acting for the camera.

Although the opening night performance is sold out already, tickets are still available for the reception. Performances for *Our Town* run December 6-15. Tickets for the reception and performances are available at the IPFW box office at 481-6555 or [www.ipfw.edu/tickets](http://www.ipfw.edu/tickets)

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