FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Ulrich proudly presents an exhibition to acknowledge the Wichita artists’ collaborative Fisch Haus this spring and summer. As the director, I can sincerely contain my excitement and pride about this project. The museum chose to organize the exhibition for many compelling reasons. The caliber of the artists, the impact of their activities and the importance of our role to recognize local artists of merit are chief among them.

Art museums serve their communities in many ways. It is essential to bring the world of art to the people of Wichita and the surrounding region. Ulrich staff keep a finger on the pulse of the changing art world. We work hard to bring the new trends, ideas from the best, recent scholarship and strong artists from other points on the globe to our campus and city. In fact, they have for some time. The exhibitions, concerts, literary readings, fashion shows—you name it—it presented at Fisch Haus over the years make it the place to be if you want to know about the local scene. At the Ulrich, we decided this 21st birthday was high time to pay tribute.

Kansas also celebrates a key birthday this year. The state turns 150! The Ulrich acknowledges this major event by presenting a number of exhibitions and projects that highlight this time period. Many great artists are chief among them. The Fisch Haus exhibition is one. This fall the Ulrich presents the project for the Ulrich. Stay tuned for fall!

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Simultaneously, it is the responsibility of every art museum to recognize regional talent and support the arts locally and in concert with others. Organizing the exhibition and producing a catalogue on the Fisch Haus artists fits this key part of our mission. With it, we acknowledge the excellence of their artistic practices and the lasting reverberations of their programs in Wichita.

Fisch Haus marks their 21st anniversary in 2011. At the Ulrich, we appreciate that this collaborative sits at the epicenter of the alternative, contemporary art scene in our city. In fact, they have for some time. The exhibitions, concerts, literary readings, fashion shows—you name it—it presented at Fisch Haus over the years make it the place to be if you want to know about the local scene. At the Ulrich, we decided this 21st birthday was high time to pay tribute.

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Please come, look and enjoy.

— Dr. Patricia McDonnell, Director

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FISCH HAUS: 2: AN ARTISTS’ COLLABORATIVE COMES OF AGE

PATRICK DUEGAW, JOHN ERNATT, ERIC SCHMIDT AND KENT WILLIAMS

April 16 – August 7, 2011 Polk/Wilson galleries

Creativity, collaboration and community—Wichita’s Fisch Haus emerged form and consistently promotes the intersection of these three principles. In 1991, four friends—Patrick Duegaw, John Ernatt, Eric Schmidt and Kent Williams—formed the artists’ cooperative. At first known for their temporary ad hoc exhibitions in vacant downtown buildings, in 1996 the artists established a physical location by purchasing a warehouse on Commerce Street. A vacant building when they moved in, the warehouse now shares the artists’ names—Fisch Haus—and is home to an array of live studio, performance and exhibition spaces. Masters of improvisation, the artists have spent years constructing these spaces with scavenged, reclaimed and inventively repurposed materials. Walking through Fisch Haus, one encounters creativity at every turn.

Over the past 21 years, its quartet of founding artists have developed their own distinct creative careers. Duegaw and Ernatt are accomplished painters; Schmidt, a ceramist, received his bachelor’s from McNeese State University and is from Welsh, Louisiana. Carnes, a sculptor, received his bachelor’s in interior architecture from Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. There he focused on sculpture and drawing and collaborative, conceptual work continues as a life passion. For the past 17 years, he and artist Jeff Wheeler have worked and exhibited as a collaborative team under the pseudonym Franklin Adarekar, taken from their middle names. James Adarekar (an artist and Franklin Wheeler) highlights of his career working as Franklin Adarekar (you can look him on Facebook) include group exhibitions with such notable artists as Louis J. Hirschl and Robert Rauschenberg, both of whom are in the Ulrich collection.

The board and staff are pleased to have James as part of the Ulrich team.

As these friends have followed their individual artistic paths, Fisch Haus— the place—has become a true part of the Wichita art community and is recognized for making critical contributions to the development of the city’s increasingly dynamic network of arts venues. Each year Fisch Haus presents a rich roster of interdisciplinary exhibitions, musical performances, readings, films and festivals.

The Ulrich anniversary celebration commemorates the important contributions that Fisch Haus has made to Wichita. The show presents a survey of artworks made by the founding Fisch Haus artists over the past two decades, including a new collaborative installation by all four artists and the debut of a Duegaw painting commissioned by the museum; the show promises to engage both those well versed in Fisch Haus history and Ulrich visitors unacquainted with this vital arts community in typical Ulrich fashion. It invites everyone to come and enjoy the party.
SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 7-9 P.M.
MEMBERS’ OPENING PARTY
The Ulrich community comes together to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Fitch Haus. Come early and be among the first to view the Ulrich’s newest acquisition, a commissioned 24-foot-long, full-length painting by Fitch Haus artist Patrick Duegaw. To make a reservation (free for Ulrich members and WSU students), $7 for general public), call (316) 978-3666 or e-mail ulrich@wichita.edu.

MONDAY, APRIL 18 AND MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2-4 P.M.
CONTINUING EDUCATION: Emily Stamey
Pop Art at Re nast
WSU Hughes Metropolitan Complex, 2015 East 29th Street North
AndrW-Walters's paintings of Campbell’s soup cans and film stars and Roy Lichtenstein’s renderings of comic book romances and explosions—these icons of 1960s pop art set precedents that continue to inform artists in the 21st century. This course will survey the evolution of American pop art and the themes of consumerism, politics, gender and identity that reverberate throughout its past and present. Emily Stamey is curator of modern and contemporary art at the Ulrich Museum of Art. Stamey received her Ph.D. in art history from the University of Kansas, Lawrence. Her research focused on the work of contemporary Japanese-American artist Roger Shimomura.

KANSAS 150
2011 marks a milestone in our state’s history, and Kansas is celebrating with events and programs throughout the year. From now to Roy Lichtenstein’s renderings of comic book romances and explosions—these icons of 1960s pop art set precedents that continue to inform artists in the 21st century. This course will survey the evolution of American pop art and the themes of consumerism, politics, gender and identity that reverberate throughout its past and present. Emily Stamey is curator of modern and contemporary art at the Ulrich Museum of Art. Stamey received her Ph.D. in art history from the University of Kansas, Lawrence. Her research focused on the work of contemporary Japanese-American artist Roger Shimomura.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2011 WICHITA JAZZ FESTIVAL: Andreas Douglas and the Harlem Renaissance 5:30 P.M. Hors d’oeuvres and drinks with music by the WSU Jazz Program and The Fingerlickers.

Fingerlickers is a contemporary jazz ensemble whose music pays homage to the rhythms and dynamism of the Harlem Renaissance. The Fingerlickers keep the spirit of the 1920s and 1930s alive through its parodies of American history, art, music, dance and social commentary as the Harlem Renaissance. Andreas Douglas and the Fingerlickers present a collaboration between the WSU Jazz program and the Ulrich Museum in conjunction with the 2011 WSU Jazz Festival and the Fingerlicker’s new CD, With Footage, and live musical interludes, it will present Douglas’ work in the context of 20th-century American jazz and the period of interest in African cultural heritage.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1-3 P.M.
FAMILY FUN DAY:Officers of the United Front/Rowen Fitch/Fish Inspired by the Ulrich exhibition “American Literature, Music, Dance and Social Significance” (1861-2011) this event will present the Ulrich’s collection of works by African American artists in dialogue with American life. The Ulrich Museum is proud to present the Artists of the United Front/Rowen Fitch: Fish, an installation inspired by the works of three of America’s most compelling artists of the 20th century: Horace Pippin, Langston Hughes, and Andy Warhol. The Ulrich exhibition “American Literature, Music, Dance and Social Significance” (1861-2011) this event will present the Ulrich’s collection of works by African American artists in dialogue with American life. The Ulrich Museum is proud to present the Artists of the United Front/Rowen Fitch: Fish, an installation inspired by the works of three of America’s most compelling artists of the 20th century: Horace Pippin, Langston Hughes, and Andy Warhol.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 10 A.M. REHEARSALS, 1:00 P.M. PROGRAM SENIOR WEDNESDAY: Lora Jost and Dave Leowenstein Kansas Murals Kansas is home to more than 600 murals, one of which welcomes visitors to the Ulrich Museum of Art at Wichita State University. In 2006 accomplished muralists Lora Jost and Dave Leowenstein began a project to document Kansas murals. Kansas Murals: A Towering View is a celebration of these visual treasures and the people who made them. Lora Jost and Dave Leowenstein are both artists whose work is available in private collections and public institutions throughout the world. The Ulrich Museum is proud to present the Artists of the United Front/Rowen Fitch: Fish, an installation inspired by the works of three of America’s most compelling artists of the 20th century: Horace Pippin, Langston Hughes, and Andy Warhol.

TUESDAY, MAY 4 AND WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 12-1 P.M.
THE ART OF MAKING: Tony Stamey and Robert Greer Kansas City Postcard Party Kansas City Postcard Party is a collaboration between the WSU Department of English and WSU Creative Writing program.

FRI. MAY 6, NOON-3 P.M.
MEET-THE-ARTISTS RECEPTION Join the Ulrich to congratulate the Spring 2011 WSU School of Art and Design FPA students. Philip Barnes, Nathan Caim Carms, Lauren Clay Joe Leonard and Trent Mosley artists talk about their work at 12:30 pm with a welcome from Barry Badgett, director of the School of Art and Design.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 5-7 P.M.
BUZZ-WORTHY ART TALK: Toby Kamps At Teweecker-Now Toriberto Cobo at the Wichita Art Museum.

Toby Kamps is a respected, internationally renowned artist who was the first to introduce and popularize the concept of the “space-age cowboy” and the use of space-age 1960s materials. The Ulrich is proud to present this occasion of the rare Kansas appearance of Toby Kamps, who will be sharing his work with the public.

JULY 4, 5:30 P.M.
MEET-THE-ARTISTS RECEPTION Join the Ulrich to celebrate the art of Matthew Baca, a junior BFA painting student. Baca will discuss his own work as well as works in the permanent collection. In July we will offer everyone the opportunity to see works by WSU students from the past year in the annual Senior Reception. Everyone is welcome to attend this event.

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 5-7 P.M.
ART FOR YOUR EARS: Black Mountain Museum galleries open at 6:30 p.m.

AUGUST 20 — NOVEMBER 27, 2011  Polk/Wilson galleries
TERRY EVANS: MATFIELD GREEN STORIES
Carolyn Evans has been living in Matfield Green, Kansas, since 1983. She paints and writes about life on the Kansas prairie, the people of Matfield Green and her art. She will have a solo exhibition at the Ulrich Museum of Art in the fall of 2011. Terry Evans’ work is included in collections throughout the United States and Europe. She is represented by The Ulrich Museum of Art.

SEPTEMBER 17
SAVE THE DATE
Museum Purchase
Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 500 Jayhawk Boulevard, Wichita, Kansas 67260

FALL 2011-13 COLLECTIONON VIEW
ANDREW WYETH
Philip L. B. Steere Art Center-Parsons

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM
Cost is $3 per child with a minimum of 10 children. Adults are free.

Each summer the Ulrich offers guided tours and related art activities for kids’ groups (10 or more) to explore the collection and special exhibitions to learn more about art and the world around them. This summer’s schedule is included in the Ulrich’s Summer Youth Program activities.

JUNE: MILESTONE MEMORIES
When the Ulrich Museum of Art opened in 2004, a milestone moment was celebrated. The museum’s board of directors and staff wanted to commemorate this historical event by commissioning a special piece of art. The result is a strikingly beautiful painting by Wichita artist Linda Fisher, who included her own dog, Murphy, in the composition. The painting is titled, “Murphy’s Day.” This year, the Ulrich is proud to announce the unveiling of the first addition to the Milestone Memories collection. The painting is titled, “Murphy’s Day.” This year, the Ulrich is proud to announce the unveiling of the first addition to the Milestone Memories collection.

JULY: POP ART
Campbell’s soup cans, newspaper clippings, Brillo boxes, billboards and celebrity magazines animated the art in the 1960s. This summer’s Summer Youth program looks at the origins of Pop Art and related exhibitions. It is a great chance for children to explore the collection and learn about the work of artists who revolutionized the world of art.

AUGUST: TRAVELING TO THE PAST
Travel back in time with the Ulrich’s Summer Youth program. Children will become “art historians” as they look at art from the different cultures and time periods to get a better understanding of the world and people of the past.

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