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FotoFocus Returns to Region: Here's What to See in NKY









FotoFocus, the biennial, month-long celebration of photography and lens-based art, returns to the region for its third edition this fall with lots of participation in Northern Kentucky.

October is the official FotoFocus month, with dozens of museums, galleries, universities, community centers, and more participating and there will be four days of concentrated programming and events to be Oct. 6-9. Find everything you need to know here. Galleries are free unless noted.

The Carnegie and Northern Kentucky University both open early, with receptions this week.

Here's a look at both William Knipscher: Where the Light Goes (The Carnegie) and A

Photographic Survey of the American Yard, Photographs by Joshua White (NKU) followed by a listing of the other Northern Kentucky exhibits.

William Knipscher: Where the Light Goes, through Nov. 26. The Carnegie, 1028 Scott Blvd., Covington. Free reception 7-8 p.m. Oct. 13 with exhibitions director Matt Distel and artist William Knipscher. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 12-3 p.m. Saturdays. 859-491-2030 and www.thecarnegie.com.

Knipscher uses light sensitive paper to make various origami shapes and then selectively exposes that paper to light, Carnegie exhibitions director Matt Distel explains.

"They result in images that resemble rooms or volumes/shapes. They end up looking like abstract interior spaces." Distel has known Knipscher since he came to Cincinnati a few years ago as adjunct faculty at DAAP.



"I always liked his work from the more traditional to the more experimental stuff he is making now. I think he is a really thoughtful and deliberate artist."

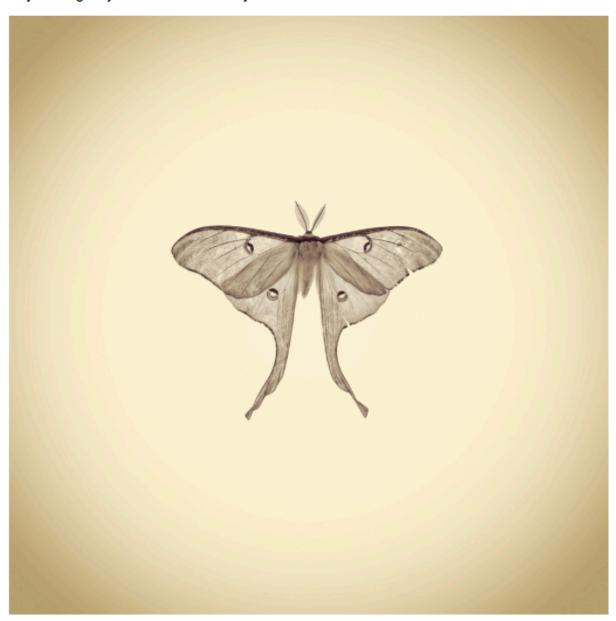
Distel says he chose Knipscher as The Carnegie's FotoFocus entry "because I think he makes really compelling work as a more traditional photographer and also pushes the boundaries of what makes a photograph."

Knipscher has a series that uses a blue-tinted paper that will be a permanent piece down in The Carnegie lobby. "If you think about that Carnegie lobby and all of the different dimensions and volumes and the tall blue walls and staircases, then Will's large-scale version of his origami series has a strong interaction with our building's interior."

A Photographic Survey of the American Yard, Photographs by Joshua White, Sept. 22-Oct. 28. NKU Galleries, Fine Arts Center, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights. Free opening reception with Joshua White 4:30-6 p.m. Sept. 23, followed by an artist talk at 6:15 p.m. in the Budig Theater. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays. 859-572-5148 and here.

Joshua White is an alumni of the NKU Visual arts program and was featured in National Geographic magazine last fall. *American Yard* is an ongoing series comprising more than 750 images of the plants, animals, and insects Joshua White uses to explore ideas of place, cycles of life and death, ecology, and memory. The installation at NKU features 200 prints from the series.

All the images were captured on his iPhone. White noted, "the tool seems fitting, serving as a way to bridge my distracted life and my love of science and nature."



White says, "My mother tells me I used to lie on my stomach and watch ants crawling through the grass for hours. I remember catching June bugs off of her wild roses in a Styrofoam cup, and finding box turtles in the gravel pit near our house. I still love hearing the cicadas come out in summer, getting tobacco juice from a grasshopper on my fingers, and catching lightning bugs in a pickle jar.

"The world is full of intricate, remarkable forms, but we take for granted our place in nature, trading sensitivity to our surroundings for greater productivity and progress."

The entire ongoing series of American Yard can be seen at instagram.com/joshuadwhite.

See Joshua White's lecture The Ecology of Memory, in which he shares the evolution of his artistic practice, weaving together ideas of mortality, biology, memory and sustainability here.

Other local Northern Kentucky exhibits in FotoFocus:

Foto Founders, Oct. 1-31. Behringer-Crawford Museum, Devou Park, 1600 Montague Rd., Covington. Opening reception 6-8 p.m. Sept. 30, featuring a discussion with the artists about the significance of, and need for, university photography programs. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Free to FotoFocus Passport holders in October, \$9 adults, \$8 seniors (60+), \$5 children. 859-491-4003 and www.bcmuseum.org/

Foto Founders is an invitational recognizing five influential photographers and educators who have helped to develop the well-respected and thriving photography departments within the Greater Cincinnati's academic institutions: Jerry Stratton and Jane Alden Stevens, University of Cincinnati; Barbara Houghton and Barry Andersen, Northern Kentucky University; and Cal Kowal, the Art Academy of Cincinnati. Guest-curat is local artist Diane Kruer.



All five artists-turned-educators initiated and built the university photography programs. With a combined 160 years of teaching experience, they have educated and mentored thousands of young photographers.

SURFACE by SØREN SOLKÆR, Sept. 30-Nov. 11. BLDG, 30 W. Pike St., Covington. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays and by appointment. 859-491-4228 and bldgrefuge.com/

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SURFACE is a worldwide exhibition and book project by Danish photographer Søren Solkær. The portrait anthology documents the most significant street artists and pioneering icons of the urban contemporary scene. Solkær creates images with an atmosphere of hyperrealism, with each artist iportrayed with their own artwork, often using masks or props to obscure their identity.

My Soul as I See It, Oct. 1-30. Roebling Point Books and Coffee, 306 Greenup St., Covington. Opening reception 1-5 p.m. Oct. 1. Gallery hours: 7 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. 859-815-7204 and

www.facebook.com/roeblingpointbooksandcoffee/

I.Imagine opened the world of photography to 60 kids for an immersive five-month long project that became *My Soul as I See It*. Students ranging in age from 11 to 18 from Boone County schools discovered photography in weekly sessions teaching fundamentals, artistic principles, and the artist within themselves with i.imagine's founder Shannon Eggleston.



The exhibition celebrates the power of photography as a tool to educate, build character, and discover the artist within us all. In a culmination exercise, each student selected one final piece that best represented his or her understanding of photography fundamentals in an artistic interpretation of the exhibition's theme, *My Soul as I See It*.

Like a Weed, Oct. 13-Nov. 3. Thomas More College Eva G. Farris Gallery, 333 Thomas More Pkwy.,

Crestview Hills. Opening reception and artist lecture with Laura Hartford 4-6 p.m. and artist lecture with Laura Hartford 6:15 p.m. Oct. 13 in the Science Lecture Hall. Gallery hours: 7:45 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7:45 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and 2-8 p.m. Sunday. 859-344-3300 and www.thomasmore.edu/art/art_gallery.cfm



Like A Weed is a series of portraits inspired by Victorian photography and culture. The work is a personal reflection by the artist Laura Hartford on the hopes and fears of parenting and the balance between embrace, entanglement, and release.

Staged portraits of her son Jake were created in relation to the artist's personal investigation of Victorian photography and, by extension, Victorian culture. Exploring dictionaries of Victorian flower language, Hartford began "planting" her son in her studio, burying him in moss, and then later in dirt, flowers, roots, etc.

Written by Jackie Demaline, RCN Arts