

Documentary photos explore faraway places

FotoFocus exhibit at NKU Galleries

By Jackie Demaline
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Reporting Back: A Survey of Documentary Photography is Northern Kentucky University's contribution to region-wide photography festival FotoFocus through Oct. 26.

Curator Barry Andersen, NKU professor emeritus and this year's recipient of Cincinnati photography's Spirit of Light Award, said his aim with the group show "is to provide a wide range of approaches to using photography to communicate about places and situations we may not be familiar with.

"They may be close at home, or halfway around the world," Andersen said. "I wanted to include some difficult work that brings to light situations that are hard to look at and consider, as well as some more light-hearted work."

William Albert Allard, a regular contributor to National



National Geographic photographer William Albert Allard's work in Reporting Back: A Survey of Documentary Photography at Northern Kentucky University includes "Lone Texas Rider 1974." PROVIDED

Geographic, shows a small selection of work done since the late 1960s, with images of a continuing love affair with the American West.

For everyone inspired by a month of FotoFocus to pull out a camera, Allard offered some insights:

"I'm always looking for pictures and can never say for sure just what it might be that

strikes me. Sometimes it may be a space where light and shadow form a natural framework for a picture and then I wait to see what might come along to complete it.

"Almost anything can be a photograph object. Sometimes it may be because of the way light falls on it. Sometimes it may be a person and one might want to photograph that person

IF YOU GO

» **What:** Reporting Back: A Survey of Documentary Photography
» **When:** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays
» **Where:** Northern Kentucky University Galleries, Fine Arts Center, Highland Heights
» **Information:** 859-572-5148 and www.nku.edu/~photo/reportingback/index.html

in the immediate surroundings or go look for a place and for light that works. There are no set rules as to what makes a subject appealing.

"My best advice for passionate amateur photographers is to take that passion and put it to work. Find something that can become a long-term self assignment and work on it continually. It doesn't have to be done in a week or a month; what's important is to have something to build one's vision.

"And to have a true passion. One can't do good work if one is indifferent. One must truly care."

Also on view at NKU: photos taken in Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Angola, Burma and Colombia; Samuel James, the inaugural recipient of the Alexandra Boulat Award for Photojournalism, exhibits his series "Gang Activity in Nigeria," where he has been working on a documentary since 2007.

Closer to home, photo series include Chris Smith's "The Last Farmers of Southeast Indiana," which looks at the cultural change from the time of his grandparents to the present day. Armed with a list of names, a camera and an audio recorder, he set out to "document a few of these 'last' farmers before they were all gone. Old faces with small stories – imagined no longer."

The Kentucky Documentary Project is on view in the Third Floor Gallery. The Bicentennial project features photographs from each of Kentucky's 120 counties by Ted Wathen, who conceived the project, with Bill Burke and Bob Hower. The project is now in the permanent collection of the Museum of American Art at the Smithsonian.

ART OPENINGS AND EVENTS

FOTOFOCUS RECEPTIONS

Today

Femmes Fatales, 6-10 p.m., Nvision, 4577 Hamilton Ave., Northside. 513-542-4577; www.fotofocuscincinnati.org.

Flags, 6-8 p.m., Behringer-Crawford Museum, 1600 Montague Road, Covington. 859-491-4003; www.fotofocuscincinnati.org.

Our Environment, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Lloyd Library and Museum, 917 Plum St., West End. 513-721-3707; www.fotofocuscincinnati.org.

Using Photography: Collectors' Weekend Opening Exhibition, 4-7 p.m., Michael Lowe Gallery, 905 Vine St., Downtown. 513-871-6422; www.fotofocuscincinnati.org.

Saturday

Collectors' Roundtable: Reception, 7:30-9 p.m., Contemporary Arts Center, 44 E. Sixth St., Downtown. Black Box. 513-345-8400; www.fotofocuscincinnati.org.

Contained, 2 p.m.-midnight, Grammer's, 1440 Walnut St., Over-the-Rhine. 513-421-8300; www.fotofocuscincinnati.org.

Thursday

Laurel Nakadate: Polaroids from "Stay the Same Never Change," 5-7

p.m., Art Academy of Cincinnati, 1212 Jackson St., Over-the-Rhine. 513-562-6262; www.fotofocuscincinnati.org.

OTHER OPENINGS AND EVENTS

Today

Dave Laug Exhibit: Mo'Vida, 6-9 p.m., Woman's Art Club Cultural Center, 6980 Cambridge Ave., Mariemont. The Barn. Laug describes his painting style as energetic; his goal is to put more life into his paintings through color, movement and the way it all comes together. Exhibit continues through Oct. 26. Free. 513-272-3700.

Saturday

Broadhope Open House, 2-8 p.m., Broadhope Art Collective, 3651 Glenmore Ave., Cheviot. Opening of collaborative art space formed by group of artists to create artwork, conduct workshops and exhibit and sell artwork in gallery setting. broadhopeartcollective.com.

Southeastern Indiana Art Guild Fall Art Show, 2-4 p.m., Lawrenceburg Public Library, 150 Mary St. Artists from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana display and sell original artwork. Exhibit continues through Oct. 27. Benefits Southeastern Indiana Art Guild. Free. 812-432-3246.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

TODAY

Barney Saltzberg, 4-5 p.m., Blue Marble Books, 1356 S. Fort Thomas Ave., Fort Thomas. Great Green Room. Author/illustrator reading and signing "Andrew Drew and Drew" and "Arlo Needs Glasses." Free. 859-781-0602.

"Bye Bye Birdie," 7 p.m. (2 p.m., 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday), Auditorium, Mason High School, 6100 Mason-Montgomery Road. Children's Theatre of Mason. Satire tells story of rock 'n' roll singer who is about to be inducted into the Army. \$10. 513-398-0116; www.childrenstheatreofmason.com.

Cincinnati Art and Antiques Festival, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday), Sharonville Convention Center, 11355 Chester Road. More than 30 dealers with art and antiques. Concessions available. Benefits Convalescent Hospital for Children. \$10 for three days; free parking. 513-561-0950; www.cincinnatiartandantiquesfestival.org.

An Evening with Barney Saltzberg, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Blue Manatee Children's Bookstore, 3054 Madison Road, Oakley. Bestselling author and artist

of "Beautiful Oops!" introduces young readers to his latest books, "Andrew Drew and Drew" and "Arlo Needs Glasses." Free. 513-731-2665.

SATURDAY

AED HeartSavers Dance-A-Thon, 6 p.m.-midnight, Nothin' But Net Sports Complex, 4343 Mount Carmel-Tobasco Road, Mount Carmel. Performances by Cincinnati Bop Club, Ben-Gals cheerleaders, Beechmont Square Dancers, BollyWood, Allegra Dance, Comet Skippers, CPR Education, Jazzercise and Salsa Zumba. Benefits Keith White, a sudden cardiac arrest survivor, fund. \$10 family, \$5 children. 513-528-1000.

Art in the Making: Clay: Handbuilding, 2-4 p.m., Cincinnati Art Museum, Eden Park. Artworld. Opportunity to explore handbuilding with clay with local artist Allison Leland. Ages 6-12. \$10 per pair for members, \$20 per pair non-members; \$3/\$6 each additional person. Reservations required. 513-721-2787; www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org.

Battle of the Bands, 6 p.m., Boone County Main Library, 1786 Burlington

Pike, Burlington. Free. 859-342-2665; www.bcpl.org.

Black-n-Bluegrass Rollergirls, 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m., Bank of Kentucky Center, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights. Roller Derby Unbridled Tournament. \$12 advance; \$15 at the door. 859-866-0778; black-n-bluegrass.com.

Cafe Conversations on Bullying, 6-7 p.m., Cincinnati Museum Center, Duke Energy Children's Museum, Queensgate. Discuss various topics. Children participate in separate workshop creating own superheroes. 513-287-7001; www.cincymuseum.org/programs/lectures.

Family Fright Night, 7 p.m., Washington Park, 1225 Race St., Over-the-Rhine. Family-friendly film at 7 p.m. followed by frightening classic at 9 p.m. "Beetlejuice" and "Jaws." 513-621-4400; washingtonpark.org.

Laurel and Hardy Film Evening, 6:45 p.m., Auditorium, Seasons Retirement Community, 7300 Dearwester Drive, Kenwood. Bring snacks and beverages to share. \$5, free ages 12 and under. Registration required. 513-559-0112; www.thechimplent.com.

WEEKEND FESTIVALS

TODAY

Fall Festival, 2-7:30 p.m. (9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday), Country Pumpkins, 1835 Sherman Mt. Zion Road, Dry Ridge. Corn maze, petting zoo, corn box, straw bale maze, play area and picnic shelter. Free. Through Nov. 3. 859-905-9656; www.countrypumpkinsky.com.

Independence FOP Fall Festival, 7-11 p.m. (7-11 p.m. Saturday), Independence Senior and Community Center, 2001 Jack Woods Drive. Free movie and face painting. Playground open all evening. Trail of Fear in Memorial Park: \$4; \$1 ages 5 and under children's trail. 859-356-6264.

Kinman Farms Fall Festival, 5-10 p.m. (10 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday and noon-7 p.m. Sunday), Kinman Farms, 4175 Burlington Pike, Boone County. Hay rides, corn maze, concessions, pony rides, picnic shelter area and fall decor. \$8. Through Oct. 28. 859-689-2682; www.kinmanfarmsfallfest.com.

SATURDAY

Fall Festival, 3-7 p.m., Fort Wright Elementary School, 501 Farrell Drive. Games, raffle, silent auction, cake walk, food and more. 859-331-7742.

Fall for All, 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Union Community Building, 10087 Old Union Road. Features 5K Soldier Run/Walk, craft booths, hayrides, car show, Halloween costume contest, pet clinic and more. Free. 859-384-1511; www.cityofunionky.org.

Harvest Bazaar and Turkey Dinner, 2-7 p.m., Loveland Presbyterian Church, 360 Robin Ave. Silent auction, gift baskets, crafts, raffle, children's carnival, bake sale and turkey dinner. Turkey dinner served 5-7 p.m. Dinner: \$8, \$6 seniors and ages 7-12, \$4 ages 3-6. 513-683-2525; www.lpvusa.org.

Minges Farm Pumpkin Festival, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. (10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday), 10109 New Haven Road, Harrison. Arts and crafts, music, pumpkin pie eating contest and civil war encampment. \$5, free ages 12 and under. 513-367-0931; www.mingespumpkinfest.com.

Monroe Civil War Days, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. (10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday), Monroe Community Park, 500 S. Main St. Live battle Saturday at 3 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. Crafters, booths, music, food. Donations requested. 513-539-9573; www.monroecivilwardays.com.

Newport Harvest Fest, 11 a.m., Monmouth Street between Fourth

and 11th streets. Music, food, crafts, cornhole, face painting, hayrides, pony and carriage rides. 859-292-3666; www.cityofnewportky.org.

Piner Elementary School Fall Festival, 4:30-10 p.m., 2845 Rich Road. Traditional turkey dinner, games and auction. Benefits Piner Elementary. 859-356-2155.

Pumpkin Fest, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Faith Christian Fellowship Mason, 200 W. Church St. Games, prizes, silent auction, moon bounce, pumpkins and more. Game tickets are 50 cents. 513-398-3983; www.fcfmason.org.

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Judy Shaffer of Anderson Township's quilt "Rainforest Feast" includes thread, painted applique and traditional piecing. It's one of many works on display and for sale at this weekend's show. PROVIDED

Friday-Sunday: Contemporary and Fiber Artists (CQFA) Quilt Show and Boutique

Examine original fiber arts creations including traditional and contemporary art quilts, including one that features 25 distinct Cincinnati neighborhoods. Artistic figures, scarves and jewelry also will be on display and for sale at the Cincinnati Nature Center at Rowe Woods in Milford. CQFA members will demonstrate fiber arts techniques and a quilt that will be raffled with proceeds benefiting the nature center.

Details: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Cincinnati Nature Center at Rowe Woods, 4949 Tealtown Road, Milford. \$8, \$3 children, \$6 seniors and active military. www.cincynature.org.

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