



Opening reception November 16  
On view November 17 through March 11

## ENGAGING TECHNOLOGY: A HISTORY & FUTURE OF INTERMEDIA

The installation will be a blend of technological innovation and artistic invention that encourages the utmost engagement on the part of museum visitors.

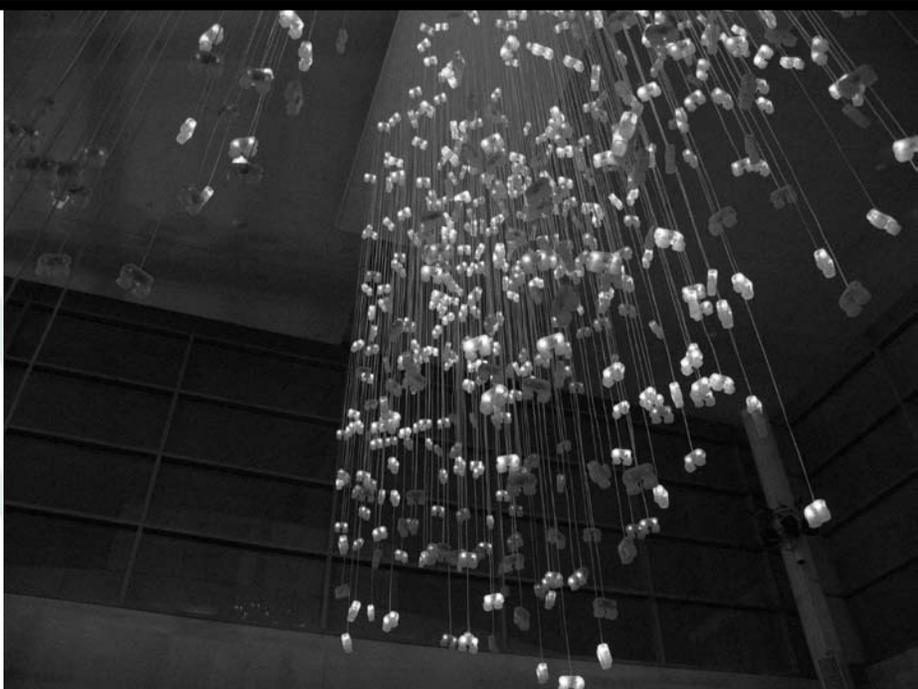
Bringing together a conceptually rich collection of works by intermedia pioneers and emerging intermedia artists, *Engaging Technology: A History and Future of Intermedia Art*, will be on view as the major exhibition for Fall 2006. The works are representative of how digital intermedia art has developed over the past four decades, said John Fillwalk, associate professor of electronic art and guest curator.

“Tracing intermedia history, the works become more and more interactive,” Fillwalk said. “Intermedia in general works to break down barriers between artist and audience, but as the technology evolves, we can see how the artists expand on what is possible.”

Fillwalk said the term “intermedia” is fluid within the art world and not always used in a technological sense, but for this exhibition he is specifically looking at technological forms. The installation will be a blend of technological innovation and artistic invention that encourages the utmost engagement on the part of museum visitors, said curator-in-charge Tania Said Schuler.

Museum visitors got an early look at intermedia art with the installation of nine mini-LED signs by intermedia artist Jenny Holzer in August. This new museum acquisition is representative of more than 25 years of Holzer’s work, from *Truisms* in 1977 through *Mother and Child* in 2003.

With the opening of *Engaging Technology* in November, visitors will be invited to discover the works of pioneering and emerging intermedia artists, including Richard Bloes, Hans Breder, Adam Brown, Ken Friedman, Dick Higgins, Gary Hill, Golan Levin, Nam June Paik, and Alan Rath.



Adam Brown’s *Bion* incorporates movement in response to the presence of visitors.

**Intermedia in general works to break down barriers between artist and audience, but as the technology evolves, we can see how the artists expand on what is possible.**

Fillwalk said the exhibition is intended to give museum visitors an introduction to intermedia. “We’re trying to create an understanding of what intermedia is,” he said. “You don’t encounter these works in many galleries or museums. It’s still a bit on the fringe.”

Even so, Fillwalk doesn’t want anyone to be the least bit intimidated by the intersection of art and technology. He chose the title — *Engaging Technology* — because he hopes that even those who don’t usually engage with technology will be engaged by it.

“Sometimes technology can be intimidating, but here everyone is invited to participate,” he said. “I was looking for works that are inviting and humorous and works that engage people at every level.”

For more information on *Engaging Technology* and related events, visit the BSUMA Website at [www.bsu.edu/artmuseum](http://www.bsu.edu/artmuseum).

### OTHER ASSOCIATED EVENTS:

- \_\_\_\_\_ • Thursday, November 16 at 3:30 pm      Conversation with the Artists
- \_\_\_\_\_ • Sunday, December 10 at 2:30 pm      Reel Time: Jenny Holzer

# ART

FALL 2006  
VOLUME 12 | NUMBER 1  
*words*



*From the Director...*

# AWARENESS & ACCESS DEFINE MUSEUM'S DIRECTION



*Access includes making  
the content of the museum  
available electronically.*

*We need to engage our visitors  
where they live, and for anyone  
under the age of 25, that means  
accessing information online.*

This is the 70th anniversary of the Museum of Art's operation in this building. Although it was called the Art Gallery when it opened, the physical plant remains nearly unchanged. What might have seemed a bit too grand for a gallery in 1936 is now about the right size for the museum.

Three years ago the museum staff met to discuss the most important goals for the coming years. The consensus was there were two areas in which we wanted to focus our energies: awareness and access. We have built our annual operating plans around these two strategic issues. One of the goals was to make the content of the museum available electronically. The response was DIDO (Digital Imaging Delivered Online), a project that got rolling with a small internal grant from the Enhanced Provost Initiative. For the pilot project we began to photograph, catalog, and enable electronic access to works in the museum collection.

Now we are ready to begin a much larger project, one that will develop a user-friendly database of the more than 11,000 works of art in the museum collection. This database will be online and can be digitally accessed by museum "visitors" from around the world. A portion of the database will interface with the Ball State University Libraries Digital Media Repository, allowing keyword searches that will bring up images from the museum collection when researchers type in even general terms such as "saints," "flowers," or even "chairs." The museum has been awarded a very generous grant of \$145,835 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to continue this project. Even the humanities can use a boost from new technologies.

Our major exhibition this autumn is plugged in, too. *Engaging Technology* as a title is a deliberate play on words. In one sense the title reflects the embracing of new technologies. At the same time, each of the works is itself engaging — even though electronically driven, each work offers a completely human element as well. You might say the museum is electrifying. *Do not miss it.*

*Peter F. Blume*

Ball State University Museum of Art  
Serving East Central Indiana since 1936

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Tania Said Schuler

*Curator of Education*

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# ART ALLIANCE CELEBRATES 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY



The summer of 2006 marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ball State University Museum of Art Alliance. Founded as a special sub-group of the Friends of the Museum, long-time Alliance member Gloria Griner said the focus hasn't changed over the years.

"We have always been focused on finding ways to support the museum," she said. The group meets monthly to hear a lecture and share a luncheon. Funds are raised through annual dues and fees paid for the monthly luncheon meetings. Monies raised finance the Art Alliance Fund.

Current Alliance president Judy Wagley said the executive committee is starting off the year with a focus on increasing membership.

"We want to make attending our programs as accessible as possible," she said. Wagley said getting younger members to attend the monthly luncheon and program is a priority.

"Also, as president, I'm looking forward to working closely with the museum staff and Alliance members to spread the word that the museum is open and available to the community at large. We want to let people know there are programs available at the museum on a regular basis."

The group began in the summer of 1981. Founding members of the Alliance were Ina Mohlman, President; Frances Petty Sargent, Vice President; and Judy Lawson, Second Vice President.

The funds collected by Alliance membership assists in the conservation of the museum's collection, said museum director Peter Blume. The group's most recent gift was the acquisition of gilt frames made by local craftsman Brian Gordy. The eight frames were purchased for the *Reordering the Universe* exhibition. See the calendar for the fall Alliance programs. For more information on the Alliance, visit [www.bsu.edu/artmuseum/friendsallies/](http://www.bsu.edu/artmuseum/friendsallies/).

**2006-2007 ALLIANCE OFFICERS:** Judy Wagley, President; Sandra Kelly, First Vice President for Programs; and Margaret Slauter, Second Vice President for Publicity; see Domenic Puligo's (1492 – 1527) *Portrait of a Lady* for the first time. Funds for its conservation were made possible by the Ball State University Museum of Art Alliance.





# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

## *fall 2006*

### SEPTEMBER

**13** WEDNESDAY • 12:00 pm

***Alliance Luncheon & Program***

Program: "Twenty-Five Years of Alliance Contributions," presented by Director Peter Blume.  
\$10 for Alliance members and guests  
(To join: \$15 Friends members, \$40 non-members)

**19** TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

***Art High at Noon: Visually Representing***

View Vic Muniz's *Seville Orange, Silver Goblet, Apples, Pear, and Two Bottles, After Chardin*; and Katherine Porter's *Chalantenango* with a BSUMA docent.

**23** FRIDAY

***Light Painting on View***

Featuring colored glass brightly lit, artist Stephen Knapp's *Light Symphony*, a mammoth 23 x 40-foot artwork, goes on view indefinitely in the Music Instruction Building on the corner of McKinley Avenue and Riverside Avenue.

**24** SUNDAY • 2:30 pm

***First Person: Director's Highlights***

Join Director Peter Blume for a tour of the favorites he organized for *Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions*, and find out more about how the Museum of Art acquires new collections.  
In conjunction with Family Weekend 2006.

### OCTOBER

**3** TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

***Art High at Noon: Gold***

View and discuss Pre-Columbian pre-contact gold pendants with a BSUMA docent.

**11** WEDNESDAY • 12:00 pm

***Alliance Luncheon & Program***

Program: "Why Museums Matter More—A History of Their Birth and Life," presented by Associate Director Carl Schafer.  
\$10 for Alliance members and guests  
(To join: \$15 Friends members, \$40 non-members)

**13** FRIDAY • 5:00 pm

***Petty Memorial Lecture***

Maxwell Anderson, Director and CEO, Indianapolis Museum of Art.  
Cocktails and dinner follow. Call the Museum of Art for more information, including cost.

**17** TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

***Art High at Noon: Childe Hassam***

View *Bowl of Goldfish* and *The Old Lyme Bridge* with a BSUMA docent.

**22** SUNDAY • 2:30 pm

***First Person: Fish and Feathered Friends***

Tour *Creatures of the Sea and Sky* with Tania Said Schuler, Curator of Education, and learn about the exhibition organized by former Associate Director Ruta T. Salikilis

**27** FRIDAY • 4:00 pm

***Annual Halloween Bash***

The Ball State University Museum of Art puts on its scariest face for a real monster mash with a costume contest, music, food, and "creepy kids crafts." All ages from the campus, community, and beyond are welcome.

**29-31** SUNDAY-TUESDAY

***Fall Break***

Museum keeps regular hours.

# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

## *fall 2006*



## NOVEMBER

### 5 SUNDAY

#### Exhibitions closing:

*Creatures of the Sea and Sky*

*Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions*

### 8 WEDNESDAY • 12:00 pm

#### *Alliance Luncheon & Program*

Program: "Expanding the Traditional Boundaries of Art and Museums," presented by Tuliza Fleming, independent scholar and curator & formerly Associate Curator, Dayton Art Institute.

*\$10 for Alliance members and guests*

*(To join: \$15 Friends members, \$40 non-members)*

### 12 SUNDAY • 12:00 pm

#### *Expert Art: Illustrated Philosophy*

Join Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Chairperson Dr. Julie Eflin for a high-speed tour of philosophy as seen through art of the last 4,000 years.

### 14 TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

#### *Art High at Noon*

View Plains Indians pipes and vests with a BSUMA docent

### 16 THURSDAY

#### *Conversation with the Artists • 3:30 pm*

#### *Exhibition opening • 4:30 pm*

*Engaging Technology:*

*A History and Future of Intermedia Art*

In association with the Muncie Young Professionals Group.

### 23-24 THURSDAY-FRIDAY

#### *Thanksgiving Break*

Museum closes.

### 28 TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

#### *Art High at Noon*

View Southwestern Indians' pottery and baskets with a BSUMA docent.

## DECEMBER

### 1 FRIDAY • 12:00 pm

#### *Reel Time: Sea in the Blood*

View Richard Furg's personal documentary about the impact of AIDS on his life.

In collaboration with the BSU Health Center, and Day with(out) Art.

### 1 FRIDAY • 5:00 - 7:00 pm

#### *Friday with Friends:*

#### *German Christmas Traditions*

Enjoy German culture by learning about its Christmas traditions as presented by Thomas B. Schwartz, taking a self-guided tour of art on view by German artists, and tasting the country's culinary delights. In conjunction with Muncie neighborhood associations.

### 10 SUNDAY • 2:30 pm

#### *Reel Time: Jenny Holzer*

A selection of film segments featuring artist Jenny Holzer, her work, and her times in conjunction with her work in the Brown Study Room.

### 13 WEDNESDAY • 12:00 pm

#### *Alliance Luncheon & Program*

Program: "Ball State's Digital Media Repository: An Asset for Learning, Teaching, and Research," presented by Dr. John Straw, Director, Archives and Special Collections Research Center, BSU Libraries

*\$10 for Alliance members and guests*

*(To join: \$15 Friends members, \$40 non-members)*

## HOLIDAY BREAK

Christmas Break - Museum closed December 22 (starting at 3:00 pm) and December 25 and 26.

New Year's Holiday - Museum closed December 29 (starting at 3:00 pm) and January 1 and 2.



## CARL SCHAFER JOINS MUSEUM STAFF

*The museum says goodbye to outgoing associate director Ruta Saliklis and welcomes Carl Schafer as he begins his tenure in that position*



For a university, the new year begins not in the cold of January but with the crush of late summer heat and humidity. It is at this time of year that the comings and goings of faculty and staff take place, and so the museum says goodbye to outgoing associate director Ruta Saliklis and welcomes Carl Schafer as he begins his tenure in that position.

Saliklis, who became a part of the museum staff in 2004, will join her husband, Ed, in San Luis Obispo, California. Ed Saliklis is an assistant professor of architectural engineering at California Polytechnic State University.

"I'll be hiking, biking, and maybe even surfing until I get serious and start working full-time again," Saliklis said.

Schafer comes to Ball State after serving as registrar at Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, Pennsylvania. An Indiana native, Schafer grew up in Madison, received his bachelor's degree from Hanover College and earned a master's in art history from Syracuse University. The move to Muncie was made for reasons both professional and personal, Schafer said.

"Professionally, this position offers a wonderful challenge," he said. "I'm very interested in collection management and accessibility."

Schafer is referring to DIDO (Digital Imaging Delivered Online), the ambitious project the museum began last year to photograph, catalog, and ultimately enable electronic access via the Internet to its more than 11,000 works of art. Museum director Peter Blume worked on a similar project with Schafer when Blume served as director of the Allentown Art Museum.

"I'm delighted that we will be working together again," Blume said. "This is a major project, one we will be working on for the next five or six years. And since we have worked together before, we won't have to reinvent the wheel." Taking the museum's collection into the digital age is the next step in making the museum more accessible.

Schafer said it's common that museums only have a small percentage of their collection on view. "So this is a very important aspect of museum work. It's a way for museums to allow their collections to be seen even when most of the collection is physically in storage because of limited space."

On a more personal level, Schafer said coming home to Indiana will allow him and his wife, Barbara, whose parents also reside in the state, to spend more time with their extended families. With five-year-old son George and newborn daughter Hannah, moving closer to the grandparents seems like a good idea.

"I'm very excited to be joining the museum. It offers a lot of professional opportunities and personally it comes at a good time," Schafer said. "It's really the perfect job for me."

On view through November 5, 2006

## SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS CLOSING THIS FALL

*From elementary age students through college, the exhibitions offer a view of the world few will see through a television screen or computer monitor.*



Two special exhibitions that have enjoyed enthusiastic response from museum visitors over the summer months and into the fall will soon become only a memory. *Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions*, a miscellany of works that have become part of the BSUMA collection since Peter Blume became director in 2003, and *Creatures of the Sea and Sky*, an exhibition focusing on the masters of the airy heights and ocean depths, will be closing Sunday, November 5, 2006.

The exhibitions have been especially popular with area educators, who find them to be applicable to a variety of subjects within any number of disciplines.

Associate professor Sue Whitaker said the capstone course she teaches in Family and Consumer Science is taken by students with a variety of majors, but taking the students to the museum is valuable for each of them as they prepare for life after graduation.

“The museum staff explains the purpose of museums within the community and makes students aware of how, as a community resource, museums can be a part of their professional careers,” Whitaker said.

***The exhibitions have been especially popular with area educators, who find them to be applicable to a variety of subjects within any number of disciplines.***

For other educators, the exhibitions offer ways of seeing and learning that go beyond the everyday. From elementary age students through college, the exhibitions offer a view of the world few will see through a television screen or computer monitor.

“For my students, it is an inspiration, even if they have never been to a museum before,” Whitaker said.

“It’s a valuable educational resource in our community that any educator can utilize.”



**For a feel of the sea and to appreciate deluxe artifacts, see *Lobster Creel with Lid*, designed by Sally Tuffin Dennis, 1993, in *Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions*.**



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MUSEUM HOURS  
MONDAY-FRIDAY  
9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
1:30 PM-4:30 PM  
765.285.5242  
www.bsu.edu/artmuseum

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS 1936 - 2006

a newsletter for the friends of



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY  
MUSEUM OF ART  
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY  
MUNCIE, IN 47306

## in this ISSUE

### *Introducing Intermedia*

In this issue, you will be introduced to intermedia. You might think of it as blend of technology and artistry that engages the viewer by breaking down the barriers between art, artist, and audience.

But to really understand intermedia, visit *Engaging Technology: A History and Future of Intermedia*, November 17 through March 11.

### PLUS...

Notes From the Director, our Calendar of Events, and so much more. All inside this issue of ARTwords!



## NEW IN THE GALLERIES

At first glance, it is easy to conclude Mark DiSuvero's welded steel sculpture *Degas Dancer* has been mightily misnamed.

Upon further inspection, and with a little reflection on the way nineteenth-century French artist Edgar Degas' presented his ballet dancers, the connection becomes a little less abstract.

Like Degas' dancers, DiSuvero's sculpture is a work of artful wonder that emphasizes the beauty of balance as well as that of grace. *Degas Dancer* is a study in disparate forms that seem to defy gravity as an enormous superstructure balances on the point of a support pier.

Next time you visit, go to the North Gallery, Bay 5, on the west side, to see *Degas Dancer*, in person. *You will enjoy the dance!*

*Degas Dancer* • Mark DiSuvero • 1980

Lent by David T. Owsley in honor of Peter F. Blume

**SUBMIT YOUR IDEAS BY MARCH 1**  
*for the Museum of Art's New Slogan!*

In the spring issue, a short list will be provided for the public's vote. Submit your idea through our homepage by visiting the "Help the BSUMA Create a New Slogan" link or by mailing your submission to [artmuseum@bsu.edu](mailto:artmuseum@bsu.edu) or the BSU Museum of Art, Attention: Slogan, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306. We want to hear from you!