

# Northeast Arts Insights

NORTHEAST  
MINNEAPOLIS  
ARTS  
DISTRICT

The Arts at Work<sup>SM</sup>

- Sponsors**
- 5 American Craft Council
  - 1 The Anchor Fish & Chips
  - 2 The Barber Sharp
  - 3 Clay Squared to Infinity
  - 4 Language Central
  - 1 Maeve's Cafe
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  - 7 Siwek Lumber & Millwork
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  - B California Building
  - C Casket Arts Buildings
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  - F Northrup King Building
  - G Q.arma Building
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  - J Thorp Building
  - K Waterbury Building



Major art buildings in the district are in black, current page sponsors in red; both, in red and black icons and listing. For info on sponsoring, call Margo at 612-788-9003.

## Artists influential

compiled by Josh Blanc & Margo Ashmore

Nicholas Harper has been voted on to the Northeast Minneapolis Art District board. He is currently the third artist on the board of ten members. The board has focused on finding voices and strong personalities to lead the Arts District through its next phase of development.

In 1999 Harper set out to open an art gallery, The Rogue Buddha, to facilitate a cross-disciplinary exhibition program that combined two and three-dimensional exhibits with dance, theater, film, music and the literary arts.

Over the past 15 years, while continuing to own and operate the Rogue Buddha Gallery, Harper continues to expand upon his personal artistic repertoire. Harper has exhibited throughout the country and is collected internationally in both private and public collections. He has appeared in numerous publications, including CNN, where he was named as an artist to watch. We look forward to his contribution to the arts district board and community.

Also of note, Northeast Minneapolis Arts District Board Member Tom Dunnwald was recently elected to the Eastside Food Co-op board.



Nick Harper, photographed by Sarah Whiting in her book, Open Studio. The current exhibition at his Rogue Buddha gallery is of work by John Largaespada, who manipulates and composites photographs.

**NEMAA News**

Dameun Strange is the new Executive Director for Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA). He is an award-winning composer and a Ron McKinley Philanthropy Fellow. Most recently a member of the Bush Foundation's Community Innovation Team, Strange is well-known as an artist, activist and organizer with professional credentials in arts organizations as well as community organizations. Ultimately, according to a news release from NEMAA, "he sees a world where the artist and creative thinker is no longer viewed as an add-on; where 'creative community' is no longer a necessary term of distinction."

NEMAA will be holding its biennial Wintertide juried exhibition January 28 - February 11, 2017. The submission deadline is December 7, and the opening reception and awards will be held January 28 at Public Functionary Gallery, 1400 12th Ave NE. For info: NEMAA.org.

**Inspiration at ACC library**

Artists at all stages of their careers may find keys to new pursuits at the American Craft Council (ACC) Library. More than 3,000 artists appear in a collection that came about before the digital age...there are photographs, slides, correspondence and other ephemera that give behind-the-scenes insight into individuals' development. Those working in the two-dimensional and fine art mediums often take inspiration from sources and themes in common with craft.

In addition, the library has more than 15,000 books and exhibition catalogues, more than 140 current subscriptions and 700 bound volumes of leading periodicals. The ACC, at 1224 Marshall St. NE, will have its Library Open House and Craft Sale throughout the building Saturday, Dec. 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To check it out at a quieter time, find hours and more info at [www.craftcouncil.org/library](http://www.craftcouncil.org/library).

**Can SNO help artists?**

Joy Smallfield, president of Sheridan Neighborhood Organization (SNO) writes: "I have seen and been part of the changes you can impact in your neighborhood and in the larger community you live and work

within by getting involved at the local level. Through Sheridan [which includes the 13th Avenue arts corridor] we have helped non-profits, offered Fix-N-Paint forgivable matching loans, offered low interest loans to homeowners and businesses, and been a key player in the development along the river including Sheridan Memorial Park.

"Now is a great time to become involved in and influence Sheridan. We're reaching out to members of the community that have typically been underrepresented within our organization. This includes artists. Now is the time to help direct funds from the city, perhaps toward promoting and assisting artists. Unless we know what you need it is hard to develop objectives and programs that would benefit you. A small-area plan can be found online at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/projects/sheridanplan](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/projects/sheridanplan). This has basic guidelines to steer future development in Sheridan. A Community Development Committee meets monthly and will spend additional time actually doing the outreach and refining plans. Contact me, Joy at [sno@sheridanneighborhood.org](mailto:sno@sheridanneighborhood.org) or artist Karen Bernthal (Kirke Design Studio), CDC chair at [platatoe@mac.com](mailto:platatoe@mac.com)."

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