

Northeast Arts Insights

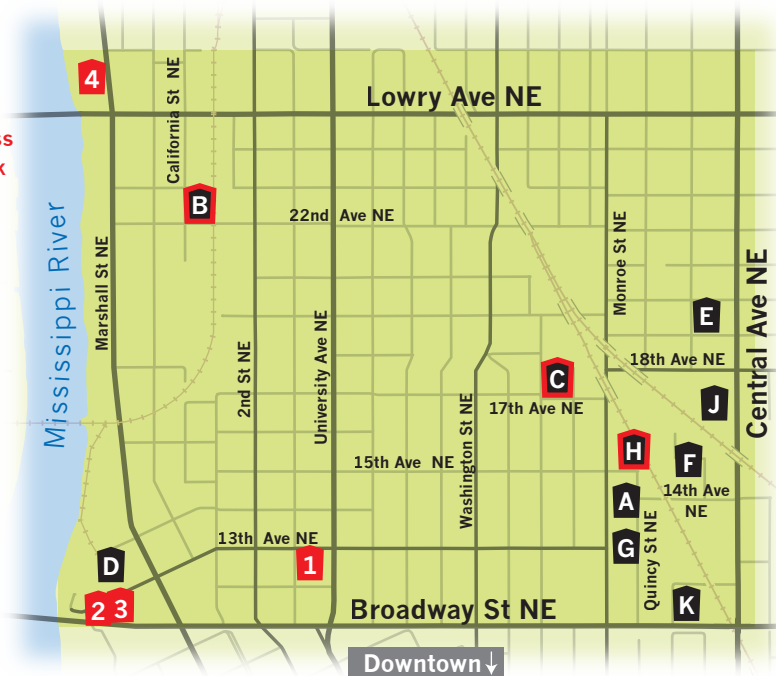


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2017 VISION AWARDS

Wednesday, April 12, 2017
5:30 - 7:30 PM, Solar Arts Building

Leadership and Commitment in the Service
of Art - Artists - Culture

Arts District Vision Awards April 12

Mark your calendars for the Second Bi-Annual Vision Awards on April 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Presented by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District Board of Directors and hosted by Chowgirls at Solar Arts in the 3rd Floor event space, the Vision Awards honor visionaries who have provided leadership and commitment to the Arts District in the service of arts, artists, and culture.

We invite the community to celebrate with an evening full of live music, special presentations, tasty bites, and a cash bar. The evening's program includes special speakers and Northeast Minneapolis

residents Olga Viso, Executive Director of the Walker Art Center, and Cameron Keith Gainer, Conceptual Artist and Publisher of "The Third Rail."

The Vision Awards will acknowledge three artists and business owners who have come together to work with politicians and community leaders, stressing the economic and philanthropic values that the Arts District provides as a thriving, creative sector of our city.

Come and celebrate Northeast Minneapolis Arts District's uniqueness, its history and its future. The Vision Awards event is free and open to the public.

Thinking Outside the Box: Northeast Arts Scene

Commentary by Karen Wilcox

Northeast is a vibrant conglomeration of year-round artist open studios, music and performance events, cool restaurants and craft breweries...But where are the art galleries? I'm talking about the brick-and-mortar blue chip galleries with regular hours that showcase a stable of nationally and internationally-renowned artists?

Commercial galleries seem to pop up, then disappear on a regular basis. The decline in the economy during the Great Recession put countless commercial galleries out of business.

Based on his experience, and in talking to other art businesses in the area, Josh Blanc relates that a gallery must sell at least forty to fifty \$100 - \$500 works every month to stay afloat. Selling fewer pieces of artwork priced in the thousands to tens of thousands of dollars might cover a portion of gallery overhead and expenses. It's a tough and fickle business.

A plethora of business owners, individuals, and organizations in Northeast are thinking outside the box of the stuffy, conventional art gallery. Artist-run galleries Kolman & Pryor Gallery, Icebox Quality Framing & Gallery (both located in the Northrup King Building), Rogue Buddha Gallery on 13th Avenue, and 2001 A Space on 5th Street present dynamic—and at times controversial—exhibits of regional, national and international artists. These galleries provide es-



Examples of work showing at Icebox, left, Time Zones by Tom Bartel—"Havana Fortune Teller," through April 29, and Rosalux, right. The Rosalux show runs through April 30, reception April 8, 7-10 p.m.



David Malcolm Scott, *Lake Superior Vista* Rebecca Krinke, *The Keep* (detail)

sential services to artists, develop relationships with collectors, and contribute significantly to the local economy.

Artist cooperatives, and experimental and alternative spaces are rejuvenating the Arts District through a variety of artist opportunities.

Rosalux is Minnesota's longest running collective art gallery (founded in 2002). Rosalux consists of 20 contemporary visual artists whose work can be found in major collections all over the world, and who have received prestigious grants, residencies, and awards.

On2 gallery regularly features artists with studios on the second floor of the California Building.

The Solar Arts, Grain Belt, Northrup King, and Casket Arts buildings host pop-up and special arts events.

The non-profit Public Functionary

is "a contemporary art and social space...with a vision to connect rising national and local artists whose work expresses diversity in background, approach, inspiration and materials with the broader Minneapolis community." The organization produces four or five large-scale exhibitions each year along with a variety of collaborative and community-focused events, as stated on their website.

Art organizations such as NEMAA and WARM produce member exhibits run by dedicated volunteers who handle art intake, installation, promotion, and sales.

White box galleries may soon be a relic of the past. Minneapolis is the home of many highly revered and collected artists. Support your neighbors. Come and explore the immersive, diverse arts scene that is thriving in our Northeast Arts District.

Briefs and Kudos:

- Taking as her inspirations the Icelandic term jökulhlaup (a glacial flood), historical studies of glacial change, and a French philosopher's theories, Betsy Ruth Byers shows Sensitive Indicators at Kolman & Pryor Gallery, Studio 395, Northrup King Building, 1500 NE Jackson St. through April 15.

- The California Building, 2205 California St. NE, will be dog friendly for April's Second Saturday open art studio event. Social dogs and their owners are invited to explore over 25 artist studios. Saturday, April 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. The event is free and open to all people and pups.

- See the custom tile work of Josh Blanc at 957 Goodrich Ave., Saint Paul, during the Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour April 29-30. NE Mpls. Arts District board member Betsy Gabler's employer, Alchemy Architects, also has a home on tour. The tour is coordinated by Margo Ashmore. www.MSPHomeTour.com.

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