

Northeast Arts Insights

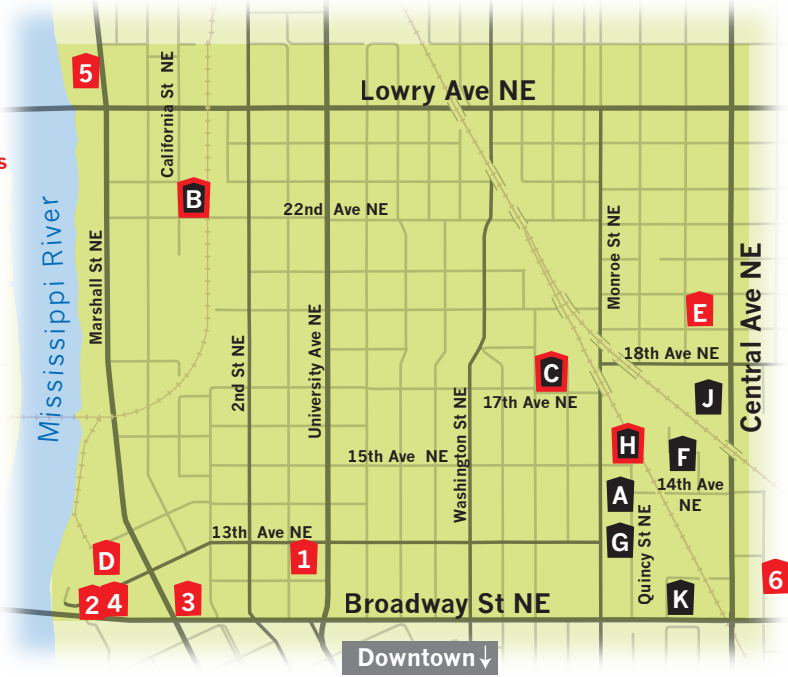


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International award winning District artists help win Best Airport award



Left: Mercury Mosaics. Center: Sheryl Tuorila's murals: Jeana Sommers (right) helped on all aspects of fabrication and installation, and Jan Hohn of Hohn and Hohn (left) assisted on installation. A time-lapse video of the preparation is at <https://youtu.be/TqVMZPTPNWU> Right: inplainsightart in context.



Northeast Minneapolis Arts District ceramic/mosaic artists' creations helped Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport win awards for best bathrooms (with 40 percent of the vote) and most recently, best airport in their size category.

In March 2017, the Airports Council International announced the Twin Cities airport earned top honors for North American airports that service 25-40 million passengers a year.

In November 2016, Cintas Corporation

held a contest on "a mission to locate America's porcelain pioneers who are taking dramatic steps to create unforgettable facilities."

An image of a mountain bike in the south main mall men's room and a canoe in the matching women's room by Caron Bell and Mercedes Austin of Mercury Mosaics were featured in a twincities.com article on the bathroom award.

Sheryl Tuorila's work in one of the other airport bathrooms is in the

photos above left.

Artists Amy Baur and Brian Boldon of Inplainsight Art Studio explain that the artwork in the bathroom they installed, "Nascent," "Blueprint" and "Inviting Wonder" are three separate pieces designed to be "discoverable and similar to a journey." They see the airport as a place of change as well as travel. They said, "Minneapolis is rich in combining old buildings with new ideas. The colors are vintage indus-

trial and resonate with the understanding that the past does not have to be replaced."

The artworks on the three walls are from street shots taken in the North Loop and Northeast neighborhoods. Inplainsight Art prints imagery with ceramic pigments and permanently kiln-fuses them to tile.

—Compiled by Margo Ashmore

Shelly Mosman: Iconic photographer

Private Dining, and Sister Child, photos by Shelly Mosman

by Josh Blanc

Shelly Mosman had a thriving wedding photography business for over a decade. She loved what she was doing: traveling to great locations and capturing people in joyful moments. In the height of her business she was photographing 50 weddings a year. She estimates there may have been eight wedding photographers in the Twin Cities in the 1990s and early 2000s; "then digital photography and i-phones became all the rage and it seemed like there were 800 wedding photographers."

Her business dropped off significantly and she was down to a handful of weddings annually. The prices for wedding photography plummet-



ed and she had to come up with a new way to survive.

She decided to teach herself digital photography. With years of portrait photography experience, Mosman started to expand her knowledge through the study of arrangement, depth of light, and personality of her subjects.

She says she has a penchant for style and "playing dress up." Her studio has a closet full of background textures, old-fashioned wallpapers, as well as unique and different types of clothes.

"I tend to be very fast with subjects to create spontaneous moments. Especially with children, you have only a short window to work with. I have to be ready for that



image that tells a story."

Shelly Mosman's work has achieved what few artists can, an iconic status. We don't say that lightly about anyone with a camera in their pocket. She has surged to a level of seeing through the lens that reveals her subjects' feelings, thoughts, and even life story.

With her work, you know you are looking at a Mosman image; it is distinctive and powerful. The images draw you in and make you study all the details of the person and environment. Her work is evolving fast and she is now taking on film to express her newest ideas.

We look forward to seeing her take off as she becomes a national figure in the art photography field.



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