Congrats, State Fair winners!

The RYA Apartment development in Richfield, Minnesota recently opened with three sculptures on the grounds. The Urban Cattails are the creation of Northeast artists Remo Campopiano and Justin Hossle. At 25-feet and 10-feet high, they are at the northern and southern ends of the development. A sculpture entitled Breeze is near the center of the RYA development, by Foster Willey, for many years a Northeast artist now in Detroit, Michigan. The RYA opportunity was organized by Northeast Sculpture/Gallery Factory and its director John Hock.

What makes art craft or craft art? Szyhalski show at WAM

by Josh Blanc

What do Pablo Picasso, Joan Miro, Paul Gauguin, Marcel Duchamp, and Viola Frey all have in common? All were ceramic artists and sculptors who took a deep dive into the world of ceramics. MCAD professor and Casket Arts Studio artist Piotr Szyhalski steps into this realm with his latest museum show, the Weisman Art Museum’s (WAM) survey exhibition, PIOTR SZYHALSKI: WE ARE WORKING ALL THE TIME! The show features work in a variety of media across three decades of Szyhalski’s prolific and pioneering practice, including poster design, web projects, mail art, painting, installation, and public performance.

One element in the show that is more subtle than many might not know the history of is the plate section, called “You Work, You Eat.” The handcrafted plates represent our daily use of ceramics. Why are functional ceramics art too? Why are functional ceramics to be seen as produced by an artist? Does it have to be placed in a museum, for it to be seen as produced by an artist?

One debate at issue, can only painters make ceramics into art or can a ceramicist paint or print to the museum. Artists” rarely morphed into new meanings and uses. Duthu’s readymade ceramic urinal kicked off this collaboration with art and ceramics. Ai Weiwei is at the forefront of using ceramics in his contemporary art. Piotr Szyhalski’s show continues and adds upon that dialog.

The exhibition opened August 20 and will be there through December 31; admission is free. There is a ticketed ($25) opening reception on Thursday, Sept. 15 from 7-9 p.m. The Weisman is at 333 East River Road, Minneapolis, MN 55455; parking in ramp under the museum.

The September 15 reservation link is: https://wam.umn.edu/calendar/szyhalski/ and the exhibit description is: at https://wam.umn.edu/calendar/weareworkingallthetime/

The exhibition will include a number of artist-activated “activations” in and around WAM, with moments of performance, printmaking, and in-gallery “office hours” by Szyhalski on select Fridays throughout the show’s run.

Cattail commission

With the September 15 reservation link, the RYA Apartment development in Richfield, Minnesota recently opened with three sculptures on the grounds. The Urban Cattails are the creation of Northeast artists Remo Campopiano and Justin Hossle. At 25-feet and 10-feet high, they are at the northern and southern ends of the development. A sculpture entitled Breeze is near the center of the RYA development, by Foster Willey, for many years a Northeast artist now in Detroit, Michigan. The RYA opportunity was organized by Northeast Sculpture/Gallery Factory and its director John Hock.

The Airport Foundation MSP and Arts@MSP hosted a lovely event August 9 for artists whose work is in the “Chroma: A Spectrum of Beauty” exhibit along Concourse C at the Minneapolis & Saint Paul International Airport Terminal 1. Read more at northeastermn.org.

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