

HILLSBORO LIBRARY

FEATURES: “URBAN TRIO”

July 1–August 31, 2015 | Hillsboro Public Library | Second Floor | Free to the Public
2850 NE Brookwood Pkwy Hillsboro, OR 97124

HILLSBORO, OREGON – This summer three established contemporary artists share their unique styles in a thought-provoking exhibition entitled: Urban Trio. **Yelena Roslaya, Randy Emberlin** and **Justin Lacche** have traveled different roads, but provide Pacific Northwest art patrons a chance to see works earning international recognition.

A special ‘meet the artists’ event opens 6 p.m., July 9 at the Hillsboro Public Library second floor: hors-d'oeuvre will be served and is free to the public.

Yelena Roslaya

What is your exhibition? What do you hope to share?



The artist at work

This series of artwork is about the development of my candy wrapper collages as a material that I have been experimenting with over five years. Many of the images that I have created so far are colorful collages of animals because I want to focus more on the mobility of this plastic material. Whenever, I exhibit my candy wrapper collages, many people wonder if I eat all the candy. The truth is that a majority of the wrappers come as donations from family member and close friends, so no, I do not eat all of the candy. After this exhibition, I plan

to create another series of candy wrapper images including portraiture, figures, landscapes, and architecture.

What has been your journey in art like? How did you become a professional artist? How has your style/message evolved over the years?

I started drawing since I could get a hold of pencil and at age 10, I started attending art lessons in addition to regular school hours. During art lessons, I learned how to use traditional fine art materials: graphite, colored pencils, pastel, and oil/acrylic paint.

The story of how I came up with the idea of creating an image from candy wrappers began with my grandmother, who would give us more candy than my family could consume. I felt bad for throwing the candy away and started to put pieces of Starburst together on the floor to see if I could create an image. This process proved to be difficult, so I ended up discarding the candy anyway and used the wrappers instead, which resulted in my first collage of the *Starburst Horse*.



Gallery exhibition: Yelena Roslaya

From there, I used other candy wrappers to create my second collage, *Sunset Leap*, and I still continue to make them. Since then, I have incorporated plastic packages from snack foods, gift wrapping paper, and mylar balloons into my collages as well. Every year, I show my collages at the Recycled Arts Festival in Vancouver, WA and have enjoyed a variety of reactions to my candy wrapper collages. Last year, I was privileged to exhibit my candy wrapper artwork in Nordstrom at the Lloyd Center Mall and this year at the Hillsboro Library.

Currently, I am attending Oregon College of Art and Craft, heading into my thesis years, where I am majoring in ceramics. I experiment with a variety of materials, not just candy wrappers, but



broom bristles and egg cartons as well. I still continue to draw and paint, which is what I am most comfortable with. I exhibit my ceramic work, drawings, and paintings around the Pacific Northwest and this year, had the opportunity of having a painting featured on limited edition of the Portland Rose Festival wine bottles.

What is special about being a part of this exhibition: Urban Trio?

It's quite an honor to be part of an exhibit with Justin Lacche and Randy Emberlin and I think viewers will enjoy the diversity of artwork from Portland in this exhibition.

How can people follow your work via gallery/social media?

My work can be followed @ <https://www.facebook.com/yelena.roslaya> and for more information- (360)-666-2835 or yelena.roslaya@ocac.edu

Randy Emberlin

Describe your exhibition? What do you hope to share?

This will be the fourth museum exhibition of my Comic Book Artwork in the last five years. Within the last two years, my work with artists Mark Bagley and Erik Larsen in the 1990's on the Amazing Spider-man, (Marvel comic) has become considered "classic". The interest and collectability in this art has soared. I will be sharing a number of pieces of art from that



Venom, Spidey and Carnage

Amazing Spider-man run, from issue #339 to issue #410, along with some pieces of art from other comic books and companies. One of those other companies being Dark Horse Comics, the third largest comic book company, which makes its home here in Milwaukie, Oregon. I had the privilege of helping start that company in 1986 by writing and drawing a four-part story of my own called "Mindwalk", which appeared in "Dark Horse Presents #1-4. All the pieces of art are 11"x17" black and white, pencil and ink, comic book pages from the comic books.

What has been your journey in art like? How did you become a professional artist? How has your style/message evolved over the years?

I started drawing and even attempted to make a primitive version of a comic book at age four. I collected Marvel comics throughout grade school and self-published fanzines like "the Sentinel" in High School. I also helped organize the very first Portland Comic Book Convention called Nova Con #1 in the early 1970's. I was always interested in comic book sequential art, but loved animation, photography and music. I never thought I would work for Marvel Comics in NY city, so I pursued an Animation career in Portland that started with the Portland Animation Collective in the late 1970's.

I spent 10 years learning my craft at the Animation Cellar, in Sellwood, eventually forming a partnership with two other animators and producing over 50 TV commercials in 10 years. I received my opportunity at Marvel when a lifelong friend moved to New York and was working as an artist for Marvel in the 1980's. I was hired after his editor gave me an emergency assignment to finish 11 pages of art on the Epic comic, "Alien Legion" in one week! *A ridiculous deadline!* I completed it and was hired as the regular co-artist. That began a 20-year career in comics working for Marvel, Dark Horse and DC as a freelance artist. I have worked on most of the main Marvel characters including; Spider-man, Dr. Strange, the Avengers, Hulk, Captain America, Iron man, Wolverine and the X-men, G.I. Joe, Thor, the



The artist at work



Thor

Fantastic Four, Silver Surfer, and the Punisher. And I have worked on Star Wars, Predator and Ghost for Dark Horse plus some Batman for DC.

I have learned from and worked with many of the greatest artists in the comic book industry and absorbed many of their styles to create my own style and way of seeing. I retired from mainstream comic book work in 2007 and began a career of teaching drawing, cartooning and animation to grade school, high school and college students through various workshops, classes and camps throughout the Northwest. I also do occasional comics, like “the Beginning” for independent publishers like Christian Publisher “Kingstone Media”.

What was special about being a part of this exhibition: Urban Trio?

I like the idea of an exhibit that has 3 very different artists and mediums that represent Urban Art for the Portland area.

How can people follow your work via gallery/social media?

You can follow my work and classes that I offer on my website: www.randyemberlin.com
Also on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/randy.emberlin>

Justin Lacche

Describe your exhibition? What do you hope to share?



My portion of Urban Trio is entitled: *Hillsboro in Perpetual Motion*. I’ve spent a quarter of my life as a Hillsboro resident and this community has been an important part of my life for nearly all of my first 41 years. I hope to offer a flavor of expressing the greatness, the uniqueness and complexity of Hillsboro, in an abstract way to allow viewers to draw their own conclusions – to share their own memories.

What has been your journey in art like? How did you become a professional artist? How has your style/message evolved over the year?

I’ve been a professional artist since 1997 and currently have works in eight countries. Art has always been a strong influence on both sides of my family, and while my style may be unique from the marble sculpture or wood prints from my grandparents, I certainly credit them with challenging me to always push myself to evolve and approach art and life with



Evergreen 1 building

both a sense of passion and urgency.

It helped being a community journalist as a young man, because I learned how to listen, share



stories and continue to push myself to evolve. As I interviewed artists, I began to share my own work – some regular clients began to collect my pieces and over time it expanded overseas.

With that said, I believe strongly in keeping true to my local roots and this exhibition is an important opportunity for me to share my gratitude for this community.

Hillsboro Central Park

What was special about being a part of this exhibition: Urban Trio?

I have tremendous amount of respect for Yelena Roslaya and Randy Emberlin; I think viewers of this exhibit will find three very specialized ways of sharing stories but in a way that I think strongly showcases contemporary art.

How can people follow your work via gallery/social media?

Lacche Gallery: www.JustinLacche.com or 541.829.3251

*Editor's note: Lacche concurrently has a Beaverton exhibition: July 1–August 31, 2015 | The Beaverton Building at The Round | Fifth Floor | Free to the Public
12725 SW Millikan Way – 5th Floor | Beaverton OR 97005*