

## **INSPIRED BY AN OBJECT**

In 1964, Jasper Johns wrote himself a note: “Take an object. Do something to it. Do something else to it.” Since then, this set of instructions has referred to artwork that uses everyday objects and other non-fine art materials and describes the revolutionary approaches to art-making that developed from the early 20th century to the late 1950’s, 1960’s, and beyond.

For this exhibit, artists are invited to submit work in any medium and in any genre including abstract. However, **an object must be used as the primary subject and inspiration of the work.**

Other thoughts to consider for this theme:

- Transform public opinion of an object
- Inform the viewer about a particularly rare, arcane, or historical object
- Consider objects assigned to gender, power, and public symbolism
- Offer a fresh perspective on a common object

### **Studio Montclair’s Virginia S. Block Community Partnership Exhibition Program**

This exhibition is the fourth in SMI’s Community Partnership Exhibition Program created by cofounder and past president Virginia S. Block. The partnership aims to reach out to other nonprofit organizations each year to create a collaborative exhibition designed to inspire our members, create new connections, and reach new audiences.

This year SMI’s Community Partner is the Montclair Art Museum (MAM). As a collaboration, SMI and MAM will be mounting concurrent object-inspired exhibitions.

*MAM’s exhibit titled **Transformed: Objects Reimagined by American Artists** comprises more than sixty paintings, sculptures, photographs, and works on paper, which highlight the role of objects as reimagined by American and Native American artists from 1829 to the present. The exhibition will feature still life paintings, works emphasizing letters/the alphabet as objects, and other works focusing on urban scenes and objects of industry, including tools. Found objects, constructions and assemblages will be prominently presented, as well as collages and works based on collage aesthetics. Finally, a section of the show will present dolls and images of mannequins as human representations and exploration.*

### **About the Montclair Art Museum**

The Montclair Art Museum, together with its Vance Wall Art Education Center, engages our diverse community through distinctive exhibitions, educational programs, and collections of American and Native American art. Our mission is to inspire and engage people of all ages in their experience with art, including the rich inter-cultural and global connections throughout American history, and the continuing relevance of art to contemporary life.

## GALLERY DIRECTOR

Susanna Baker

## CURATORS

**Virginia S. Block** is a native of New Jersey. She holds a BA degree in Art Education and an MA. in Visual Arts from William Paterson University along with a NJ Teaching Certificate. Block is one of the five co-founders of Studio Montclair and served as its first president from 1997 – 2002, she also served as Studio Montclair’s gallery director from 2010 – 2018. Block’s work is included in hundreds of corporate and private collections throughout the East Coast and the Midwest. She has had a long and varied art career, including working as an art teacher, package and logo designer, and director of incentive marketing for an advertising company. Throughout this time, she has continued to develop her career as a fine artist.

**Ira Wagner** is the Executive Director of the Montclair Art Museum. A Montclair resident for more than 30 years, Wagner began studying photography in 2008 after working on Wall Street for more than 25 years. With an interest in urban history and design, he has focused on photographing the urban landscape. Wagner received his MFA from the Hartford Art School in 2013 and has taught photography at Monmouth University in New Jersey. His project “Houseraising,” photographs of houses being raised on the Jersey Shore following Hurricane Sandy, was featured in *The New Republic*, *National Geographic*, and was released in a photobook by Daylight Books in 2018. His most recent project, “Twinhouses of the Great Northeast,” had a photograph included in MAM’s Personal Landscapes exhibition during 2020. Based on images from Twinhouses, he was selected a Critical Mass Top 50 photographer by Photolucida and participated in Review Santa Fe during 2019.

## VENUE

Studio Montclair Gallery

Selected works will be displayed in the Museum’s Vance Wall Art Education Center arcades.

## ELIGIBILITY

This exhibition is open to all SMI members or artists who become SMI members before the work is installed, and to all MAM teachers and staff.

## ENTRY FEE

None. Non-members may apply, but must pay the annual membership fee of \$65 if accepted. MAM teachers and staff do not have to become SMI members.

## ENTRY PROCEDURE

- Online entry (Entrythingy) only
- 1-3 images
- All mediums accepted including videos and installations.
- Work previously shown in any SMI exhibition will not be accepted.
- Three views of 3D work will be accepted.
- For JPEG file format images. Files should be a minimum size of 1600 pixels on the longest side. We will accept lower resolution images, but please note that those images cannot be used for publicity. Digital images should be cropped to show only your artwork. If edges are irregular, it is best to photograph against a black background.
- Submit work that will be available for the duration of the exhibition. **Absolutely no substitutions will be accepted after selections are finalized.**

- No giclee reproductions of original art accepted

### **SPECIFICATIONS**

- 2D Work: Maximum of 40" in any direction, not to exceed 30 lbs
- All wall-hung art must be properly wired for hanging, no saw-tooth hangers. Stretched canvas may have finished painted edges or strip framing. No large decorative frames. Gallery format framing only. [Visit SMI website for framing requirements.](#)
- Sculpture: not to exceed two feet in any direction. Artists may be asked to supply their own pedestals if necessary.
- Video: mov, mp4, and wmv files will be accepted up to 500mg. Electronic and digital works must be ready to show — artists must be prepared to provide all components.
- Floor installation: Maximum 36X36x72 inches, not to exceed 100 lbs.
- NO ceiling-hung work. Work not conforming to the submission requirements will be rejected.
- Participating artists may be asked to gallery-sit while their work is on display.

### **LIABILITY**

The Gallery does not provide insurance for theft, loss or damage of artwork while the artwork is in transit. Studio Montclair carries insurance for artwork on the premises, but we do not guarantee that the full value of all artwork will be covered. Studio Montclair will make every possible effort to handle all artwork with care and respect.

Note: The building is protected by an alarm system.

### **SALES**

30% commission will be retained by SMI on all sales.

**USAGE OF IMAGES:** Studio Montclair reserves the right to photograph and use accepted work for documentation, website, publicity, social media, or catalog purposes.

**AGREEMENT:** Entering your work in this exhibition constitutes an acceptance of all the requirements set forth in this prospectus.

Need help? Send your questions to: [exhibitions@studiomontclair.org](mailto:exhibitions@studiomontclair.org)

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Exhibit Dates:** September 10 - October 15, 2021

**Entry Deadline:** Saturday, July 24, 2021

**Notification Date:** Monday, August 1, 2021

**Opening Reception:** TBD

**Delivery of Artwork by Hand:** September 3 & 4, 2021

**Delivery of Artwork by Shipping:** by September 2, 2021

**Pickup of unsold artwork:** October 16 - 22, 2021