I first saw Tom Uttech’s work at the Milwaukee Art Museum in 2004, just a few days before the opening of the museum’s exhibition Magnetic North: The Landscapes of Tom Uttech. I was the museum’s Curator of European Art and not yet versed in Wisconsin’s homegrown talent, but I vividly remember Uttech’s paintings, which were impressive in scale and commanding in their presence. They are unforgettable.

When I joined MOWA as its Executive Director, I had the privilege of getting to know Uttech and of visiting his studio on a number of occasions. It soon became clear that the complete story of his career still needed to be told. The first twenty years of his professional life had been left out of the earlier exhibition and he had produced new and substantially different bodies of work in the fifteen years that had followed it. The time seemed right for a true retrospective. I was ecstatic when Tom agreed and more than a little daunted when he asked that I personally curate the exhibition.

A project of this magnitude would be challenging under the best of circumstances. My own lack of experience with the North Woods (or any woods for that matter) made it more so. The learning curve for this city girl would be steep. Who knew that moss and lichen are different, or that moose and caribou are easily distinguished at a distance by the trained eye, or that fallen trees with an exposed root mass are colloquially known as tip-ups? I was out of my league.

Navigating the existing paradigms of art-historical interpretation would not be much easier. Countless art historians and critics before
This fall, I invite all of you to join this city girl as MOWA goes Into the Woods. The museum will be transformed into a woodland fantasy with related exhibitions of Wisconsin-made canoes, kayaks, paddles, and duck decoys. Be sure to wear your red flannel shirt and Stormy Kromer for the full North Woods experience.

Sincerely,

Laurie Winters
Executive Director | CEO
Wisconsin native Tom Uttech is recognized as one of the leading landscape painters working today in the United States. His large-scale paintings are easily identifiable by their complex devotion to nature, one that is equally raw and wild and familiar and inviting. His inspiration derives from his childhood in northern Wisconsin and from decades of pilgrimages to wilderness areas in Ontario just north of Minnesota’s Boundary Waters and the Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada.

Uttech weaves together a mystical world of both imagined and real natural elements. In the 1970s, this fascination manifested itself in the form of mythical creatures that inhabit surreal surroundings, where birch trees have eyes, bear skulls conjure up nature’s destructive power, and half human/half deer forms offer oblique references to a sexually charged mother earth. Drawn from the subconscious, these paintings are no ordinary tribute to an idyllic nature—they tackle larger questions about the universe and creation. Uttech’s artist direction was reaffirmed when one of his early works was included in the prestigious 1975 Whitney Biennial.

In 1983, The Rock, an enormous lichen-covered boulder that looks as if it found its resting spot millennia ago, marked a pivotal point in Uttech’s career. The visual power of this singular dominant form allowed Uttech to replace his mythic creatures with a more particularized and robust landscape. The heroic-sized bears, moose, and wolves that occupy these forests look out unfazed at their human voyeurs, curious but never startled. In fact, nothing happens suddenly in these paintings. Sunsets hover endlessly on horizons and waters are always still, even when configured as a torrent. These places do not exist on any map. They are Uttech’s filtered visual and experiential recollections of his beloved North Woods: nature is frozen in a moment of perfection.

Over the last decade, these enchanted forests have become home and stage to animal migration, a phenomenon rooted in eons of animal behavior and evolution. Part fantasy, part science, these migration paintings are compelling not only for their settings but for the myriad of species flying, swarming, and bolting across the canvases on a timeless mission and in a perpetual state of reenactment. Uttech does not identify as an environmental artist, but his treatment of the migration subject has become synonymous with issues that resonate in the field of wildlife preservation.

Into the Woods celebrates the career of an artist who has spent his life going into the woods. As part of this exhibition, MOWA is humbled to accept a gift from Tom Uttech of more than 150 photographs that will forever become part of artist’s legacy in the museum’s permanent collection. This donation and the exhibition were made possible by the exceptional support of the Kohler Foundation, Inc.
Fall Exhibition Activities
Free Programs for Members

WISCONSIN MYTH, MONSTERS, AND LEGENDS
Saturday, October 26 | 2:00–3:00
Frank Anderson—animator, director, author, musician, and creator of Wisconsinology—speaks on the origins of monsters and mythology in Wisconsin. His spooky stories range from the Wendigo to the Hodag.

GALLERY TALKS WITH LAURIE WINTERS
Saturday, November 2 | 2:00–3:00
Friday, November 29 | 2:00–3:00
Saturday, January 4 | 2:00–3:00
Go Into the Woods with MOWA Executive Director | CEO Laurie Winters, curator of the exhibition. Each gallery talk will take you through a unique period of Tom Uttech’s career.

ARTIST TALKS WITH TOM UTTECH
Saturday, November 16 | 2:00–3:00
Saturday, December 28 | 2:00–3:00
Tom Uttech shares stories of travel, his artistic process, and what it’s like to be a contemporary landscape painter today.

BIRDWATCHING IN THE GALLERY
Saturday, November 30 | 2:00–3:00
Join conservation biologist and bird expert Kim Kreitinger in the exhibition galleries as she identifies and discusses the bird species found within Tom Uttech’s paintings.

GALLERY CONVERSATIONS WITH TOM UTTECH
Saturday, December 7 | 12:00–3:00
Strike up a casual conversation with artist Tom Uttech in the exhibition galleries. Afterward, attend the annual Champagne Shopping Party at the MOWA Shop.

PROJECT OF A LIFETIME
Saturday, December 14 | 2:00–3:00
Join photographer Suzanne Rose in the Hyde Gallery for a talk and tour. Learn how she collaborated with Tom Uttech to digitally process and print well over 100 photographs for the exhibition.

Questions? Contact Ally Wilber at 262.247.2270 or awilber@wisconsinart.org
In juxtaposition with *Into the Woods*, naturally, comes *On the Water*. Wisconsin residents share a deep appreciation for nature and outdoor recreation. With an abundance of lakes, rivers, and waterways, Wisconsin is a haven for silent sports enthusiasts. Navigate through a special installation of custom paddles by Kevin Kowaleski and Justin Mosling of Winnebago Paddles in Fond du Lac, and handmade wood canoes and kayaks by Bob Grueneberg of Sinissippi Boats in Hustisford. These masterfully crafted outdoor vessels are beautiful reflections of the natural landscape they’re meant to explore.

**ON THE SURFACE: WISCONSIN DUCK DECOYS**

Saturday, November 23 | 1:00–1:30

Join Director of Exhibitions and Collections Graeme Reid in the galleries for a talk about the history of duck decoys made in Wisconsin. A selection of handcrafted decoys by Owen Gromme, August Moak, and Enoch Reindahl will accompany the *Into the Woods* exhibition.

Enoch Reindahl, *Canvasback Drake*, Wood, 1941, Lent by a Private Collection
Conventional display of art privileges level lines and generous spacing—all the better to spotlight the merits of individual works. Both Steven Foster’s Steve Lacy Series and Tomiko Jones’ A Place to Rest flout these principles of exhibition to reflect influence and collaboration, making the installation of the photographs as much a part of the work of art as the photographs themselves.

Foster’s Steve Lacy Series draws its inspiration from the music of soprano saxophonist Steve Lacy (1934–2004). An uncompromising and unconventional musician, Lacy’s solo recordings exploit silence and repetition in evocative improvisations intended to represent animals, objects, activities, and abstractions. Foster’s photographs exalt in views of everyday life that reveal a similar appreciation of space and repetition. Dynamically hung on the wall, the photographs comprise a graphic musical score intended for musical interpretation, bringing the series full circle: from music to photography and back to music.

After graduating with an MFA from the University of Arizona, Tucson in 2008, Tomiko Jones embarked on the nomadic lifestyle of an artist-academic cast about on the sea of short-term residencies, university appointments, and creative jaunts. To stay grounded and keep loved ones updated, Jones took to photographing every bed she slept in while moving about. A Place to Rest selects photographs from her ever-expanding archive of more than two hundred images.

The atypical installation reflects the vicissitudes of life on the go. Some dwellings were longer lasting and occupy an outsized place in memory while nondescript hotel rooms are as forgettable as they are interchangeable. The organization of the photographs translates Jones’ subjective impression of her dwellings into the objective language of size and spacing.
Like many Wisconsin artists before him, Wolfgang Klein was born in Germany and later immigrated to Milwaukee. A student of German Expressionist master Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Klein was an educator in Berlin before relocating to the United States in 1954. He started working in advertising and then taught for many years at the YWCA in Milwaukee and Marquette University. Klein’s woodblock prints reveal both Kirchner’s stylistic influence and Klein’s deep connection to Milwaukee.

**MOWA’S SATELLITE LOCATION**

Saint John’s On The Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee

Wolfgang Klein, Riverside, Woodcut, 1971
The Wisconsin Visual Art Achievement Awards (WVAAA) honor individuals, institutions, and organizations who have significantly contributed to the visual arts and creative culture of the state. MOWA is accepting nominations in the following categories:

- Legacy Award
- Educator Award—K–12
- Educator Award—University or College
- Exhibition Award
- Community Arts Advocate Award
- Arts Writing Award

Nominate online at wisconsinart.org/wvaaa. The WVAAA is made possible through a collaboration between MOWA, Wisconsin Visual Artists, and the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters.
PAINTING INSECTS
WITH KATIE MUSOLFF
Saturday, November 16  |  10:30–1:30
Wisconsin is alive with wonderful ecosystems crawling with life. This studio focuses on the most diverse class: insects. Painter and naturalist Katie Musolff will share her insect collection and teach how to pose, draw, and paint the specimens using watercolors as the medium.
Register Online  |  $60 with Membership
All supplies included

A MIND’S EYE VIEW
OF LANDSCAPE
Saturday, November 23  |  11:00–4:00
This studio class will provide examples of how artists in different time periods used the landscape to tell stories. Artist Barry Roal Carlsen will offer technical and conceptual tips as participants create their own mixed media unique landscape. Participants will use a combination of visual references, including sketches, family snapshots, and memory.
Register Online  |  $75 with Membership
All supplies included

EKPHRASTIC POETRY WITH KIMBERLY BLAESER
Saturday, December 7  |  10:30–12:30
Explore the enchanted landscape paintings of Tom Uttech with Wisconsin Poet Laureate Kimberly Blaeser through ekphrastic poetry writing. An ekphrastic poem vividly describes a visual work of art. This style of writing is often rhetorical in nature and symbolic of a greater meaning.
Register Online  |  $30 with Membership
All supplies included

Questions? Contact Ally Wilber at 262.247.2270 or awilber@wisconsinart.org
Women’s Forum of Wisconsin
A dynamic platform of ideas for women who incorporate innovative and strategic thinking into their businesses and personal lives

LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP: IMPACT, SERVICE, AND GRATITUDE WITH GUEST SPEAKER MARY ELLEN STANEK

Wednesday, November 13 | 11:30–1:00

Mary Ellen Stanek, CFA, has 40 years of investment management experience. She is a distinguished woman business leader who has reached the highest levels of achievement and leadership. She will share her experiences, insights and lessons learned over her 40 year investment management career.

Stanek currently serves as Managing Director of Robert W. Baird & Co. and Chief Investment Officer of Baird Advisors responsible for over $80 Billion in Assets under Management. Additionally, she serves as President of the Baird Funds. In 2019, Mary Ellen was a finalist for Morningstar’s Outstanding Portfolio Award. Under her leadership, the Baird Advisors team was also named a finalist for the Morningstar, Inc.’s 2016 Fixed Income Fund Manager of the Year Award.

Enjoy lunch, networking, and a compelling presentation by Stanek.

Register Online | $30 per person
$500 for a sponsored table of eight

Questions? Contact Pam Schweiger at 262.247.2268 or pschweiger@wisconsinart.org
Art Making for All Ages
Free Programming for Members

STUDIO SATURDAYS
Every Saturday | 10:30–1:30
Drop in for an art-making studio for all ages and artistic backgrounds. Explore new art techniques each week. Plus check out Special Studio Saturdays that celebrate exhibition openings, holidays, and other events!

INTO THE WOODS
Saturday, October 12 | 10:30–5:00
In celebration of Tom Uttech’s Into the Woods exhibition, learn techniques of landscape painting. This special Studio Saturday extends through the exhibition Opening Party where you can meet the artist and enjoy the fall festivities.

GALLERY TRICK-OR-TREAT AND ART MAKING
Saturday, October 26 | 10:30–1:30
Wear your Halloween costume to MOWA and trick-or-treat for treasures in the art galleries! In the studio, create spooky crafts and paint your own pumpkin to take home.

MINI MASTERS
First and Third Tuesdays | 10:15–11:00
Young artists and their caregivers are invited to discover MOWA’s galleries, enjoy story time, and create an art project to take home! Each session is different, so come often.

Studio Saturdays is sponsored by meijer

Questions? Contact Jordan Gibbon at 262.247.2277 or jgibbon@wisconsinart.org
Support for education programs is provided by The Art Ball Class of 2019, the Bert L. and Patricia S. Steigleder Charitable Trust, and the Wallace and Marion Scheunemann Fund at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation.

The Wisconsin History and Visual Arts Program is sponsored by We Energies Foundation.

**SPARK!**

*Last Tuesdays | 10:30–12:00*

Designed for people with memory loss and their caregivers, SPARK! is a free monthly program that engages participants in conversation about Wisconsin art.

**Register Online**

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**Teen Masters**

*Workshops for Ages 13–17*

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**THE NATURE OF DRAWING TREES**

*October 16, 23 and November 6, 13 | 3:30–5:30*

Break down the complicated nature of drawing trees! This four-date series will explore the techniques used to draw leaves, branches, trees, and forests using a variety of materials from charcoal to ink. This series is taught by Todd Mrozinski, a contributing art writer for *Urban Milwaukee* and art educator for the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design (MIAD) Pre-College and Continuing Education Programs.

**Register Online | $80 with Membership**

All supplies included
Downtown at The Art Ball 2019

This year’s Art Ball celebrated MOWA’s expanded footprint to downtown Milwaukee at Saint Kate—The Arts Hotel. Evening highlights included honoring Tom Uttech with the Hyde Award for Wisconsin Art, previewing the inaugural Downtown exhibition at MOWA | DTN, and embracing artistic interventions at every turn. Thank you to event attendees and sponsors who helped raise $435,000 to support art education, the acquisition of Uttech’s Nin Gassinsbingwe, and other important aspects of museum operations.
The Art Ball 2019 crested as a wave of auction paddles swelled in the crowd, as guests vied to acquire a major new painting for MOWA. Nin Gassinsibingwe, the most recent and in many ways most spectacular painting in Tom Uttech’s ongoing migration series, will make its debut as the centerpiece of the Into the Woods retrospective. The Ojibwe title translates as: “I Wipe My Tears.” It is a prize for any museum and a proud legacy for those who contributed.

Collecting for the future is an ongoing priority of MOWA through gifts of work, donations for designated purchases, and acquisitions at The Art Ball—a tradition started at the inaugural event in 2013. Bids from more than 100 attendees made this acquisition possible with donations ranging from $100 to $10,000. Thank you to all of the donors who will be part of the museum acquisition record in perpetuity.

Thank You to Acquisition Major Donors
Anonymous
Steve and Melanie Booth
Wendy A Burke
William and Geralyn Cannon
Pat and Rachel English
Tory Folliard Gallery
Prudence Pick Hway
James and Karen Hyde
Cynthia and Tom LaConte
David and Madeleine Lubar
Phil and Janel Maples
Scott and Sue Meinerz
Larry and Judy Moon
Mark and Kris O’Meara
Saint Kate—The Arts Hotel
Andrea and James Schloemer
Mary Kay Strachota
West Bend Mutual Insurance Company
Kate and Don Wilson
Laurie and Brian Winters

For a complete list, visit wisconsinart.org/artball2019
Friends of Wisconsin Art
A membership group that engages with the arts and culture of Wisconsin

Thank you to those who recently joined or renewed as Benefactor, Partner, or Premium members.

**Benefactor | $1,000**
Charles and Ann-Lee Geiger
Katie Heil
Kevin and Katie O’Meara
Mary Ann Peterson
Joseph Pfiffner
David and Nancy Slinde

**Partner | $500**
Karen Brown
Steven and Luella Harter
Marilyn Holmquist
Mark and Jane Maley
Andrea and Rob Selliger
Frederick and Anne Vogel
Jo and Robert Wagner

**Premium | $250**
T. and Valerie Bosworth
James and Judith Callan
Timothy and Cheryl Dahlstrand
Carlyle and Marjorie Fay
Mary and Timothy Galante
John and Sue Gonring
Audrey Handler and John Martner
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George and Judi Prescott
Bruce and Yoke San Reynolds
Lori and Michael Rieger
Janet Roberts
Jim and Yvonne Schwalen
John Shannon and Jan Serr
Sarah and Will Slaughter
Leon Travanti and Carolyn White-Travanti
Judy Van Till

List as of August 11, 2019

As a FOWA member, engage more deeply with the museum, Wisconsin artists, and like-minded enthusiasts at these upcoming events:

**Gallery Tour with Tom Uttech and Laurie Winters**
Take a fall hike *Into the Woods* with Tom Uttech and Executive Director Laurie Winters. FOWA members are invited to this special tour of the exhibition and opportunity to learn more from the artist and curator.

**Bloomin’ Holidays Eve**
Preview the floral masterpieces in the galleries, raise a glass to the florists and meet the winners, and enjoy an evening of fragrant art.

FOWA members will receive an invitation in the mail.

Friends of Wisconsin Art membership begins at the MOWA+ ($100) level. Want to become a Friend? Call Brenda Schilke at 262.247.2263 or email bschilke@wisconsinart.org.

wisconsinart.org/fowa
Save the date!

Bloomin’ Holidays

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 8, 9, and 10

Kick off the holiday season at MOWA. The week begins on Wednesday with outdoor globe lights in the MOWA Gardens and exterior video projection on the building. Starting Friday, enjoy three full days of floral arrangements in the art galleries, expert talks and demonstrations, and a holiday artist marketplace in the atrium.

Bloomin’ Holidays is free for members or $15 for the weekend (includes a complimentary museum membership for one full year!)

Learn more about Bloomin’ Holidays

wisconsinart.org/bloominholidays

Bloomin’ Holidays

Wine Walk

Saturday, November 9 | 4:00–7:00

Shop, sip, and swoon over the sights of downtown West Bend at the Bloomin’ Holidays Wine Walk.

Register Online | $30 per person