

**For Immediate Release**  
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## Pratt Fine Arts Center Hosts Six Master Artists this Fall

Pratt Fine Arts Center will bring six nationally and internationally-renowned artists to Seattle this Fall as part of its longstanding *Master Artist Program*. Metalsmith and enamellist Helen Carnac, bladesmith Rick Dunkerley, printmaker Barbara Robertson, and glass casters Jeremy Popelka and Stephanie Trenchard will all teach 3 to 5-day intensive workshops in Pratt's studios and present free lectures and exhibitions for Seattle's arts community.



Also this fall, Pratt will host its first *Master Artist in Residence*, the Irish metalsmith Kevin O'Dwyer. A month-long residency in Pratt's specialized studios will allow O'Dwyer to experiment with new techniques and explore mediums outside his usual area of expertise. The artist will also present a small exhibition of works in progress in Pratt's Hallway Gallery in December and a public lecture on his work and his experience with the residency at Bellevue Arts Museum on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

The *Master Artist Program* is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Seattle's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, 4Culture and Culture Ireland.

### Fall 2010 Master Artist Schedule

- **Barbara Robertson:** Printmaker
  - Free Artist Lecture: Friday, October 8 at 6:30pm in the Vandenbrink Community Room at Tashiro Kaplan Building, 115 Prefontaine Pl. S.
  - Workshop: *The Accumulated Image*: October 9 - 11
- **Helen Carnac:** Enamellist
  - Free Artist Lecture: Friday, November 5th at 6:30pm at 1902 S Main Street, Seattle
  - Workshop: *Mark Making in Enamel*: Nov 5 - 8
  - Works on Display: November 2 - December 6th at 1902 S Main Street, Seattle
- **Jeremy Popelka and Stephanie Trenchard:** Glass casters
  - Free Artist Lecture: Sunday, November 14th at 6:30pm at 1902 S Main Street, Seattle
  - Workshop: *Exploring Content within Sand Casting*: November 11 - 14
- **Rick Dunkerley:** Bladesmith
  - Free Artist Lecture: Friday, December 3rd at 6:30pm at 1902 S Main Street, Seattle
  - Workshop: *Exploring Content within Sand Casting*: November 11 - 14
- **Kevin O'Dwyer:** Metalsmith
  - Residency: November 17 - December 20, 2010
  - Free Artist Lecture: Sunday, December 12th at 2pm at Bellevue Arts Museum, 510 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue



### Images:

Above: Helen Carnac, *Each Other* (detail), 2009, vitreous enamel on steel, drawn and printed base.

Photo by David Gates

Below: Barbara Robertson, *Loop*, 2009, mixed media on panel. Photo by Nancy Hines.

High resolution images available upon request.

### **Artist Biographies**

**Barbara Robertson** is a mixed media artist who lives and works in Seattle. She holds an MFA in Printmaking from the University of Washington. Recent awards include grants from the Seattle Office of Arts and Culture City Artists program, 4Culture Individual Artists Award and the Neddy Fellowship from the Behnke Foundation. Robertson is represented by Davidson Galleries in Seattle, and her work is included in numerous public and private collections. She is the founder and past president of Seattle Print Arts. [www.barbararobertsonart.com](http://www.barbararobertsonart.com)

**Helen Carnac** is a maker, curator and academic who lives and works in London. Drawing, mark-making, the explicit connections between material, process and maker and an emphasis on deliberation and reflection are all central to her practice as a maker and thinker. Specializing in non-traditional enamel techniques her work is held in both national and international collections. Carnac is actively involved in developing dialogue within the Crafts, having developed numerous talks and events for makers over the past five years. [www.helencarnac.co.uk](http://www.helencarnac.co.uk)

**Jeremy Popelka** works in his Sturgeon Bay Wisconsin studio which he shares with his artist wife, Stephanie Trenchard. Popelka has shown internationally and has work in many public and private collections. Over the years he has taught hundreds of students. Popelka holds a MFA from California College of the Arts.

**Stephanie Trenchard** works out of her Sturgeon Bay Wisconsin studio along with her husband, Jeremy Popelka. She shows her work nationally and has work in various public and private collections. She is also exhibiting painting and holds a BFA in painting from Illinois State University. Along with her husband, Trenchard teaches and mentors students out of her studio and through other glass programs.

**Rick Dunkerley** started making knives in 1984. He made stainless steel hunters and utility knives until 1991, when he began forging carbon steel knives and creating damascus steel. Since receiving his journeyman smith rating in 1995, Rick's main focus has been damascus steel, particularly mosaic and composite bar blades. Rick attained the American Bladesmith Society Mastersmith rating in 1997, and in 2002 was selected to be on the Board of Directors. He has been a full-time knifemaker since 1996. Rick has received many awards for his work and been featured in numerous publications. He is also a nationally recognized and sought after instructor.

[www.Dunkerleyhandmadeknives.com](http://www.Dunkerleyhandmadeknives.com)

**Kevin O'Dwyer** is an internationally recognized master silversmith and sculptor. His work is in museum collections worldwide. He is the Director of Sculpture in the Parklands in Ireland, a community art program where international artists create site specific permanent installations in the cutaway bogland of the Irish Midlands. Kevin plans to use Pratt's studios to interpret his work into glass, forged metal and other materials not readily available to him in his own studio in Ireland.

[www.millennium2000silver.com](http://www.millennium2000silver.com)

Since 1976, Pratt Fine Arts Center has offered art classes for everyone and workspace for artists in its equipment-rich facilities in Seattle's Central District. Pratt serves 3,400 students each year and more than 500 working artists use Pratt's affordable studios and equipment.

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