

2020 Cedarburg Art Museum *Masters as Muses* Awards

Throughout history, artists have been inspired by earlier masters and by contemporary muses. Cedarburg Art Museum's seventh annual juried exhibition challenged artists to submit an image of the muse that inspired their artwork for this show. Juror Annemarie Sawkins selected 65 artworks from 116 entries (criteria: Originality, Fitting to Theme, & Expertise with Medium) and then later determined awards based upon the artist's adaptation of their own artwork from their muse. Thanks to Philia & Paul Hayes of Cedarburg for providing support for this year's awards.



BEST of SHOW (\$450): "Victorian Outlaw" digital drawing by **Ana Gadish-Linares**. Muse is Kehinde Wiley portrait, "Barack Obama," 2018. This is a timely piece with references to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 100th anniversary of a woman's right to vote, and the 2020 election. While tastefully inspired by her source, the artist gives us a fresh and rich new image while introducing historical elements that makes the artwork uniquely her own. A rich contrast between the black and white portrait and the lively, embellished background is reminiscent of Kehinde Wiley's Barack Obama portrait, but this artist goes beyond to make a both a clever and strong statement.

SECOND PLACE (\$250): "WithACause" photograph by **Seth Robbins**. Muse is Henri Cartier-Bresson, "The Cyclist," 1932 photograph. There is a nice parallelism going on in this image with the arrangement of planes and perspectives as in the Cartier-Bresson photograph. The sense of movement on the stairs reveals a fresh, upward perspective, as opposed to the master's downward view. The dynamism and movement is keen in this image, even though the figurative subject has a still pose.



THIRD PLACE (\$150): "Kandinsky Monarchs," acrylic painting by **Kristin Gjerdset**. Muse is Wassily Kandinsky, "Improvisation" series. This artist moved away from a more literal interpretation of her muse and gives us a livelier and more emotional image – the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly – in her own visual vocabulary. The artist effectively replicates the same energy and colors as her source. This painting represents not only a thoughtful and close study of the master, but a unique deviation from it.

HONORABLE MENTION: (\$50 Blick gift certificate) "Chateau Window," oil painting by **Audrey Dulmes**. Muse is Pierre Bonnard, "The Open Window, 1921. The artist captures the planes, textures, patterns, and colors of the master. She gives us an interior view that is readable as an 'open window' yet suggests the abstraction that characterizes the Bonnard painting.



HONORABLE MENTION: (\$50 Blick gift certificate) "Deep Song," found object and metal sculpture by **Ronald Gonzalez**. Muse is Pablo Picasso, "Still Life with Guitar," 1913. This artist understands geometry, and balance and how to effectively work with found objects to create a powerful yet playful work of art. This is an effective reference to the idea of song that successfully creates a figurative piece as well that is more solid than the inspiration.

HONORABLE MENTION (\$50 Blick gift certificate): "The Beauty of Aging," oil painting by **Vered Shamir Pasternak**. Muse is Vincent Van Gogh, "Four Cut Sunflowers," 1887. This artist gives a more literal interpretation of the master's subject and style yet creates a lively work in her own idiom and scale with vibrant color and confident brushwork.

