

Rotary Arts Minute for 5/20/2024 Information provided by the

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS



[Clay Creations - Polymer Clay Art Class](#)

Friday, May 24, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Presented by [PSOMA design](#) at PSOMA design Art Studio | 3rd Floor KNAC Building, 315 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Explore Polymer Clay in this beginner friendly class!

In this beginner level class we'll work with polymer clay and mica powders to make beautiful creations including pendants, keychains, or magnets. Learn from professional local artist Stacy Koviak-Davison of **PSOMA design** as she guides you through working with this versatile medium. We will explore both bas relief techniques and impressions and have fun with textures, as well as learn how to add shimmering mica colors to your creations for an elevated look. This class is open to all skill levels. Class fee is \$45 and includes instruction and all materials to create multiple polymer creations. Design a few pendants, keychains, or make a magnet set, etc. Sign up for this class with friends, or come solo and meet new people who also love to be creative and explore art! Oh, and wear clothes that you don't mind getting messy in. **PSOMA design** studio is located in downtown Kalamazoo inside the KNAC building on the third floor. It's a relaxed and friendly space and we welcome everyone to come and create art, have fun and just unwind in a comfortable environment.

FREE EVENTS



[Bonnie Jo Campbell Exhibit @ Kalamazoo Valley Museum](#)

Jan 20, 2024 - Jun 30, 2024 at 11:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Valley Museum](#), 230 North Rose Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49003

Award-winning local author Bonnie Jo Campbell brings her history, as well as many personal items from her writing world, to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum in a mini-exhibit that showcases "What It Means to Be a Hometown Writer." Bonnie was born in 1962 in Comstock, Michigan, and grew up on a small farm with her mother, Susanna, and four siblings (and neighbors and cousins) in a house her grandfather Herlihy built in the shape of an H. Her first collection of stories, *Women & Other Animals*, won the Grace Paley Prize in 1999, and her book *Q Road* was a Barnes & Noble Best New Writers selection. Her next novel, *American Salvage*, was a National Book Award Finalist and won a National Book Critics Circle award. *Once Upon a River*, released in 2011, was a national bestseller now published in nine languages and has been adapted to film. Her new novel, *The Waters*, takes place in a Southwest Michigan swamp and was chosen for Oprah's list of Most Anticipated Books of 2024, the Saturday Evening Post Ten Reads for the New Year, and the Apple Books List. The exhibit, through photos, awards, souvenirs from her travels, and other items, showcases her work as well as her inspirations for writing.



[Upjohn's Building 88](#)

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 12:00 pm

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

In 1961, construction was completed on two remarkable structures in Kalamazoo, both designed by the architectural firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill. One was the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, based

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on a design by architect Mies van der Rohe and expanded in 1994 to become the structure we occupy today. The other was the Upjohn Company's Building 88, designed by Bruce Graham and razed in 2007. During this ArtBreak talk, learn more about the innovative design elements that made Building 88 unique with Dr. Christine Hahn, Professor of Art History at Kalamazoo College. Dr. Hahn argues that Building 88 represents one of the country's earliest examples of the open office movement. In both its interior and exterior design, Building 88 blurred the lines between work and home, marrying together notions of modern domesticity with the new executive workplace.



[Southwest Michigan Makers Network meetup](#)

Sunday, May 26, 2024 at 03:00 pm

Presented by [Serendipity Spot](#) and [Kzoo Makers](#), 1102 E. Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI

The Southwest Michigan Makers Network meetup will be held twice a month on Sunday from 3-5 pm. You will have a chance to introduce yourself and a maker-related topic, then mingle and participate in a group activity. Bring a project if you have one you'd like to share. You are invited to come down and see who is in your network. Connect on Discord <https://discord.gg/mT86YZXm33>. Looking forward to seeing you there!



[Maya Lin: A Strong, Clear Vision](#)

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 12:00 pm

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Join us in observing Memorial Day with a screening of the 1994 film *Maya Lin: A Strong, Clear Vision*. This Academy Award-winning documentary tells the story of architect-sculptor Maya Lin, whose design for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was selected from over a thousand submissions when she was a 21-year-old student at Yale University. The film explores the controversy that arose surrounding the design of the monument as well as its creator herself, a young, Chinese-American woman who stood her ground in the face of widespread criticism. Dedicated on Veteran's Day in 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial has become one of the world's most-visited memorials. *Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision* was written and directed by Frieda Lee Mock and produced by Frieda Lee Mock and Terry Sanders. The runtime of this film is 83 minutes.



[UnReeled: Best of the Kazoo 48-Hour Film Festival](#)

Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Visit the KIA to see which films were selected as highlighted works and award winners during this year's Kazoo 48-Hour Film Festival! In this annual Kalamazoo event, filmmakers were assigned a genre, prop, character quirk, location, and line of dialogue to use within a short film, created in just 48 hours. Winning films were selected in multiple categories, announced during a public screening at the GQT Kalamazoo 10 Theater in April. During this "Best of" event, watch the winning films and hear from the filmmakers themselves about their experiences and personal highlights from the festival.

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[Crafting Cosplay Connections](#)

Friday, May 31, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Presented by [Serendipity Spot](#) and [Kzoo Makers](#), 1102 E. Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Join us the last Friday of every month for a cosplay meetup where creativity knows no bounds. Dive into the vibrant world of cosplay as we gather to share ideas, swap techniques, and discuss our latest projects. Hosted at the Kzoo Makers Space, this event not only connects like-minded individuals but also provides a sneak peek into the world of possibilities available to bring your cosplay visions to life. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting out, come be a part of our supportive community and explore the world of cosplay!



[June 2024 Artist Happy Hour - Queer Artist Showcase: Activism, Identity, and Allyship](#)

Sunday, Jun 2, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Presented by [Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo](#) at [Dormouse Theatre](#), 1030 Portage Street

Queer Artist Showcase is a collaboration between the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo and OutFront Kalamazoo. Artist Happy Hour will start with a panel discussion featuring Connor Klock (they/them) of Queer Theatre Kalamazoo, Drue McPherson (he/him) from DRUE Salon, Heather Mitchell (she/her) from Rootead, and guest facilitator, Dell Darnell (they/them) from OutFront about queer identities, how identity shows up (or doesn't) in their art, and how allies can show up for them and other queer artists. Attendees will be able to connect and meet fellow Kalamazoo artists before and after the panel – and there will be time for Q&A – plus all attendees and Arts Council members will receive an invitation to join Dell and the Arts Council at OutFront's LGBTQIA+ 101 & Pronouns Training. Dell covers gender diversity; common terms and definitions within LGBTQIA+ discussions; intersectionality; how and why to use chosen names/pronouns; what to do when you make a mistake; a brief overview of inclusive workplace policies/practices; and finally – tips on how to be an affirming ally. This event is free but registration is requested so head over to <https://secure.kalamazooarts.org/artisthappyhour23/24queer> to RSVP.

MUSIC



[Hard to Pronounce, Easy to Love Tour: Sadie Gustafson-Zook and Brittany Ann Tranbaugh wsg Elisabeth Pixley-Fink at The Clover Room](#)

Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Presented by [The Clover Room](#), 1501 Fulford St, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Queer Americana, and folk music plucked straight from your own internal dialogue, is on the menu at the Sadie Gustafson-Zook and Brittany Ann Tranbaugh wsg Elisabeth Pixley-Fink show at The Clover Room on May 20. Brittany Ann Tranbaugh (pronounced TRAN-baw) is a Philadelphia-based songwriter whose queer Americana heartbreaker “Kiss You” won Song of the Year in the 2021 John Lennon Songwriting Contest. Tranbaugh has been writing songs and playing shows as a side gig since she was a teenager, but in February 2023, at 31 years old, she finally quit her office job to pursue a full-time career in music. Her newest release is a self-titled EP produced by Grammy-winner Tyler Chester which showcases Tranbaugh in her new era: energetic, self-assured, surrounded by her beloved musical community, and more commanding as a vocalist and writer than ever before.

[Thecloverroomkalamazoo.com/tickets-and-events](https://thecloverroomkalamazoo.com/tickets-and-events)

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[Kalamazoo Choral Arts Presents 'A Vigil Against Violence - Rachmaninoff Vespers'](#)

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 7:30 pm
 Presented by Kalamazoo Choral Arts at First United Methodist Church, 212 S Park Street

The program brings together local artists of color with the KCA Chorus and the Kalamazoo Central Hawthorne Singers in a show of unity to acknowledge various forms of violence present in our communities and the world, and to provide healing, comfort, and inspiration through musical collaboration. This exciting program will alternate the short movements of Rachmaninoff's beautiful 1915 "All-Night Vigil" with spoken word, rap, and songs.



[Craft Music: Great American Songbook](#)

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 7:00 pm
 Presented by [Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra](#) at [Bell's Eccentric Cafe](#), 355 E. Kalamazoo Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Craft Music is locally sourced, from the bar to the stage. Featuring entertaining, casual, and truly eccentric flavor profiles, Craft Music is an experience you'll want to sample. The final Craft Music of the season features favorites from the Great American

Songbook! *Must be 21 years or older to attend this performance.*



[Beth Patterson CD Pre-release Party & Kirtan at The Clover Room](#)

Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 7:00 pm
 Presented by [The Clover Room](#), 1501 Fulford St, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Beth Patterson CD Pre-release Party & Kirtan Gathering
 \$12.00 Doors @ 6:30 Show @ 7 pm

Join us for a beautiful evening of music celebrating Beth Patterson's upcoming CD release and Kirtan with special guests Carolyn Koebel, Allen DeSomer and Marie Ferraro.



[Project Freedom and El.Sol Release: Immersive Listening Party at The Clover Room](#)

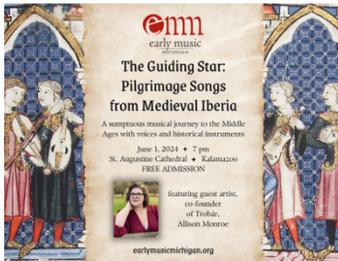
Friday, May 31, 2024 at 7:00 pm
 Presented by [The Clover Room](#), 1501 Fulford St, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

This is NOT your average listening party. Step into the immersive worlds of Project Freedom and El. Sol. as we celebrate the highly-anticipated Jordan Hamilton Release Party! Join us for a night overflowing with electrifying music and vibrant vibes played through speakers, headphones, and monitors at the Clover Room and La Luna Recording Studio.

Fresh off signing with Mello Music, Jordan Hamilton is set to unveil his latest album, Project Freedom.

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Alongside, we're thrilled to introduce the debut of El.Sol, a collaborative endeavor featuring Santino Jones, Headband Henny, and Jack Harrison! Secure your spot with a suggested donation of \$10. Advance reservation is highly encouraged for adequate preparation. Between each record, we will host discussions and Q&A's with artists and listeners. All the while, enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and mocktails from Elixir House as you listen to the album through various outputs located in the speakers of the Clover Room and the monitors/headphones of La Luna Recording Studio. Walk around and check out art from the artists that made the album covers, and album merchandise, with the opportunity to craft your very own version of each of the album covers. Mark your calendars, bring a friend, and prepare to immerse yourself in the sounds of Project Freedom and El. Sol.



[The Guiding Star: Pilgrimage Songs from Medieval Iberia](#)

Saturday, Jun 1, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Presented by [Early Music Michigan](#) at [St. Augustine Cathedral](#), 542 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

[Allison Monroe](#), co-founder of [Trobár](#) and [Director of the Five College Early Music Program](#), joins Early Music Michigan for an evening of music from the *Llibre Vermell de Montserrat*, the *Codex Las Huelgas*, and the *Cantigas de Santa*

Maria. These manuscripts contain stirring songs and dances collected from pilgrims visiting the shrine of the Virgin of Montserrat and mesmerizing chants composed for the choir of nuns at the monastery of Santa María la Real de Las Huelgas. These are some of the most popular and frequently recorded pieces of early music, with timeless appeal. Join Early Music Michigan and guests at beautiful St. Augustine Cathedral in Kalamazoo for a free concert to celebrate EMM's return and the joyful spirit of these ancient songs.



[Strings Attached](#)

Sunday, Jun 2, 2024 at 3:00 pm

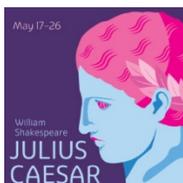
Presented by [Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra](#) at [Western Michigan University - Dalton Center Recital Hall](#), 1903 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Plucked. Not bowed. Guitar and harp are in the spotlight for this truly unique program!

PROGRAM

Luigi **BOCCHERINI** | "Fandango" from Guitar Quintet No. 4
 Niccolò **PAGANINI** | Cantabile for Violin and Guitar
 Máximo Diego **PUJOL** | Suite Magica
 Camille **SAINT-SAËNS** | Fantaisie for Violin and Harp
 Maurice **RAVEL** | Introduction and Allegro

THEATRE



[Julius Caesar](#)

May 17, 2024 - May 26, 2024 at 02:00 pm, 07:30 pm

Presented by Western Michigan University - Gilmore Theatre Complex, 1921 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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Shakespeare's political thriller tells the story of the conspiracy against Caesar, his assassination, and the defeat of his conspirators. Jealous conspirators convince Caesar's friend Brutus to join their assassination plot against Caesar. To stop Caesar from gaining too much power, Brutus and the conspirators kill him on the Ides of March. Mark Antony drives the conspirators out of Rome and fights them in a battle. Brutus and his friend Cassius lose and kill themselves, leaving Antony to rule Rome.



CRAWLSPACE EVICTION

Friday and Saturday, May 24-25, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Presented by [Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in Historic First Baptist Church Building](#), 315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Since 2003, Crawlspace Eviction has been delivering laughs, chortles and guffaws to Kalamazoo. See what happens when what's next is ANYBODY'S guess? Get ready for a face-melting good time!

Show Date: May 24

Show Time: 7:30-9p

Tickets: \$15

Doors Open: 6:30p



Joyce II Men

Friday, May 31, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Presented by [Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in Historic First Baptist Church Building](#), 315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Joyce II Men is a Kalamazoo-based improv comedy troupe founded in 2019. Besides the Crawlspace, some of their favorite performance venues have been a nursing home, a dog park, and a haunted cornfield. Known for their quick wit, ability to think on their feet, and their willingness to take risks, they also tend towards bouts of poor judgment, leading to hilarious results.

Show Date: May 31

Show Time: 7:30-9p

Tickets: \$10

Doors Open: 6:30p



Slaptail Nation Presents: Slap Your Tail Comedy

Saturday, Jun 1, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Presented by [Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in Historic First Baptist Church Building](#), 315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Slaptail Nation Presents: Slap Your Tail Comedy at Crawlspace Comedy Theatre returns. Enjoy sets from the best local comics, hailing from Kalamazoo to Detroit, Grand Rapids to South Bend, and more.

Host: The Beaveman

Little is known about the Beaveman prior to 1991 when the first rumored sightings were reported. His movements were tracked from Ft. Benning, GA to Darmstadt, Germany. He then resurfaced at Ft. Bragg, NC. Much like the Mothman of WV, sightings were sporadic from that time until the early 2000's. Rumors surfaced

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of a similar individual, but no sightings were truly confirmed until audio evidence emerged in July of 2018 in the form of a comedy podcast known as The Slaptail Squad. It was confirmed that the illusive individual known as the Beaveman truly existed. The Beaveman has been doing mics throughout west Michigan and is the producer and host of Slap Your Tail Comedy. Catch a sighting of him if you can.

Show Date: June 1st

Show Time: 7:30-9p

Tickets: \$20

Doors Open: 6:30p

VISUAL ARTS



[The Art of Playing with Knowledge, by Angela Lorenz](#)

April 30, 2024 - May 24, 2024 at 10:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Book Arts Center](#), 326 W Kalamazoo Ave # 103A, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Join us for an Art Hop Reception for The Art of Playing with Knowledge, by Angela Lorenz, on Friday, May 3, from 5-8 PM. Angela's conceptual approach to material culture, visual culture, and language topics include topics of archaeology, architecture, textiles, and literature. Working in watercolor painting, photography, printmaking, papermaking, letterpress, felting, sewing, and paper engineering, Lorenz infuses humor whenever possible to lighten the tragic nature of lives lived and as a mnemonic to aid memory. Unconventional materials and formats are intended to elicit curiosity, for amusement, but also to inspire exploration of the non-fiction content of each work. Angela's works are found in over 100 public collections in galleries and institutions in the U.S. and abroad. In 2019, she received the award for Outstanding Contribution to the Art of the Book, by the Center for Book Arts, New York. This exhibition is on view through May 24. Regular Gallery Hours: M-F 10 a.m – 5 p.m.



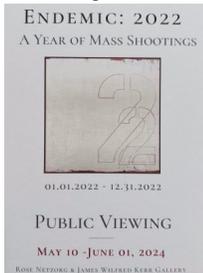
[2024 West Michigan Area Show](#)

May 3, 2024 - Aug 18, 2024 at 11:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

The work of West Michigan's talented artistic community is on view during the annual West Michigan Area Show. Opening Friday, May 3, this crowd-pleasing annual juried exhibition was carefully curated from more than 300 submitted entries, ranging from paintings, prints, and photos to mosaics, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, and mixed-media works. This year's juror is Jessica Silverman, founder of Jessica Silverman Gallery in San Francisco. The eponymous gallery was founded in 2008 after Silverman completed an MA in Curatorial Practice at the California College of the Arts, after receiving her BA from Otis College. The gallery represents artists who make museum-worthy art at all stages of their careers. Awards totaling more than \$5,000, including the \$1,000 Helen Sheridan Memorial Grand Prize, are awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement in the varying media represented in this highly anticipated exhibition. Visit the exhibition before June 24 to vote for the People's Choice Award, which is sponsored by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo. The People's Choice Award winner will be announced at Art Hop on Friday, July 12 at 6:00pm.

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[Endemic : 2022](#)

May 10, 2024 – June 1, 2024 at 12:00 pm

at [Western Michigan University - Albertine Monroe-Brown Gallery](#), 1903 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

ENDEMIC : 2022

A YEAR of MASS SHOOTINGS

“Endemic: 2022” begins its durational journey on January 01, 2022, through seven methodically crafted canvases, marking a contemplative reflection on our nation’s serious reality post-mass shootings. Aligned with the deliberate parameters outlined by the Gun Violence Archive (GVA), each 8x8 inch linen canvas stands as a poignant emblem, designating a single-event mass shooting—a stark witness to a society seemingly ensnared in a numbing silence. These canvases, fragments in the continuum, weave a narrative from January 01 to December 31. On the initial day, the seven paintings encapsulated the tragic toll of six lives lost and 24 individuals injured across seven states. The ceaseless procession of harm persists, with the disheartening total for the entirety of 2022 standing at 645 mass shootings, culminating in 642 lives lost and 2656 individuals injured—an ongoing echo of this pervasive societal woe. Each canvas exceeds the material, evolving into a collective elegy, a community sundered, families fragmented—a poignant scar etched upon our societal canvas. This silent visual testimony compels a confrontation with our collective inertia, compelling a reflection on the insidious endemic of mass shootings, a pervasive shadow cast across the very essence of our shared existence.



[Clearly Indigenous: Native Visions Reimagined in Glass](#)

May 18, 2024 - Aug 25, 2024 at 11:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

To honor of our 100th Anniversary and continue our commitment to presenting the myriad of voices that make up the American experience, the KIA is pleased to present Clearly Indigenous: Native Visions Reimagined in Glass. Clearly Indigenous is a groundbreaking exhibition giving broader and overdue recognition to a wide range of contemporary Native American and Indigenous, Pacific-Rim artists working in glass. The importance, rarity, and excellence of this milestone event are not to be missed. Clearly Indigenous includes nearly 100 glassworks created by twenty-nine Native American artists, four Pacific Rim artists from New Zealand and Australia, along with selections from leading glass artist Dale Chihuly. Chihuly was a part of a collaboration between the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) which resulted in establishing a glass program and a hot shop for the IAIA. This stunning exhibition embodies the intellectual content of Native traditions, newly illuminated by the unique properties that can only be achieved by working with glass. Whether reinterpreting traditional stories and designs or expressing contemporary issues affecting Indigenous societies, Indigenous artists have created content-laden bodies of work via the medium of glass. Clearly Indigenous demonstrates the generations of Indigenous artists who have and continue to investigate the expressive properties of glassmaking. Among the artists included in this seminal exhibition are Larry Ahvakana (Inupiat), Dan Friday (Lummi), Carol Lujan (Diné), Robert “Spooner” Marcus (Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo), Lillian Pitt (Warm Springs, Wasco, Yakama), and Preston Singletary (Tlingit). Don’t miss this exciting exhibition on view throughout the summer at the KIA!

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[The Anniversary Show: Promised Gifts from the Joy and Timothy Light Collection](#)

May 25, 2024 – September 1, 2024 at 11:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

The Anniversary Show: Promised Gifts from the Joy and Timothy Light Collection showcases a diverse selection of Chinese and Japanese artworks on paper. Presented in collaboration with prominent local collectors Joy and Timothy Light, this exhibition not only celebrates the beauty and cultural significance of these pieces but also marks the generous promised gift from the Lights. This exhibition delves into the artistic heritage of China and Japan by exploring a variety of media, including ink paintings, calligraphy, and woodblock prints. Among the distinguished artists featured are Huáng Bīnhóng, whose masterful ink landscapes rendered with a sense of tranquility and reverence, capture the timeless beauty of the Chinese countryside. Tan Yin's delicate brushwork and poetic compositions evoke a sense of contemplation and introspection, inviting viewers to reflect on the ephemeral nature of the human experience. Toko Shinoda's dynamic compositions and expressive brushstrokes fuse traditional techniques with modern sensibilities, resulting in artworks that resonate with energy and vitality. From the bold experimentation of contemporary artists to the timeless elegance of classical masters, this exhibition offers a glimpse of China and Japan's artistic evolutions. *The Anniversary Show: Promised Gifts from the Joy and Timothy Light Collection* celebrates the enduring legacy of Chinese and Japanese Art while highlighting the generosity of the Light family, whose promised gift enriches our collection and the cultural heritage of Kalamazoo.