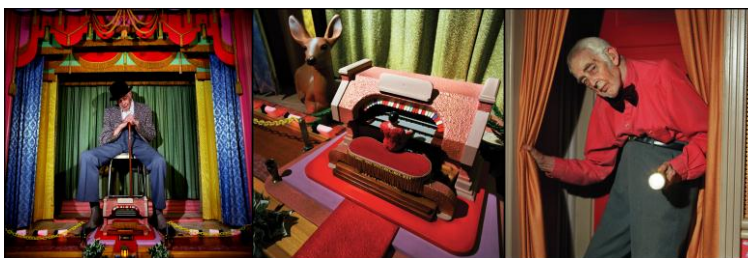


Biggs Museum of American Art

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The Projectionist. Coming to the Biggs March 1- June 23



Dover, DE (February 15, 2013) – The Biggs Museum of American Art is pleased to announce that the *The Projectionist*, a nationally acclaimed exhibition, will open to the public at its museum March 1 – June 23, 2013.

The Projectionist is an award-winning documentary, book and multi-media exhibition by **Delaware native**, Kendall Messick, which explores one Middletown projectionist's lifelong fascination with film and the grand movie palace. The exhibition features a fully operational 1920s style movie theater, an outsider-art installation recreated in Gordon Brinckle's Middletown basement. Messick's documentary and photo stills of Brinckle provides a penetrating gaze into the life of the self-taught artist while revealing the influences that drove him to create such a distinctive outsider art statement.

To accompany the *Projectionist* exhibition, The Biggs Museum has planned a full schedule programming (listed below). Through this series of related educational programs the Museum will encourage a broader understanding and appreciation of the visual, scientific, technological and social impact of film through a number of lectures and workshops.

"We are thrilled that this renowned exhibition is making a stop here at the Biggs," said Ryan Grover, Curator at the Biggs Museum of American Art. "The *Projectionist* encapsulates a range of interesting medias, making it a must-see for for all levels of interest. The fact that this exhibition was conceived just miles away from the Museum, in Middletown, makes it that much more special to the Delaware community."

What They're Saying About *The Projectionist*

"Kendall Messick's series serves as a metaphor for the confinement of old age and deliverance offered by imagination."
– *The Washington Post*

"Not unlike a painter that paints over what many would consider to be a finished canvas, he was constantly working and re-working his constructed vision of what the theatre should be throughout his life." -*The Big Picture Magazine*

Event Quick Stats

First Friday: The Projectionist Opening Reception

Friday, March 1

5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

FREE! All Ages Welcome

The Projectionist is a documentary, book and multi-media exhibition that explores one man's lifelong fascination with film and the grand movie palace. The exhibition features a fully operational 1920s style movie theater that was created in the basement of Middletown native, Gordon Brinckle. A documentary, created by Kendall Messick, provides a penetrating gaze into the life of the self-taught artist while revealing the desire, frustration and motivation that drove him to create such a distinctive outsider art installation. Messick will speak during this reception about "The Projectionist" project and its star, Gordon Brinckle.

Members Event: Discovering *The Projectionist* with creator, Kendall Messick

Sunday, March 10

12:30 - 2:30 P.M.

Free for Museum Members

Photographer, Kendall Messick, has an innate talent for documenting the multi-faceted lives of aging artists to reveal their remarkable artistic ability, passion and complexity. During this lecture, Messick will recount his experience working with Brinckle, the man who dedicated his life to what can only be considered outsider art, to create *The Projectionist*. Join us as we celebrate our members during an afternoon of tea, coffee, mimosas and pastries. If you are not a member but would like to attend the event, memberships start at \$30 and include two tickets to all members only events. For more information please call 302-674-2111 ext. 105.

Biggs Kids: Optical Toys

Saturday, March 2

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

FREE! Children Ages 5-10

Explore the science behind the perception of moving images with thaumotrope. Participants will create a thaumotrope using paper, colored pencils and string.

Mini-Masters: Optical Toys

Wednesday, March 6

10:00 A.M. – 4:00 p.m.

FREE! Children Ages 3-5

Explore the science behind the perception of moving images with thaumatropes.

Costume Design and Wardrobe in Film

Saturday, March 23

1:00 - 2:30 P.M.

FREE! All Ages Welcome

Delaware resident, Gina Scarnati, has worked as Costume Craftsperson on blockbuster

films such as The Hunger Games, Snow White and the Huntsman and the hit HBO series True Blood. During this lecture she will examine the costume design process from conceptualization to realization. Costumes are integral to defining the overall look of a film and make an immediate and powerful visual statement to the audience by providing information about a character's age, social status and sense of style. Through the exploration of various films, Scarnati will illustrate how vitally important costumes are to storyline development.

Biggs Kids: Flip Books

Saturday, April 6

10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

FREE! Children Ages 5-10

A flip book is a book with a series of images that vary slightly from one page to the next and when the pages are flipped rapidly the images appear to be in motion. The flip book relies on the basic scientific principal of persistence of vision to create the illusion of continuous motion. Participants will create their own flip book using colored pencils and paper.

So You Think You Know About Delaware: Tales and Trivia of the First State

Saturday, April 6

1:00 – 2:00 P.M.

FREE! All Ages Welcome

So you think you know all about Delaware? Whether a native or a transplant, Delawareans are proud to be known as residents of the First State. This informative lecture, by Ed Okonowicz, will take a look at Delaware's impressive past through politics, transportation, commerce, historic events and recognizable figures. You will leave with knowledge about how the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal saved the Union, why Delaware's northern border is round and why chickens are so important to the Delaware economy.

Mini-Masters: Flip books

Wednesday, April 10

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Free, Children Ages 3-5

A flip book is a book with a series of images that vary slightly from one page to the next and when the pages are flipped rapidly the images appear to be in motion. The flip book relies on the basic scientific principal of persistence of vision to create the illusion of continuous motion. Participants will create their own flip book using colored pencils and paper.

Short Film Screenings

Friday, May 3

6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

FREE! All Ages Welcome

A presentation of short films by six contemporary Delaware artists will include lectures on their filmmaking process including themes, techniques, cultural influences, logistics and technologies. **Nic Reader** will show his film "Runner" which has received national

acclaim. A modern day western set in a small town just North of the US and Mexico border. **Nancy Breslin** will show “Untitled (England, June 2011)” which was screened during the New Wilmington Art Association juried exhibition earlier this year. The film chronicles Breslin’s two week trip to England. **Amy Hicks** will be screening “ReAdaptation: the book series” which is about the process of translating book to film. The shorts in this series are adaptations from the science fiction novels, Jaws, Frankenstein, and Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? **Shawn DiCriscio** will be showing “Static”. This short film is a typical example of his work as he seeks to discover the truth in the scale of things. His quest has forced him to examine the hierarchy of distance in this existence, a constant reminder of things greater. **Jeffrey Moser** will be screening “Fordland Series” in which he examines the mechanization of imagery by appropriating 16mm Ford Motor Company promotional films. **Colette Gaiter’s** film, “Gabriel Garcia Marquez was at the Orchestra”, is a stop-motion animation created from photographs taken in Havana, Cuba.

Tours of *The Projectionist*

Saturday, May 4

10:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

FREE! All Ages Welcome

About the Museum

The Biggs Museum seeks to serve a diverse public as a regional museum of fine and decorative arts, made from 1700 to present, representing the State of Delaware and the surrounding Mid-Atlantic region. The Biggs Museum engages audiences through a compelling program of temporary exhibitions and programming. The Biggs Museum encourages the development of creativity and an appreciation for art by offering a comprehensive slate of educational programming for all ages. The Biggs Museum of American Art is a private, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday through Saturday; 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Sunday; 1:30 p.m. until 4: 30 p.m.

Admission: Biggs Museum is free to the public year-round. Fees may apply to certain programs and special events.

The Biggs Museum of American Art

406 Federal Street

Dover, DE 19901

302.674.2111

www.biggsmuseum.org

Pre-registration is required for both *Mini-Masters* and *Biggs Kids*. Please call 302-674-2111 extension 101 or fill out a registration form online at www.biggsmuseum.org in the *Biggs Kids* section. *Biggs Kids*, *Mini-Masters*, and *First Friday* are supported by the Delaware Division of the Arts and Mid-Del Charitable Foundation.

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