

Armin Mersmann's EarthCycle to open at Creative 360

What: EarthCycle exhibit by Armin Mersmann

Where: Creative 360 (formerly Creative Spirit Center) at 1517 Bayliss in Midland.

When: Opening reception with the artist, Friday, April 15 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.; show on exhibit through May 30

Cost: No charge for reception or gallery visits, but donations are always gratefully accepted.

For more information: Call (989) 837-1885, visit www.becreative360.org

Midland – EarthCycle, an exhibit of paintings and drawings by Midland-based artist Armin Mersmann, will open at Creative 360 on Friday, April 15.

Mersmann's works have been shown in more than 150 exhibitions nationally and internationally. He has won more than 30 awards, recently winning first place in the Second Annual National Drawing exhibition in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In the last two years Mersmann has placed in the "top 50" at ArtPrize out of 4,000 juried artists. He has been named a Top 100 American Portrait Artist by Artist Magazine. He is currently the Museum School Manager at the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art. Armin shares a studio with his wife Valerie Allen, also an accomplished artist.

"Drawing gives me the opportunity to truly see. As an artist, I do not casually observe my surroundings nor take them for granted, but rather view the world as a creator and architect of my own artistic vision. I have never been interested in simplification-on the contrary it's the complexities and how we see them that drives me to spend countless hours on a drawing. This act of drawing enables me to gain insight and understanding of intricate structure, whether it is a human figure, face, an isolated eye or a tempest of trees. Drawing pushes me to examine every aspect of what I see – every pore and hair follicle, every leaf and branch. I become immersed in my observational skills and depict my vision in a way that a casual observer could not.

Once a drawing is complete, it is no longer related merely to the artist, but becomes a starting point for the viewer's feelings and imagination. This alignment hopefully transcends the ordinary and the overlooked to something approaching the metaphysical and sublime. Photo-realism itself does not interest me in the least; realism does, details and textures do, ultimately seeing what others fail to see, until they see it in my work. When this is achieved, the collaborative relationship between the artist and viewer reaches its climax. Ultimately, and interestingly, the climax is a humble interpretation of the greatness of nature." – Armin Mersmann

EarthCycle opens with a reception with the artist on Friday, April 15 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. The show will remain on exhibit through May 30 and will be open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free, with donations gratefully accepted.

About Creative 360

Creative 360 is a not-for-profit community arts and wellness organization. The organization incorporated in 1994 as Creative Spirit Center and began offering programs in fall of 1995. The Center's mission is help people of all ages to experience the creative process through ongoing classes, art exhibits, events, concerts, speakers and outreach programs; and its goal is to enhance the development of physical, mental and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities. Visit www.becreative360.org for information about the offerings at Creative 360, or call (989) 837-1885 to request a mailed copy of the current schedule.

Creative 360 1517 Bayliss Street Midland, MI 48640 (989) 837-1885
fax: (989) 837-1817 www.becreative360.org

#####