

## PRINTMAKERS ON PARADE

SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

**What:** 5X10: *Mid-Michigan Printmaking* exhibition

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

**When:** Sept. 18 through Nov. 6, with an opening reception featuring the artists on Friday, Sept. 18, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Admission:** Free

**For more information:** Call (989) 837-1885 or visit [www.becreative360.org](http://www.becreative360.org)

Midland -- Despite its title of “5X10: *Mid-Michigan Printmaking*,” an exhibition opening Friday, September 18, in Midland will feature more than 65 works in wood block, intaglio, linoleum block, serigraphy, lithography, etching on glass and digital scenepainting.

Creative 360 (formerly Creative Spirit Center), 1517 Bayliss, invited 10 Great Lakes Bay area printmakers to submit at least five works. Steve Barber, Mary Birkmeier, Loren Burton, Robert Darabos, Whitney Dziurka, Shirley Eason, Emma Johnson, Nancy Pennell, Wilma Romatz and Carol Struthers responded by entering nearly 70 pieces.

“The goal of this show is to showcase the art of printmaking in its many forms,” says Sarah Gorman, Creativity Director at Creative 360. “Today the process far surpasses the familiar techniques of carving out a tile and rolling on paint.

“The exhibit features a range of talent as well as technique -- from artists in the infancy of their printmaking careers to those who have spent much of their careers in printmaking and now teach at the university level.”

Artist Birkmeier, who lives in the farming community of New Lothrop, says she has always been fascinated with wood -- “the spontaneity of working the wood surface; the unpredictability of the results, and the expressiveness of the medium

are intoxicating, Often I start with no concept of what the piece is to be and with the life of the wood always altering the forms.

“In the rural farming environment you work with what you are given each day -- the sun, the rain, the wind, the snow.”

Other printmakers in the show say they take their inspiration from a family collection of WPA art created during the 1930s and 1940s; historic printmakers Albrecht Durer, Rembrandt and John James Aubudon; relationships between people; the ironies of life; and nautical charts and maps.

Gorman says the participants are from Midland, Saginaw, Flint, Grand Blanc and Grand Rapids. Also as a part of the exhibition, visitors can view a video demonstration of printmaking techniques.

“5X10” runs through Friday, November 6. The opening reception with the artists is from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, September 18. Normal gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, but call (989) 837-1885 to inquire about evenings and weekend hours. Admission is free.

During the run of the show, Midlander Carol Struthers, one of the featured artists, will host a printmaking demonstration of wood block and linoleum techniques from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, October 12. She will describe her creative process and share insights from her years of working in the medium. The award-winning Struthers has had her work shown in the United States, Europe and Japan.

The cost of her demonstration is \$15. To reserve a spot call (989) 837-1885 or register online at [www.becreative360.org](http://www.becreative360.org).

### **About Creative 360**

Creative 360, formerly known as Creative Spirit Center, is a not-for-profit community arts and wellness organization founded in 1994. The Center’s mission is to create an environment for 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](http://www.becreative360.org) for more information about the fall roster at Creative 360, or call (989) 837-1885 to request a mailed copy.

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