

*Help make art grow*

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Guild

Vol. 7 - Fall 2016

# SPIRIT & MATTER

*juried by Andy Cooperman*



CUPCAKE

Jan Arthur Harrell  
*from Offerings/Gifts for the Muse series*

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# JEWELER'S BENCH

with Cathy Prieto-Smith

Hello HMAGers!

Who turned up the heat!? As Walter Winchell once said; "It's a sure sign of summer if the chair gets up when you do." Well, I can't help what Mother Nature does but I can tell you HMAG has been messing with the thermostat. The heat is on! Through our continued relationships with you, our members, and our other metal-art enthusiasts, 2016 has gotten off to a strong start.

Did you know that HMAG has our first Museum District exhibition at the Jung Center, in November?! There is still time to get your application in, but only until August 31!

In addition to the HMAG website and Facebook page, HMAG now has Twitter and Instagram accounts. Here's a closer look at our communication tools and how they are used to complement each other:

- Website – The website is for reference materials, news of major business, upcoming events, lengthier feature articles, and generally content that has a longer shelf life. [www.HMAG.org](http://www.HMAG.org)
- eBlasts – Through email alerts, you are notified of the day to day HMAG news, reminders, updates, and member news in your inbox on a regular basis.
- Newsletter – This biannual print newsletter is designed to update members on major business and seasonal events, as well as to contain informative articles from our members.
- Facebook – The Facebook page gives us the ability to post links and add events and invitations to HMAG programs and workshops.
- Instagram – Snap a photo with your mobile phone and post. Look for us at @Houston\_HMAG and use #hmaghouston when you post pictures of your work.
- Twitter – Twitter is a place where our members, guests, and the art community can communicate and stay connected. Look for us @Houston\_HMAG.

One note: unlike the HMAG website, Facebook, Twitter & Instagram are not spectator sports. Social media relies on user-generated content (that means you) to keep things fresh and interesting for our members and prospective members. So please do not be shy about posting pictures of your exploits with your triumphs, your challenges and anything else that may come to mind.

The executive board works very hard for our members to ensure you get great value out of your membership. In my first letter to you I have focused on our relationship together. To be effective we need to have a strong, united voice, for that to be a reality we need YOU to keep us informed as to your concerns or ideas. You do have a voice in HMAG!

Cathy Prieto-Smith  
2016-2017 President

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## June 2015

- *Mechanical Playthings* workshop with **Gary Schott**
- Artist Talk with Gary Schott
- Visual Arts Alliance Presentation with **Matt Adams**

## July 2015

- HMAG Members' *Swap-N-Shop*

## August 2015

- HMAG's 1st Annual *Member Development Grant* awarded to **Martha Ferguson**

## September 2015

- *Hands On Houston* at HCCC - copper bracelets - Record breaking attendance!

## November 2015

- *PUK Demo* by **Marianna Sammartino**

## December 2015

- *HMAG 20th Anniversary/Holiday Party* held at **Boheme Café & Wine Bar**

## January 2016

- *Imaginative Captures* workshop with **Andy Cooperman**
- Artist Talk *What's the Worst That Can Happen?* **Andy Cooperman**

## April 2016

- *HMAG Annual Meeting*, Presentation by HCCC's 2015-16 Artists in Residence
- *Intent, Chance, and Happenstance* workshop with **Sondra Sherman**
- *The Museum Experience* at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

## June 2016

- HMAG Member Development Grant & Student Scholarship Recipient Program

## July 2016

- Movie Night: A Jung Center Exhibition "Help" topic video: *How to Photograph Your Jewelry* by **Jim Lawson**
- HMAG's 2nd Annual *Member Development Grant* awarded to **Nathan Dube**

# WORKSHOP & LECTURE

## Intent, Chance & Happenstance

presented by Sondra Sherman

In April HMAG partnered with Houston Center for Contemporary Craft and The Glassell School of Art to have Sondra Sherman lead a workshop entitled "Intent, Chance and Happenstance." The workshop, which was held at HCCC, consisted of exercises to develop new ideas by submitting intent to chance and happenstance to identify and reconsider habitual ways of thinking and making. Participants examined previous work as a starting point. A fresh approach was stimulated by perceptual exercises, exploration, group dialogue, and chance procedures. The products were explorations through drawing, photography, models and tests, which can function as tools for future project ideation.

Participants were also able to view the artist's exhibition, **Found Subjects**, and attend Sherman's lecture after the workshop. Attendees had a great time making art and getting to know each other. A great way to spend a Saturday afternoon and it was free for members of HMAG.

**Found Subjects**, is an exhibition of work by jeweler Sondra Sherman. In this body of work, Sherman creates unique brooches and necklaces prompted by the individual books she has collected over many years. Sherman cuts into the pages of each book, giving them new life as they house the jewelry they inspired.



Sondra Sherman **Found Subjects**  
Shown at the Houston Center  
for Contemporary Craft.

# 2015 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT GRANT

congratulations to Martha Ferguson

HMAG's **1st Annual Member Development Grant** was awarded to Martha Ferguson.

The 2015-2016 Board of Directors selected local metalsmith and educator, Martha Ferguson, as the first recipient of the newly created HMAG Member Development Grant. The grant is underwritten by HMAG corporate member Charisma Design, and is awarded for the purpose of assisting an artist in his or her professional development as a metalsmith.

Martha planned to use the grant to purchase technology equipment for her classroom. Martha joined Shondra Mohammed, winner of last year's Student Scholarship, for a program in June 16, 2016 to share with us how this grant enhanced her metalsmithing career.

## LOOKING BACK

by Terry Fromm, Past President



The HMAG membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. During the 2015-2016 membership year, I had the privilege of serving as the HMAG President. Although we struggled a bit during the year due to low membership and unfilled positions on the Board of Directors, I think we can still be proud of our accomplishments. Just take a look at all we've done!

Even though my year as president has come to an end, I am still actively involved in this Guild as Vice President and Communications Chair. I look forward to the coming year, working with a full board filled with energy and enthusiasm. Together with revitalized membership, we will make this organization thrive! Thank you for being a part of it.

# 2016 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT GRANT

congratulations to Nathan Dube



Nathan Dube, Pop-Gun, 2012

HMAG's **2nd Annual Member Development Grant** was awarded to Nathan Dube. Nathan's proposal for use of the funds is to purchase a Taig Micro Mill.

*"This mill would provide me with a level of precision I am unable to attain with my current tools. My work has long been about achieving a certain balance between the hand made and the machine made and this mill would help me surpass my current abilities. I plan to use this mill to not only further the development of the mechanisms in my work but also expand and explore a new body of work I have been developing. I am currently developing a series of pendants which would function as worry or fidget tools when not being worn. The mill would allow me to carve and alter the surface of my forms creating compound curves which would be more pleasing to the wearer's hand."*

Congratulations to Nathan, and a big thank you to ALL who applied for the grant! This was not an easy decision to make with so many outstanding applications!

We can look forward to Nathan making a presentation to HMAG in the coming year to let us know how his metalsmithing career has been advanced by this grant.



# INSIDE HMAG WITH AIRS

## Contemporary Jewelry meets the Bayou City

Rene Lee Henry and Younha Jung, both current metal Artists in Residence (AIR) with the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, along with Terry Fromm and Gary Schott, both recent AIRs, presented a program for HMAG in April. The artists gave HMAG members a peek at their work and discussed the impact that the AIR experience has made upon each of them.

### Rene Lee Henry

Hails from San Diego where she has a studio practice making one-of-a-kind and limited production jewelry. She has been a professional graphic designer for the past nine years, but is striving to shift her primary career to full-time jeweler. During her tenure as an AIR, Rene will be focusing on new work based upon her fascination of modern day ruins and the "relics" left behind.



Rene Lee Henry, "Corrosion," 2012



Terry Fromm, "Perfume Bottles," 2015

### Terry Fromm

Houstonian and HMAG Vice President, Terry Fromm was an Artist in Residence this past summer. As an AIR, Terry continued her ongoing exploration of fluid forms via her jewelry, which she fabricates using anticlastic raising techniques, and with her pewter and enamel metalwork objects.

### Younha Jung

Originally from South Korea, Younha Jung moved to the United States in 2012 to attend Kent State University, where she earned a Masters in Fine Arts degree. Younha specializes in wearable modern jewelry and is currently working with repurposed steel and found objects collected from a particular building. Her goal is to re-configure these commonplace materials in new and surprising ways.



Younha Jung  
"VDH 108-A," 2013

### Gary Schott

was born and raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin and recently moved to Houston after serving as the Chair of the Metals Department at the Southwest School of Art for seven years. During Gary's time at HCCC this past fall, he continued with his pursuits of exploring mechanical motion & making humorous & silly objects to interact with.



"Wearable Playthings" by Gary Schott

# EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The HMAG Educational Scholarship will award \$500 annually to an area student for the purpose of enrolling in a semester-long Metalsmithing and Jewelry course at a Houston area college or university.

In exchange for the scholarship, the recipient will make a presentation to the HMAG membership in the form of a brief live lecture or short article for the HMAG newsletter following the experience.



The recipient will receive a complimentary year-long membership to HMAG and will be featured in the HMAG newsletter as well as on the HMAG website.

The recipient will be chosen based on a combination of merit and need. Applicants need not be HMAG members, but must reside in the greater Houston area (within a 60 mile radius of downtown Houston).

The next deadline is December 9, 2016, for use during the Spring 2017 semester. HMAG will coordinate with the applicant's chosen school to award the scholarship funds.

Eligible schools:

- Glassell School of Art
- Houston Community College
- Alvin Community College
- San Jacinto College
- Lonestar Community College
- 

Applicants are asked to submit:

- Completed application form
- Statement of interest (maximum 2 pages) indicating need, experience, and goals for enrolling in a Metalsmithing and Jewelry course.
- Current resume
- Digital examples of 3 images of recently produced artwork (in any media).
- Two personal references, using the provided questionnaire.

# SPIRIT AND MATTER

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

- An exhibition of jewelry & metalwork presented by Houston Metals Arts Guild.
- Juried by Andy Cooperman.
- November 2016 Exhibition will be at The Jung Center.
- Monetary Awards.

This exhibition celebrates the diverse field of metalworking and jewelry. We know that spirit is embodied in every object, and we want to honor that. Spirit and Matter investigates the connections between the human spirit and material objects.

Whether your work is wearable, utilitarian, or sculptural, your contribution to the long and wide-ranging history of metalworking enriches the collective experience. Does the physical process of manipulating materials engage your self-awareness? Does the finished product form relationships between you and the viewer, or a larger community? The Houston Metal Arts Guild invites you to share how your expressions in metalworking create deeper meaning in everyday life.

The Houston Metal Arts Guild invites you to share how your expressions in metalworking create deeper meaning in everyday life.



Jan Arthur Harrell, Cupcake, from the Offerings/Gifts for the Muse series.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE 08/31/16

**APPLICATION:** [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org) or [www.new.hmag.org](http://www.new.hmag.org)

**ENTRY FEE:** \$40 for non-members, \$25 for HMAG members.

### DATES AND SCHEDULES:

- Entries must be received by **AUGUST 31, 2016**
- Notification via email: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016
- Accepted entries due: OCTOBER 14, 2016
- Exhibition dates: NOVEMBER 2nd - 28th, 2016
- Opening reception: NOVEMBER 5, 2016
- Artwork to be returned to artist by DECEMBER 31, 2016

### ELIGIBILITY:

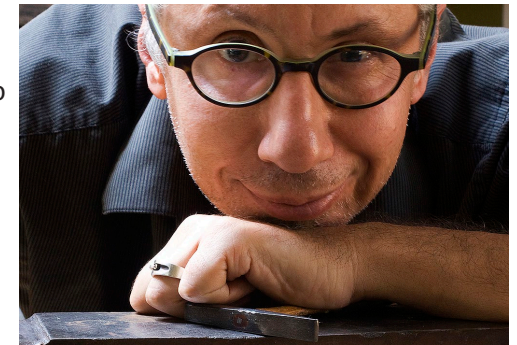
All entries must be original designs completed within the last two years and not previously exhibited in the state of Texas. Submitted entries must contain some metalworking but are open to a full range of processes and materials. Found objects and materials are welcome, but the acceptable entries must contain some original metalworked component.

Artists will provide a brief statement explaining how their entries address the theme of Spirit and Matter. A maximum of THREE entries per artist is permitted.

### AWARDS:

- HMAG will award \$1000 at the discretion of the juror.
- An award of \$500 will be given for Best in Show.
- An award of \$250 will be given for Best Use of Materials.
- An award of \$250 will be given for Most Original Piece.

Metalsmith, educator and writer Andy Cooperman works from his Seattle studio where he builds jewelry and objects for exhibitions and private clients. His work is held in private and public collections such as the Victoria & Albert Museum, Central College in Pella, Iowa, and the Tacoma Art Museum "His writing has appeared in blogs, magazines and books, including *Humor in Craft*, *Art Jewelry Today (I, II & III)* and *The Penland Book of Jewelry*."





# IMAGINATIVE CAPTURES WORKSHOP with Andy Cooperman

Seattle based metalsmith and writer, Andy Cooperman, came to Texas and led his four day Master Workshop, *Imaginative Captures (Zengineering)*, for HMAG members January 23-26, 2016. In this class, 12 lucky HMAG members learned a more fluid way to incorporate a gemstone, enamel or found object into their work: A fresh approach that leverages



the principles of traditional stone setting to open possibilities that go way beyond the old standbys of prongs and bezels.



"Icecap Ring"  
Andy Cooperman

This information-packed workshop was designed to help change things up, to liberate the problem solver within by helping participants see a different way of approaching their work and navigate the choke points and roadblocks inherent in studio life. Along the way we explored a wide variety of tricks, shortcuts and studio tips—and some really bad jokes. Demonstrations and an extensive

collection of samples were used to illustrate topics including cold connecting, caging, back setting, the flex shaft and advanced soldering techniques.

While Andy was in town, he also gave an artist talk, "What's the Worst That Can Happen?" in which he shared some of his experiences and observations from his 35 year career as a successful metalsmith and teacher. This standing room only program reached over 50 members and guests.



This was the third time that Andy Cooperman has taught a workshop for HMAG and his lecture and workshop proved, once again, to be not only informative but also delightfully entertaining.

# UPCOMING PROGRAMS

## Tour of *Thirst* *free and open to all*

Join HMAG for a tour of THIRST at Capsule Gallery with curator Sarah Sudoff and featured artists speaking about their work. Kathryn Hall from Houston Center for Contemporary Craft will moderate.



Corey Acklemire - Cocktail Picks

**Wednesday, August 24th**  
6 - 8 pm

Capsule Gallery  
3909 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002

THIRST celebrates the vessels that facilitate our enjoyment of summertime libations. Through the display of both functional and decorative devices the audience will be encouraged to support craft and design through the collection of these items while helping offset the impact of single use beverage containers.

The exhibition is a group show that features work by HMAG members Corey Acklemire, Terry Fromm, Heidi Gerstacker, Jan Harrell, and Sandie Zilker among other artists from across the country, and features a wide variety of mediums; ceramics, porcelain, glass, metal, marble, etc.

## *How to Run a Business* with Sarma Taylor

*free and open to all*

**Thursday, September 15th**  
6:30 pm social time, program starts at 7 pm  
Charisma Design Studios  
226 Cavalcade St, Houston, TX 77009

Sarma Taylor is the Former Vice President of MFS Investment Management and current Lead Business Advisor for Goldman-Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Initiative.

She is a management-team-level executive and entrepreneur, who founded several companies, incorporated them, developed sophisticated visionary business plans, and solicited and obtained investments from private equity investors. She has mentored 100+ small business owners in the greater Houston area. Sarma is also interested in painting and jewelry making.

# MECHANICAL PLAYTHINGS WORKSHOP

with Gary Schott

Gary Schott recently moved to Houston after serving as the Chair of the Metals Department at the Southwest School of Art for seven years. He earned his BFA from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, and his MFA from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

During the Mechanical Playthings workshop held at San Jacinto College South Campus the weekend of June 13 – 14, 2015, HMAG members learned the basics of mechanisms and everyone completed a project 'in motion'.

Gary's process involved beginning with a working model and then moving on to the final materials. This method allows for experimentation and errors in more easily manipulated and affordable materials.



## SWAP & SHOP



# HMAG 20TH ANNIVERSARY & HOLIDAY PARTY

held at Boheme Cafe & Wine Bar

On December 17, 2015, HMAG members, new and longstanding, gathered for laughter, great stories, and really, really old photos! It was a chance for old friends to be reacquainted and for new friendships to be formed. HMAG began 20 years ago as "just an idea" of a small group of students from the Glassell and University of Houston Metals Departments. For 20 years the Guild has remained a grass roots organization run by volunteers. The Guild supports local metal artists by providing educational programs, workshops, scholarships, and exhibition opportunities. That wonderful "idea" is still going strong in the Bayou City.



## GET YOUR HAMMER ON

Hands on Houston

Who doesn't like to hammer? HMAG once again participated in Houston Center for Contemporary Craft's "Hands on Houston," in September, 2015. This fun monthly family activity showcases local artist guilds with hands-on activities provided by the participating guilds. HMAG provided copper circles that were hammered and twisted into bracelets, pendants, rings, and abstract designs by the participants. Over 200 people participated, the most ever for a Hands on Houston event. It was LOUD!!!!



"Hands on Houston"

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft



## Houston Area Metals Courses:



**ART LEAGUE HOUSTON**  
Mary Rogers  
maryrogers60@hotmail.com



**GLASSELL SCHOOL, MFAH**  
Jan Harrell  
jannyh@swbell.net  
Nathan Dube  
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# CHARISMA



ART GALLERY

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## MEMBERSHIP & YOU

The Houston Metal Arts Guild, Inc. is a non-profit organization, 501(c)3, made up of people with varying interests and involvement in traditional and contemporary jewelry and metal arts. The Guild was founded to provide for the exchange of ideas and information, as well as to offer affordable educational opportunities to its members and the public. The skills, energy and enthusiasm of HMAG members promote and sustain its successful programs.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Members-only workshops
- **Invitations to exhibit your work in Member shows<sup>1</sup>**
- Full access to members-only section of the website which includes:
  - **Free member gallery page on HMAG.org<sup>2</sup>**
  - HMAG's member directory
  - Access to HMAG's comprehensive library
- Notices through the HMAG website, email marketing, and administered social media posts concerning:
- All HMAG sponsored events, services, or information
  - Other non-profit charity, community, metal arts or general craft field related events, services, or information
  - **Exhibitions, receptions and/or publications involving current HMAG members<sup>3</sup>**
  - Calls for Entry
- 10% discount at participating local vendors
- Technical and business programs
- Visiting artist lectures and panel discussions
- **Social networking<sup>4</sup>**
- Social events with local and visiting artists

<sup>1</sup>Submit your entry now for "Spirit and Matter"! This exhibition is open to all artists working in metal in the state of Texas, regardless of your level of experience. Every HMAG member should submit something!

<sup>2</sup>By submitting or updating your member profile on the HMAG website, you instantly increase your Internet presence and have a chance of being a Featured Member on the website and in email notifications. Who couldn't use more exposure for your work?

<sup>3</sup>Send your news to Terry Fromm at HMAGComm@gmail.com for inclusion in a Member News section of HMAG's eblasts.

<sup>4</sup>Take advantage of HMAG's social networking. Use #hmaghouston when sharing your work on Instagram. Promote HMAG while HMAG promotes you!

*"I'm an HMAG member because I think it's important to be a part of a community of people sharing and experiencing a love for contemporary jewelry and metal arts. I love seeing the diversity and creativity of everyone's work."*  
Amber Tiemann, Membership Chair

## Robert Lincoln Straight Studio

*Private Glass Blowing Lessons available this fall*

- You will learn the basics of offhand glass blowing (a specialty on the island of Murano).
- Cost will be per hour and varies with choice of materials.
- For information about schedule, fees and availability please contact Bob at [ristra@att.net](mailto:ristra@att.net).

Artist Robert Lincoln Straight has been learning the nuances of blowing glass art for about 15 years. A jewelry designer for 30 years, Straight also works in wood and metal. His home studio displays many of his sculptural pieces and metalworks.



"Glassblowing is addicting, the more you do it, the more you want to do it."  
Bob Straight

As a young man, he trained in the industrial arts, was a woodworker by trade & also worked making foundry patterns. He's a certified gemologist and a diver; much of the jewelry he designs carries an underwater motif.



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Thank you! Liz Guild, owner EGGM  
[310-780-6075](tel:310-780-6075)





## HOUSTON METAL ARTS GUILD

Membership is annual and runs from June 1st through May 31st

- New Membership \$30
- Renewing Membership \$30
- Family Membership \$50
- Full Time Student Membership \$15
- Corporate Membership \$100

Corporate Members receive a 1/2 page color ad in an issue of our newsletter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**To become a member please enclose a check made payable to the Houston Metal Arts Guild, Inc. & return to: PO Box 270452, Houston, TX 77277-0452. You can also sign up online [www.hmag.org](http://www.hmag.org).**

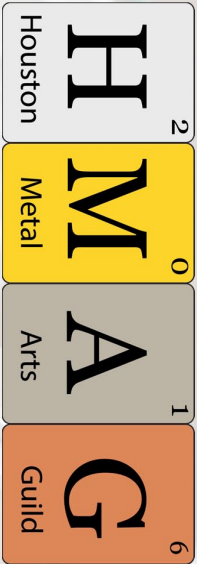
As a non-profit organization managed by volunteers, we need assistance from our members with various HMAG functions. We hope you can volunteer.

- Phoning Members
- Communications Committee
- Program Committee
- Workshop Committee
- Workshop Assistant
- Submit article for newsletter
- Wherever help is needed



PO Box 270452  
Houston, TX 77277-0452

join us at [www.hmag.org](http://www.hmag.org)    [houston\\_hmag](https://twitter.com/houston_hmag)



P O BOX 270452 - Houston, TX 77277-0452

Help make art grow...join us



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