



# THE SCRIBE

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TENTH EDITION DECEMBER 2024      DISCOVERING OHIO'S ARTISTS TOGETHER      ALL COPIES ARE FREE!



## Piercing to Paint: Jax Foster's Oil Painting



*process. I've since become a member of the Bowling Green Arts Council, as well as secured a seat on their executive board. I have grown into a website and have achieved sales to art lovers across the country.*

*I also organize a yearly show to benefit transgender and gender non-conforming individuals in my area. I am so excited to participate in this community and be welcomed by and learn from other artist, as well as contribute to my community."*



*"I'm Jax of Thistle and Berry, and I'm a nonbinary artist based out of Wood County. I'm largely influenced by pop culture, food, and 1600s baroque portraiture. I've been oil painting going on three years now, but have always practiced some medium of art.*

*I first got into painting when I started working as a piercer at a local tattoo shop. Being surrounded by art and artists all day was a great way to jump into the local art scene-lead by my mentor (a tattooer at the shop), I have managed to train myself in some classical techniques as well as develop my own style and goals in the*



@thistle.and.berry

Jax's Website





*The Scribe* is a **FREE** monthly publication that is created and published under the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Apollo Press.

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# Crafting Toledo's Future: Tess Healy



**Tess Healy**

- BGSU Digital Arts Graduate
- Specialty: vibrant glasswork, digital design
- Momentum Manager at Toledo Arts Commission

See more now!



[tesshealy.com](http://tesshealy.com)



[@tesshealyart](https://www.instagram.com/tesshealyart)

## Fusing Glass and Digital Passion

Tess Healy is a glass and digital artist who focuses on functional, colorful, and technical work. Originally from Cincinnati, she graduated from Bowling Green State University in 2017 with a degree in Digital Arts. While in school she found glass and fell in love with the medium but continued with the Digital program to follow both her passions.

## Shaping Art and Culture

Tess moved to Toledo after graduating, going on to work at multiple glass studios in the area. One of those was the Toledo Museum of Art where she was the full-time Production Artist and led the GAPP residency program for three years. While working at these studios she also created 2D & 3D renderings of projects and photographed work to present to clients, as well as work as a freelance digital artist.

Currently she is working at The Arts Commission as the Momentum and Events Manager, celebrating and supporting Toledo's art and culture. Her passion is practicing her crafts and continuing to learn and challenge herself.



## WHAT IS THE SCRIBE?

*The Scribe* is a free, community-driven arts publication that promotes local Ohio artists, authors, filmmakers, musicians, and more!

By bringing Ohio's vibrant art scene to a location near you, *The Scribe* connects you with meaningful stories and beautiful art.

We believe in making art accessible and enjoyable for everyone.

Discover Ohio's art scene!

## WANT TO BE FEATURED?

*The Scribe* accepts submissions from Ohio artistic creators of all kinds. Just send us your portfolio!

*The Scribe* is Ohio's best way for artists of all skill levels to grow!

Reach out now!

[submit@apollo-press.com](mailto:submit@apollo-press.com)

# The Nutcracker – A Record-Breaking Tradition



Performed at the Stranahan Theater, Toledo Ballet's Nutcracker features a live orchestra, bringing this cherished holiday classic to life!

## The Nutcracker

As the holiday season approaches, Toledo Ballet proudly presents its cherished Nutcracker production for the 84th year!

Featuring live music, captivating choreography, and a legacy that spans generations, this beloved performance continues to enchant audiences across the region.

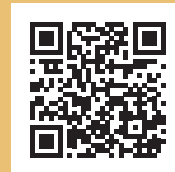
### Dates:

December 13th, 14th, and 15th

### Location:

The Stranahan Theater

### See more now!



Toledo Ballet's Website



Buy Tickets



## New Director's Vision

Joining the Toledo Ballet in 2022, Artistic Director Eric Otto brings a decade of experience and a keen eye for detail, making thoughtful tweaks—like adding Santa—to keep the show fresh and engaging.

A New York native and graduate of the prestigious School of American Ballet, Otto has performed with renowned companies, including the New York City Ballet and American Ballet Theatre. Having performed The Nutcracker as a boy, he shares a deep connection to this classic tale while adding his own creative vision to inspire new generations.

## Toledo Ballet's Growth

Founded to promote the art of dance, the Toledo Ballet helped form the Toledo Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA) in 2019, a move that strengthened its mission and created new opportunities for collaboration. Today, the Ballet thrives, offering inclusive dance programs that cater to all ages and skill levels.

The Toledo Ballet's new home at the Masonic Temple will open January 6th, paving the way for more exciting productions. This year, the sold-out Sleepy Hollow event demonstrates the community's enthusiasm and ongoing support for the work of TAPA.

***"We believe that dance is for everybody."***

## The Nutcracker's Cast & Crew Highlights

- **Principal Ballerina:** **Liza Van Heerden** brings grace and precision to her lead role.
- **Guest Artist:** **Gustavo Ramirez** shines as the Cavalier, partnering with Van Heerden for unforgettable performances.
- **Conductor:** **Alain Trudel**, eight-time Juno nominee, leads the Toledo Symphony in harmony with the Ballet dancers.
- **Music:** **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's** timeless musical composition brings a classic twist to this modern retelling.
- **Grandma:** **Jeanie Hayward** returns for her 69th production of the show, starring as Grandma. At 9 years old, Jeanie was a student of Marie Vogt, founder of the Toledo Ballet!

## The Nutcracker's Legacy

First performed by the Toledo Ballet in 1939, the Ballet's production of The Nutcracker holds the distinction of being the longest-running production of its kind in North America. For 84 years, this cherished holiday tradition has captivated generations, bringing the classic tale of Clara and her Prince to life with captivating choreography, beautiful visuals, and Tchaikovsky's timeless score performed live by the Toledo Symphony. Notably, Toledo Ballet's Nutcracker is the only production in the region accompanied by a live orchestra, offering audiences a truly unique experience!

Beyond its role as a holiday favorite, The Nutcracker serves as a cornerstone of the Toledo Ballet's mission to foster a love of dance and the arts. Featuring around 200 students between recreational and professional divisions, the Toledo Ballet instills a love for dance in the cultural fabric of Toledo!



South African-born Liza Van Heerden, trained at the prestigious Kirov Academy of Ballet, brings her exceptional talent to Toledo Ballet as principal ballerina in The Nutcracker.

# Art Without Borders: Swell Magazine

## Back From the Second Edition

In our second edition, *The Scribe* spotlighted Swell Magazine, celebrating its mission to amplify artistic voices. Now, with its first edition released and momentum building, we're reconnecting to see how Swell has evolved.

For those who missed our initial coverage, Swell is a bold, inclusive arts magazine that highlights diverse perspectives and creative expression. This feature dives into its journey, its growth, and what's next!

## Coast-To-Coast!

Swell's distribution spans coast-to-coast in the U.S. and even reaches international readers. While it has broad appeal, the core audience leans toward women. Most sales are direct, with readers preferring to purchase through social media or other direct channels, rather than in-store.

## Swell Magazine

An inclusive arts magazine created and run by Social B. Creative!



### How to Buy

View their website or social media!

### Next Edition

January 2025

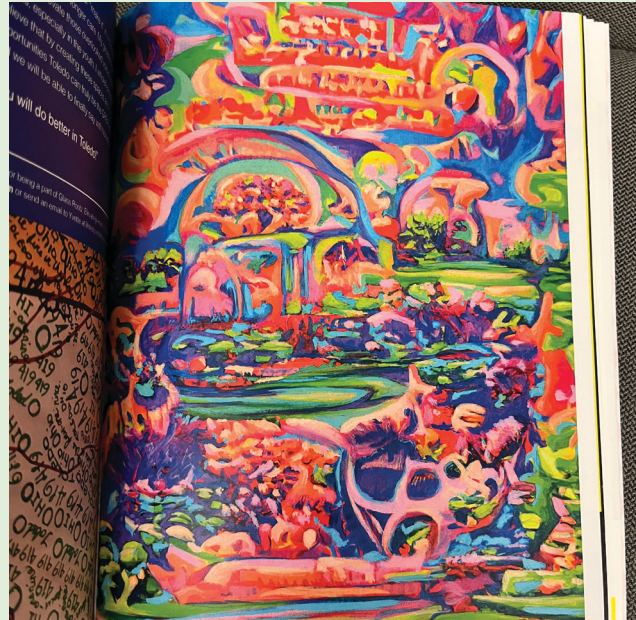
See more now!



[swell.socialbcreative.com](http://swell.socialbcreative.com)



A copy of Swell's first edition



## Origins and Concept

*Swell* was conceived during the pandemic by Emily Rippe Desmond. The magazine was initially inspired by a desire to provide a space for artistic expression and inclusivity. Over time, it evolved into a collaborative effort to highlight diverse voices and multimedia works, offering a mix of literary, visual, and experimental content.

## Views on Community & Accessibility

Rooted in Toledo, Swell maintains strong local ties while embracing national and international submissions. It collaborates with local artists, businesses, and organizations like Ink & Iron. The magazine aims to serve as an accessible platform that connects a vibrant community of creatives and supporters.

**“Our main thing is no gatekeeping.”**

## What is Swell?

The magazine emphasizes inclusivity by featuring art and writing from underrepresented groups, such as women, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people of color. Submissions are guided by simple rules, including a word limit of 1,200 for written pieces and the need for high-resolution images. Each issue is centered around a theme, such as “Contagious” or “Ripe,” which artists interpret broadly, allowing for a wide range of creative expression.

## Sustainability

The magazine relies on revenue from sales, sponsorships, and affordable advertising rates. Trades with local businesses, such as borrowing event spaces in exchange for features, have proven effective. Additionally, GoFundMe campaigns help offset production costs, with funds supporting contributors and community initiatives.

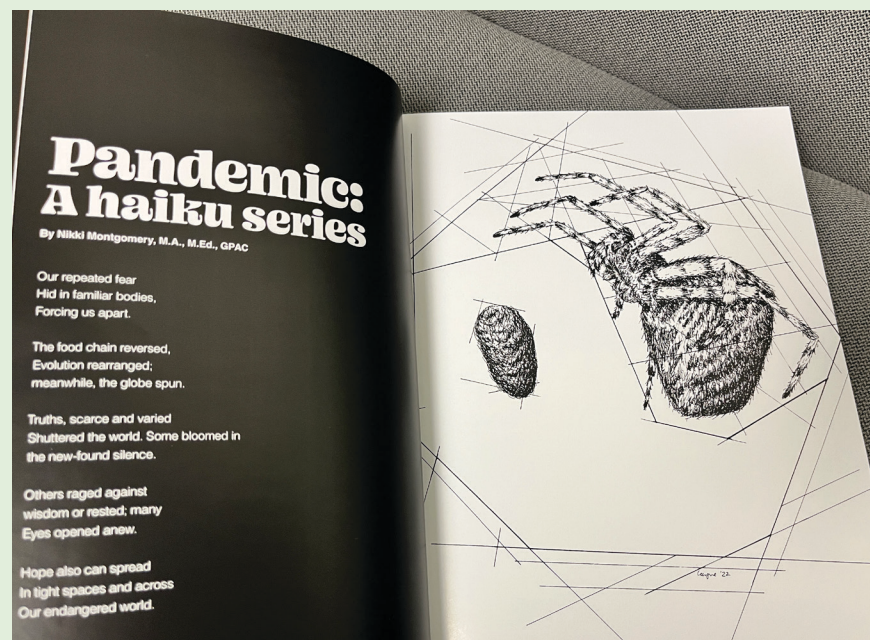
## The Future

Swell aspires to expand its national reach while staying true to its Toledo roots. There are plans to establish a regular publishing schedule, moving toward quarterly or biannual editions. The team is also exploring new ideas, such as integrating music artists and creating a magazine soundtrack to enhance its offerings.

Swell's next edition is poised to be out in January 2025, so keep your eyes peeled. For more info on upcoming editions, and even to submit, be sure to check their website or reach out over email. Each Swell edition follows a theme for submission, so don't blindly submit!



A wonderful spread of art from one of Swell's 70+ pages



Balance by Layne Painter - One of the fan favorite works

# Deanna Taylor: Bringing Nature to Life with Texture



This painting depicts a radiant sunset over a sprawling lavender field, blending the calming hues of purple with the fiery brilliance of golden and orange skies. The rows of lavender guide the viewer's eye toward the horizon, where vibrant colors dissolve into the silhouette of distant trees.



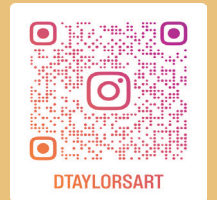
**Deanna Taylor**

- Self-taught fine artist from Delta Ohio
- Known for vivid colors, playful details
- Best of Show at Toledo Artists Club (2023)

See more now!



DTaylor's Art



DTAYLORSART  
@dtaylor'sart

## Award-Winning Creative Talent

"I have exhibited at multiple libraries, Grand Rapids International Artprize, Grounds For Thoughts in Bowling Green and been interviewed by Wood TV 8, WGTE radio, 13 Action News and BCAN, had my booth photographed and put in the Toledo Blade for the Black Swamp and have some of my pieces on display for All Art Works Gallery. I am currently also on exhibit at Everyday People's Café in Bowling Green, Ohio and have some of my pieces at Round N Round Gifts in Bowling Green as well. I also have social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and Tiktok under DTaylor's Art.

I also won second place in the Festival of the Trees art show and auction (2021) and won Best of Show at Toledo Artists' Club juried show (2023) and won a Honorable Mention In Toledo Artists' Club Abstract and Impressionistic juried show (2024).

I hope I can bring some joy into other people's homes with my work."

**"I love bold colors that grab attention."**

## Rediscovering Art After Family Life

"I grew up watching Bob Ross and drawing as a child. I started airbrushing in my early 20's and loved the things I could create. I have painted on boats, snowmobiles, golf carts, coats, clothes, license plates, people, you name it.

Then, came along a family and children of my own so my art had to take a backseat while I took care of them. Once they got older I started carving out some art time for me again. I started watching different artists on social media and saw this lady painting with thick acrylic paint on canvas. How loose her style was and how impressionistic it was. I was hooked. So I joined her art group and I started dabbling in acrylic paint on canvas using palette knives and lots of thick texture. The group of artists that are in this group are always so supportive and we all help each other."

## Exploring Texture, Color, and Playfulness

"I found the palette knives offer me more freedom and does not command such a tight form as airbrushing did. I recently have started using some watercolor in my backgrounds and acrylic texture in the foreground for a looser feel to some of my pieces as well. I love bold colors in my pieces. I want them to get the viewers attention. I've even used some pour art behind a few pieces as well just for fun. I keep trying to learn more. Watch more and learn different techniques to incorporate into my style. Every time I watch something or see something I want to paint, I think how can I accomplish that or tweak it into my style of painting.

I use lots of texture to try and make my pieces have and almost 3D effect to them when viewed in person. I use everything from q-tips, paper towels, cardboard, palette knives, sponges, baby wipes, spikey dog toys, or anything that might get me the texture I might be looking for in my piece. I also use post palette paint pieces, gels and sometimes modeling paste as well in some pieces for that texture. I use color shifting paints or illusion paints on some pieces for something unexpected. I also hide a heart, squirrel, ladybug, ect to find in the paintings as a fun little thing for the viewer to look for in the artwork. It has been a really fun thing to get people to engage in the art."

## Natural Serenity on Canvas

"I like to go by "fine artist". I have always had a love of art and creating things. I am self-taught by watching other artists and joining art groups. Nature, itself calms me and helps me find joy and peace. I love the sounds of nature, the songs of the birds or the leaves rustling lightly in the breeze is so peaceful and relaxing. Just watching the sunsets or sunrises (there's nothing like the colors those can produce to make you stand there in awe of it's beauty).

I love the ocean crashing against the beach with the warmth of the sun on your face and a good book. Can it get more relaxing than that? This is where my art comes from. Trying to capture those moments and let others share some of those feelings as well, is where my art comes from."

## Inspiration Through Community

"If I'm feeling unmotivated or not sure what to paint, I go for a walk, look around at nature, jump on social media to watch other artists or photographers out there. I have a group of photographers that I have permission to use their photographs for reference and then I reference them in any post on the piece as well as on the back of the paintings.

Watching other artists is a great way to learn new techniques. Take something they might be doing and make it your own, with your style and flare to it. I feel I struggle with flowers so I watch other artists create flowers in different ways and try them out on my pieces, things like that. There are lots of places to get motivation from and sometimes I have too many ideas and I don't know what to paint first."



This painting captures the serene beauty of an autumn landscape, with vibrant red and orange leaves framing a sunlit path. The play of light and shadows on the grassy ground brings a sense of peace and transition, symbolizing the fleeting yet vibrant nature of the season.

# Did You Know? Toledo Museum of Art's Community Gallery

By Jeffrey Darah

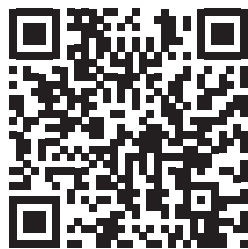
The Toledo Museum of Art made a significant stride toward accessibility with the opening of a gallery dedicated to local artists, funded by prominent Toledo philanthropists Robert and Sue Savage, who donated \$200,000 for this purpose. The 800-square-foot Robert and Sue Savage Gallery was established to bridge the gap between the prestigious institution and the local arts community.

The gallery, which opened in 2022, addressed long-standing perceptions that art museums were elitist and inaccessible. Located adjacent to the museum's cafe winter garden, the space was designed to showcase local talent alongside the museum's world-renowned collection.

The gallery's format features 20-30 works by a single local artist for 12-week periods, with artwork available for purchase. This arrangement gives local artists unprecedented exposure, with approximately 100,000 visitors viewing the gallery annually. Artists are selected based on thematic connections to the museum's main exhibitions.

This exhibit currently shown, is by local Toledo oil painter Bernadine Rais. Initially focusing on portraiture and anatomy before finding her true calling in nocturnal landscapes.

The summer of 2020 marked a pivotal moment in her artistic evolution, as time spent outdoors led her to explore nighttime scenes in her hometown. Drawing inspiration from subtle details—sunset glimpses between houses, evening's distinctive blue hues, and quiet moments in nature—Rais drives through Toledo after dark seeking emotionally resonant scenes. Her work aims to capture the contemplative essence of nighttime while creating a sense of universal connection.



To learn more about the Toledo Museum of Art's Community Gallery, use the QR code above.



To see Bernadine Rais's oil paintings, use the QR to see her Instagram.



Mid-May Night  
Oil on Canvas  
2020  
\$1,200



## Frigid Memories

Reader Submission: Jeff Ferris

There was no need to speak of unspeakable things. Snowdrifts and winter storms had become abstract nouns to my household. No way would those things appear on our mental radars or on any current weather map. Never could they become a topic of discussion. Not on this trip. Not in this season.

It was mid-July after all. The year was 1998—a summer hotter than a burnt pot roast. Sounds good at this time, doesn't it? The hot temps, I mean, not the pot roast. Well, both. But don't burn the pot roast.

The entire northeastern region of the US was smothered in a drought that summer, and there we were, amidst it all—the five of us packed inside our minivan, on a family vacation, touring the New England states.

One of our sleeps was at a bed and breakfast that offered private cottages. In an orchard. In a never-heard-of place called Fairlee, Vermont. Home to Lake Morey. And indigenous moose if you're lucky enough to see one. When we checked in at the cottage and signed the guest registry,

the owner—a graying man—became animated with our being from Toledo. Thankfully he didn't run us off. Or loose a moose on us.

The man said his brother lived in Sylvania, Ohio. The New Englander had visited his brother there once. And he insisted he would NEVER go back to Ohio, ever-ever again, "because of all the terrible blizzards there!"

I laughed and said, "Let me guess. It was January 1978."

When the man confirmed, I told him that The Blizzard Of '78 was an unusual weather outburst. An anomaly. A hundred year storm. Although I was only fifteen when the blizzard hit, I remembered it as well as the Vermont gentleman did.

What a sight. Everything was shut down. The entire city was snowed in for a full week. Roads were impassable. Semi trucks were buried in drifts on the highways, their drivers rescued by snowmobile. All of that was this man's perception of Ohio, as if it were our norm. Enough that he vowed never to return. In a lighthearted way, I wanted to remind the man it's been



twenty years. Get over it! But I didn't. He had probably taken a few good photos of all that snow as a reminder. So that was his reality.

I have since pondered how our perceptions can be skewed by a single event or something temporary. The Vermont man did it with Ohio. We do it with the people. Snapshots. That's what I call them. Those tiny milliseconds where we witness others at their worst possible self, having that uncharacteristic or blizzard-like outburst. A moment of rudeness here, an act of uncaring there. Sometimes that person is us. Okay, okay. Sorry! I'll leave you out of it. Sometimes that person is me.

Is it an accurate

depiction of who we are when someone grabs a snapshot at that off moment? Or they brand us because of a brief failure? Is it acceptable for them to place a seal of disapproval on our heads because we weren't our usual self? Those snapshots can judge someone falsely.

Have we done that to others? Do we assume the worst when they are not at their best? To do so would be to say that all Ohio winters are like the one of January 1978.

After a twenty-year boycott, it would be a shame if the man in Vermont hadn't found forgiveness with Ohio. How tragic if he never again enjoyed the company of his brother because of holding onto snapshots of frigid memories.

Looking for The Marketplace?  
It's still here, but we have too much content for this edition! This edition's Marketplace is online!

Scan the QR code to visit it!

# The Slow Observation: Barbara Miner's Mixed Media



Night Moves



Barbara Miner

- Curator of three exhibition events
- Presented at international conferences
- Finalist: Toledo Uptown Green Shade Public Art Project!

See more now!



barbarawfminer.com



@Barbara.Miner.564

## Artistic Process and Philosophy

Miner's work explores the contrast between the fast-paced digital world and the slow, steady reclamation of human-abandoned spaces by nature. She observes and documents how native species like Poison Ivy, wild strawberries, Virginia creeper, ash saplings, and thistle gradually reclaim cultivated spaces. Her artistic process involves layering pattern and color over digital printer calibration sheets and discarded photographs, mirroring nature's reclamation of developed spaces. Rather than creating exact replicas of natural forms, she aims to capture the essence of the rich visual tapestry she encounters in nature.

## Professional Work

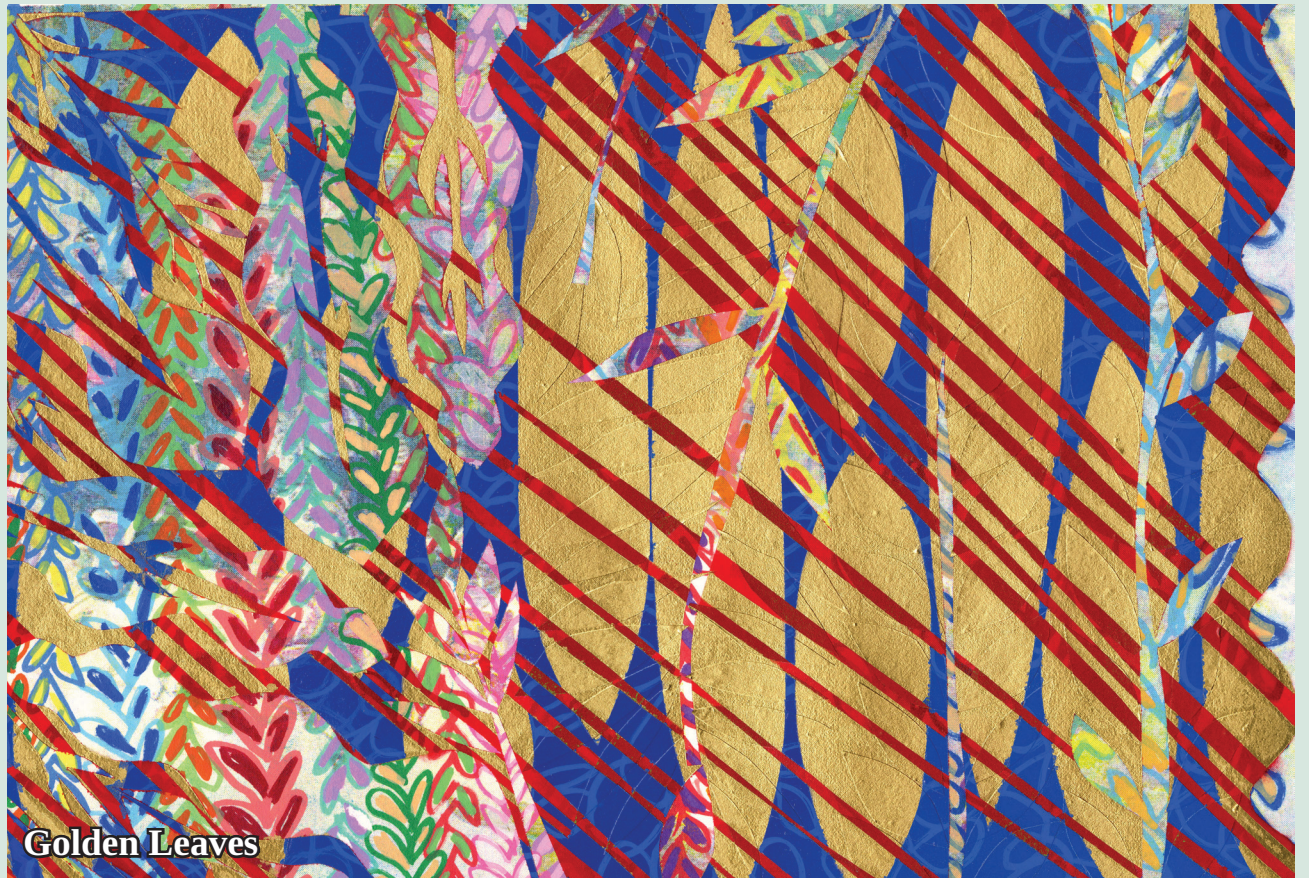
Throughout her career, Miner has made significant contributions to the art community as a curator, organizing three exhibition events, including a notable collaboration with Author and Photographer Rosamond Purcell and sculptor Dewey Blocksma. Her international reach extends through her participation in numerous artists' residencies across Maine, Poland, and Sweden. She has shared her expertise through presentations at national and international conferences, while contributing written works to respected publications including *Ceramics Monthly*, *Dialogue/Arts in the Midwest*, and the journal of the International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability. Her work has been consistently recognized through multiple internal and external grants and Awards for Excellence/Merit.

## Creative Works

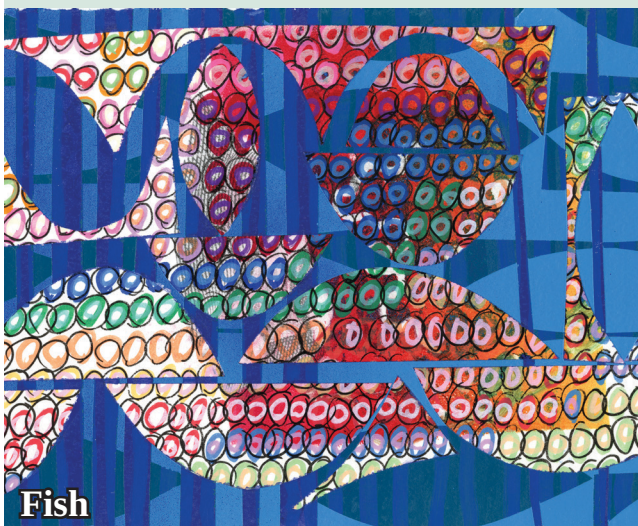
Her artistic portfolio spans multiple media, including mixed media sculptures, installation works, paintings, and prints. Her work, which explores the intersection of human/nature interaction and meditative repetition, has been featured in over 107 exhibitions across the United States (from Maine to California) and internationally (Sweden and Poland).

## Background

Barbara Miner serves as tenured Professor and Chair in the Department of Art at the University of Toledo. She brings 36 years of experience to her role, including 26 years as an artist/scholar and 10 years as a full-time, self-employed studio artist specializing in ceramic tableware.



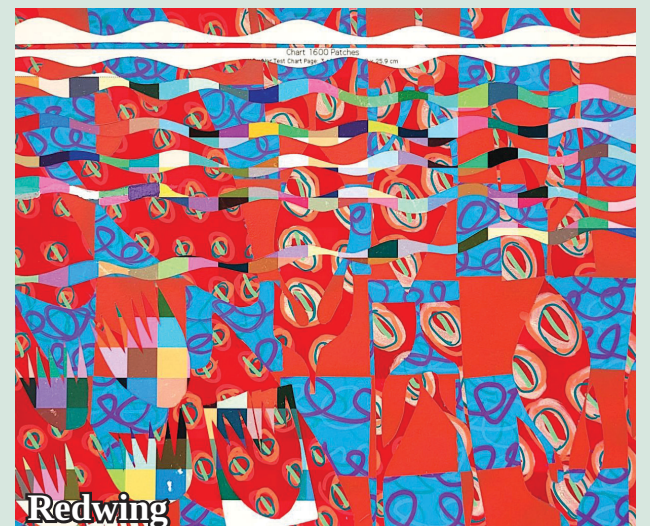
Golden Leaves



Fish

## Finding Beauty in Flyover Country

Barbara challenges the dismissive "flyover country" label often applied to the Midwest, finding instead a rich and infinitely complex biome in her immediate surroundings. Living on a 15-acre woodlot in Ohio's Great Black Swamp, Miner conducts daily photographic explorations of her environment, regardless of weather conditions.



Redwing

# Join the Cause!

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By bringing Ohio's vibrant art scene to a location near you, *The Scribe* connects readers with meaningful stories and beautiful art.

*The Scribe* enhances business spaces with free, engaging content that gives your patrons another reason to return!

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- **55+ Artists Spotlighted!**
- **21 Interviews Featured!**
- **160 Artworks Promoted!**
- **60+ Ohio Businesses Stock The Scribe!**
- **In Every Toledo Branch Library!**
- **New locations each month!**

## Who is the Woman in the Logo?



Seshat is the Ancient Egyptian Goddess of not only writing, but also knowledge and wisdom. Her name means "female scribe." It was believed she assisted the Pharaoh in various measuring and writing related rituals.

Seshat became the face of *The Scribe* once we had clarified our paper's mission. Though Seshat is primarily related to writing and not visual art, being involved in a literary publication such as a newspaper is still very fitting.

She has virtually no art remaining of her, making her nearly lost to time! The green symbol above her head is called an Emblem.



Who is Seshat? Learn more: [apollo-press.com/seshat](http://apollo-press.com/seshat)



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