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Artists' showcase, 'The Other New York: 2012,' expands throughout Syracuse community

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By **Melinda Johnson, Post-Standard arts editor**



Photo courtesy of Everson Museum of Art

"In Order to Survive Ourselves: Transgenesis 2 (Dead of Dawn)," 2011-2012. Video installation, video running time: approximately 15 minutes; dimensions variable. Performance by Young Joon Kwak; videography by Theodore Darst, Anneka Herre. At the Everson Museum of Art, Sept. 22 to Jan. 6.

"The Other New York: 2012" is like no other Everson Biennial since the Syracuse art museum started the exhibition of [local](#) artists in the 1970s. No longer is the downtown museum the sole repository of local artists' work for the Biennial. Art will pop up in galleries and spaces mostly near the city center. Some of the settings are unexpected — inside the white-lipped deer enclosure at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park and in temporary [shipping containers](#) on two downtown street corners.

And the exhibition, shortened to "TONY: 2012," has embraced artists beyond Central New York, inviting anyone in the state, but outside of the New York City metropolitan area, to participate.

Debora Ryan, senior curator at the **Everson**, has headed the effort since 2010, when she approached other arts organizations about a community biennial. She said Syracuse's version is patterned after Buffalo's 2005 biennial, organized by that city's Albright-Knox Art Gallery.

Two years later, the collaborative efforts of 14 arts and cultural institutions in surrounding neighborhoods will showcase 63 artists from as far away as Croton-on-Hudson, Plattsburgh, Niagara Falls and the Southern Tier. Participating organizations include, besides the Everson: ArtRage — the Norton Putter Gallery, City of Syracuse Pop Up Installations, Community Folk Art Center, Erie Canal Museum, Light [Work](#), Onondaga Historical Association, Punto de Contacto/Point of Contact, Rosamond Gifford Zoo, Stone Quarry Hill Art Park, SUArt Galleries, The Window Project at The Warehouse Gallery, XL Projects and Urban Video Project.

Different venues are staggering their TONY openings. [The Community](#) Folk Art Center opens Saturday and SUArt Galleries on Aug. 30. Light Work was the first with its Aug. 15 opening. The Everson will be the last, starting with a reception on Sept. 21 and a Guided Walking Art Crawl on Sept. 22 and 23 . Its "TONY:2012" closes on Jan. 6, 2013.

Ryan corralled colleagues and fellow curators for this break from the traditional Biennial. "It was the logistical things we needed to meet on," she said.

Those "logistical things" included reviewing the 235 online submissions and making on-site visits of artists in their studios as the field was narrowed. She said some of the artists' scheduling conflicts or travels had to be accommodated, so organizers turned to Skype for video chats and tours.

In the end, 63 artists were selected for "TONY: 2012" partially because of capacity and space considerations. Some venues are exhibiting only one "TONY" artist while others have room for multiple installations. Ryan said it became obvious after studio visits where artists should be exhibited. A few artists made requests. Some venues were chosen because the artwork was in keeping with the organization's mission. Photographs were a natural fit with Light Work and the Everson, Ryan said.

Videos, paintings, sculptures, photographs and collages are some of the art forms represented.



Photograph courtesy of Rosamond Gifford Zoo

Andrew Schuster, "Changes," (2012). Straw ovals, 30 feet by 18 feet. Site specific installation. At Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park.

Ryan not only was a matchmaker of artists to venues, she also became a regular at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. When the zoo expressed interested in participating in "TONY," Ryan said she discovered the many details that must be handled when animals are involved.

Artist Andrew Schuster's installation, titled "Changes," has been placed within the zoo's white-lipped deer enclosure. Ryan said she learned the difference between hay and straw, what animals will eat and how the introduction of something new causes changes in the animals' behavior.

Schuster's piece is meant to be "ephemeral," said Ryan. "Animals will either eat it or destroy it," she said with a laugh. "It's an interactive performance piece. But the animals are the audience this time."

Every artist in "TONY: 2012" has been encouraged to attend the Everson reception on Sept. 21. Many of the artists will be at earlier receptions for their exhibitions. An exhibition catalog of every artist's work will be sold at several of the participating venues.

WHERE TO SEE 'TONY: 2012'

(locations are in Syracuse unless otherwise noted)

Everson Museum of Art, 401 Harrison St.

Sept. 22 to Jan. 6

Reception: 5:30 to 8 p.m. Sept. 21

Artists: Mike Berlant, Jason Bernagozzi, Megan Biddle, Ellen M. Blalock, Lauren Bristol, Yvonne Buchanan, Mike Celona, Doug DuBois, Benjamin Entner, Caitlin Foley, Aneka Herre, Sean Hovendick, Karrie Hovey, Jennifer Hsu, Tom Huff, Thilde Jensen, Juan Juarez, Tatana Kellner, Jonathan Kirk, Jude Lewis, John Wesley Mannion, Daina Mattis, Dorene Quinn, Stephanie Rozene, Lynn Schwarzer, Kim Waale, Carrie Mae Weems.

Information: 474-6064

ArtRage — The Norton Putter Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave.

Sept. 8 to Oct. 27

Reception: 7 to 9 p.m. Sept. 8

Artists: Ben Altman, Neil Chowdhury, Bob Gates, Paul W. Pearce.

Information: 218-5711

City of Syracuse Pop Up Installations.

Sept. 14 to Oct. 28.

Artists: Timothy Frerichs at Erie Boulevard East and Oswego Street and Misha Rabinovich at Columbus Circle, Montgomery and East Onondaga streets. Information: 448-8108.

Community Folk Art Center, 805 E. Genesee St.

Aug. 25 to Dec. 8.

Reception: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sept. 7.

Artists: Elizabeth Leader, Michael Moody, Abisay Puentes, Sandra Stephens.

Information: 442-2230.

Erie Canal Museum, 318 Erie Blvd. E.

Sept. 14 to Nov. 5.

Reception: 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 14.

Artist: Michael Bosworth.

Information: 422-2230.

Light Work, 316 Waverly Ave.

Aug. 15 to Oct. 19.

Reception: 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 13.

Artists: Sarah Averill, Bang Geul Han, Mark McLoughlin, Jan Nagle, Matthew Walker.

Information: 443-1300.

Onondaga Historical Association, 321 Montgomery St.

Sept. 22 to Jan. 6.

Reception: 4 to 6 p.m. Sept. 21.

Artists: Amy Greenan, Robert Hirsch, Carl Lee.

Information: 428-1864.

Punto de Contacto / Point of Contact, 914 E. Genesee St.

Sept. 14 to Oct. 20.

Artist: Oscar Garces.

Information: 428-1864.

Rosamond Gifford Zoo, 1 Conservation Place.

Aug. 25 to Nov. 5.

Artists: Daniel Buckingham, Mike Celona, Tom Huff, Andrew Schuster.

Information: 435-8511.

Stone Quarry Hill Art Park, 3883 Stone Quarry Road, Cazenovia.

Sept. 21 to Oct. 27.

Artists: Andrew Schuster, Tina Zagyva.

Information: 655-3196.

SUArt Galleries, Syracuse University's Schaffer Art Building.

Aug. 30 to Oct. 21.

Reception: 5 to 7 p.m. Aug. 30.

Artists: Tammy Renee Brackett, Juan Cruz, Sarah Di Donato, Matthew Glaysheer, Amy Greenan, Sue Huggins

Leopard, Barbara Page, James Skvarch.

Information: 443-4097.

The Window Project at The Warehouse Gallery, 350 W. Fayette St.

Sept. 13 to Oct. 27.

Reception: 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 13.

Artist: Jeffrey Einhorn.

Information: 443-6450.

XL Projects, 307-313 S. Clinton St.

Sept. 5 to Oct. 21.

Reception: 6 to 8 p.m. Sept. 20.

Artists: Michael Barletta, Daniel Buckingham, Jay Carrier, Meredith Davenport, Kara Daving, Tom DeLooza, Fernando

Orellana. Information: 442-2542.

Urban Video Project.

Sept. 6 to Oct. 27.

Artist: Karen Brummund.

Videos on Syracuse Stage exterior, 820 E. Genesee St., and Everson Museum of Art exterior, 401 Harrison St.

Information: 443-5785