



silvermine arts center

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Art of the Northeast 2017 winners announced **Exhibition opens Saturday, July 8, 6-8pm** Opening reception is free and open to the public



Fairfield resident Rick Shaefer's "Sugar Maple," charcoal on vellum on aluminum, 96" x 48," Best in Show; David Kiehl, Curator, 67th annual Art of the Northeast; Gene Hracho of Reading, PA, "Aquatic in Nature," mixed media construction with found objects, 84" x 64" x 66." Photo of Kiehl © Jeremy Keats Saladyga

NEW CANAAN, CT, June 29, 2017—Silvermine Arts Center announced today its award winners and finalists in the 67th annual Art of the Northeast Exhibition, Silvermine's signature show, which is open to artists from Maine to D.C. David Kiehl, Nancy and Fred Poses Curator at the Whitney Museum, served as the 2017 curator.

Kiehl's Best in Show was Fairfield resident Rick Shaefer's large-scale drawing, "Sugar Maple," done in charcoal on vellum on aluminum, and Honorable Mention went to Claudia Renfro of Pound Ridge, NY, for "White Cat" a mixed media work. The Patricia Warfield Jinishian Award in Painting went to Ellen Hopkins of Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, for "Rockets." The Andy and Marsha Glazer Award for Painting was awarded to Barbara Marks of Stony Creek for "Recollection #88, Wyoming." Two prizes were dedicated to sculpture: Corinne Chase of Orange, MA, received the Mollie and Albert Jacobson Award for Sculpture for her sand-cast bronze work, and June Ahrens of Stamford won the Carole Eisner Award for Sculpture for her mixed media wall piece, "Hidden Promises."

“This year, we saw more work in the realm of realism,” said Silvermine Gallery Director Jeffrey Mueller. “In fact, there is narrative in some of the abstract works as well as in the realistic ones. Sculpture is also well represented. We have some ambitious works including one that looks like a submarine, done in an Orson Welles steampunk style—a re-purposed, industrial, sci-fi look. Gene Hracho’s “Aquatic in Nature” so charmed David Kiehl that he gave the Reading, PA resident’s work the ‘Curator’s Smile Award.’ Kiehl’s sensibilities have brought us a dynamic exhibition, quirky in the best sense of the word, with a complex and lush use of materials.”

David Kiehl, currently the Nancy and Fred Poses Curator at the Whitney, was previously associate curator of prints and illustrated books at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and a consultant curator at the Wolfsonian Foundation in Miami Beach. While at the Whitney, Kiehl organized exhibitions of work by Edward Hopper, Charles Burchfield, Ellen Gallagher, Christian Marclay, Richard Tuttle, Kiki Smith, Jenny Holzer, Yayoi Kusama, and David Wojnarowicz. In addition to his curation, Kiehl has served as faculty for Yale University, School of Art, Critical Practice, and contributed to *Art News*, *Art on Paper*, and various university, gallery and museum publications.

Art of the Northeast runs from the July 8 opening reception through August 20. For more information, please visit silvermineart.org.

Art of the Northeast finalists are included in the exhibition. A full list can be found on the Silvermine website: <http://silvermineart.org.fqdns.net/exhibition/call-for-entries---67th-art-of-the-northeast>.

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Silvermine Arts Center is one of the oldest artist communities in the United States. Its five-acre campus in New Canaan, Connecticut, consists of a nationally renowned artist guild, an award-winning school of art offering classes for all ages, an arts and fine crafts shop, and a gallery offering over twenty contemporary and historic exhibitions annually. Silvermine is a non-profit 501c3 organization that also offers an educational outreach program, Art Partners, and hosts lectures, film screenings, and special events. Silvermine Galleries are open Wednesday through Saturday, 12 pm to 5 pm and Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm. For more information, call (203) 966-9700 ext. 20 or visit the website: www.silvermineart.org.

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