

PRESS RELEASE

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FILMMAKER LYNNE SIEFERT WINS THE 2019 BETTY BOWEN AWARD

Special Recognition for Anthony White and Andrea Joyce Heimer

Artists will be honored at October 29 public ceremony

SEATTLE, WA - The Seattle Art Museum (SAM) and the Betty Bowen Committee, chaired by Gary Glant, announced today that filmmaker Lynne Siefert is the winner of the 2019 Betty Bowen Award. The juried award comes with an unrestricted cash award of \$15,000 and a solo exhibition at SAM. Founded in 1977 to continue the legacy of local arts advocate and supporter Betty Bowen, the annual award honors a Northwest artist for their original, exceptional, and compelling work.

Siefert is the first filmmaker to win the award. She creates experimental non-fiction films on both 16mm and digital film that addresses the climate crisis in seductive yet unsettling ways. Her work will be featured at the Seattle Art Museum in spring 2020.

In addition, Anthony White won the Kayla Skinner Special Recognition Award and Andrea Joyce Heimer won the Special Recognition Award, with awards in the amount of \$2,500 each. Five finalists, including Anthony Hudson and Adair Rutledge, were chosen from a pool of 545 applicants from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho to compete for the \$20,000 in awards.

The award ceremony honoring Lynne Siefert, Anthony White, and Andrea Joyce Heimer will take place on Tuesday, October 29th at 6 pm at the Seattle Art Museum. The ceremony and reception are free and open to the public.

2019 BETTY BOWEN AWARD WINNER



Lynne Siefert - Seattle, WA

Lynne Seifert creates experimental non-fiction films and poetic world-scapes that capture the artist's interest in climate change and social justice in descriptive sequences where the real borders on the surreal. The tensions between industry and recreation are key elements in *Generations*, one of her recent works. By re-contextualizing common, everyday scenes, Siefert

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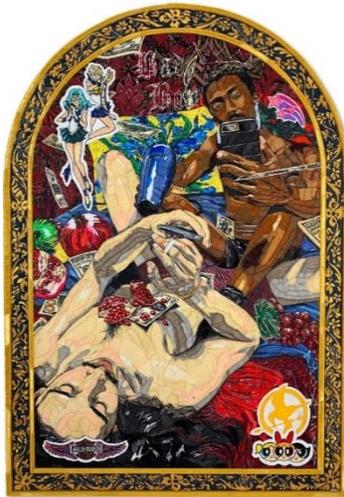
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defamiliarizes landscapes and renders it strange. The artist draws on formats such as the pictorial landscape tradition and the travelogue, which undergo a surprising transformation that speak to our current, late-capitalist moment.

Siefert holds a BA in International Studies from the University of San Francisco. She has an MFA from Emerson College in Boston, focusing on experimental film and media art. Her work has been shown in film festivals nationally and internationally, such as the Edinburgh International Film Festival, EXIS Experimental Video and Film Festival, and the San Diego Underground Film Festival. Her work has also been exhibited in galleries and museums, including Glassbox Gallery in Seattle.

KAYLA SKINNER SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD



Anthony White – Seattle, WA

Anthony White was born in Santa Maria, California and currently lives and works in Seattle. As a sculptor and painter, White identifies personal memorabilia within domestic and digital spaces, seeking to discover why certain consumer objects and ideas are idealized. Examining the framing of social media and selfies, he captures moments from behind the cell-phone lens by painstakingly painting each scene with melted consumer obtainable plastics.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD



Andrea Joyce Heimer – Ferndale, WA
Andrea Joyce Heimer creates complex narrative paintings. Adopted at birth, Heimer paints autobiographical mythologies as a means of confronting the dearth of information about her family history and ancestry. With this imaginative storytelling, Heimer addresses feelings of loneliness, separation, and the notion of family in her complex visual tableaux.

2019 BETTY BOWEN COMMITTEE

Gary Glant (Chair), Mark Calderon, Mike Hess, Sonal Khullar, Isaac Layman, Mark Levine, Catharina Manchanda, Llewelyn Pritchard, Greg Robinson, Norie Sato, Bill True, Maggie Walker, Dan Webb, Merrill Wright

ABOUT THE BETTY BOWEN AWARD

Betty Bowen (1918–1977) was a Washington native and enthusiastic supporter of Northwest artists. Her friends established the annual Betty Bowen Award as a celebration of her life and to honor and continue her efforts to provide financial support to the artists of the region. Since 1977, SAM has hosted the yearly grant application process by which the selection committee chooses one artist from the Northwest to receive an unrestricted cash award, eligible to visual artists living and working in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

Image credits: *Generations*, Lynne Siefert, 2019, Still from Multichannel Installation Shot on 16mm Film to Digital, 0 x 0 x 0 in., Courtesy of artist, © Lynne Siefert. *Evening Forecast*, Anthony White, 2018, Polylactic Acid (PLA) on Panel, 60 x 42 x 1 in., Courtesy of artist, © Anthony White and Greg

Kucera Gallery. *The 1988 Wildfires in Montana Were Caused, In Part, By Unattended Campfires and Burned All Summer Long Until It Seemed Like the Whole World Was Aflame*, Andrea Joyce Heimer, 2019, acrylic on panel, 60 x 80 x 2 in., Courtesy of artist, © Andrea Joyce Heimer.

ABOUT SEATTLE ART MUSEUM

As the leading visual art institution in the Pacific Northwest, SAM draws on its global collections, powerful exhibitions, and dynamic programs to provide unique educational resources benefiting the Seattle region, the Pacific Northwest, and beyond. SAM was founded in 1933 with a focus on Asian art. By the late 1980s the museum had outgrown its original home, and in 1991 a new 155,000-square-foot downtown building, designed by Venturi, Scott Brown & Associates, opened to the public. The 1933 building was renovated and reopened as the Asian Art Museum in 1994. The building is currently undergoing a renovation and expansion with a planned reopening in early 2020. SAM's desire to further serve its community was realized in 2007 with the opening of two stunning new facilities: the nine-acre Olympic Sculpture Park (designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architects)—a “museum without walls,” free and open to all—and the Allied Works Architecture designed 118,000-square-foot expansion of its main, downtown location, including 232,000 square feet of additional space built for future expansion. The Olympic Sculpture Park and SAM's downtown expansion celebrated their tenth anniversary in 2017.

From a strong foundation of Asian art to noteworthy collections of African and Oceanic art, Northwest Coast Native American art, European and American art, and modern and contemporary art, the strength of SAM's collection of approximately 25,000 objects lies in its diversity of media, cultures, and time periods.