

Mary Brodbeck
Kalamazoo/Calumet, Michigan

Resume

Biography

Mary Brodbeck grew up on a dairy farm in Southcentral Michigan, the fifth of seven children born to Willard and Margaret Brodbeck. After graduating with a BFA in Industrial Design from Michigan State University in 1982, she worked as a furniture designer for a dozen years; she is listed as the inventor of several U.S. patents before being 'pulled back to the land' for her source of creative intention.

She studied Japanese woodblock printmaking in Tokyo with Yoshisuke Funasaka on a Japanese government BUNKA-Cho Fellowship in 1998 and obtained her MFA from Western Michigan University in 1999. Subsequently, her landscape prints have gained critical acclaim, including inclusion into the collections at the Detroit Institute of Arts, Meijer Garden & Sculpture Park, Muskegon Museum of Art, Hunterdon Museum of Art, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, and others.

“Being a woodblock printmaker and working with these near-to-the-earth materials is, in some way, my attempt at staying close to my roots. My feelings about being connected to the natural world remain strong, and I’ve devoted my life’s work to portraying my feelings about it.”

To date, however, this self-proclaimed ‘farm girl’ has declared her 35-minute documentary film, ***Becoming Made***, her greatest creative achievement thus far. Three years in the making, she released her award-winning film *Becoming Made* in 2014, in which she turns the camera on her own creative practice and inquiry.

Mary continues to seek narratives about the natural world through her ongoing creation of woodblock prints. She lives and works in Calumet, Michigan, with her husband, John Schmitt, and beloved cat.

Collections

Frederik Meijer Garden & Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids, Michigan
New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, New York (collection of 17)
Muskegon Museum of Art, Muskegon, Michigan
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, Michigan (Sleeping Bear Dunes Series)
Hunterdon Museum of Art, Clinton, New Jersey
Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, Michigan
Northwestern Mutual Insurance, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (collection of six)
Bronson Hospital, Kalamazoo, Michigan (collection of 19)
Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan
Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Pfizer Corporation, Holland, Michigan
Numerous private collections throughout the United States, Europe and Japan

Awards, Grants & Residencies

Kalamazoo Arts Development Initiative Grant, (Project Development) ACGK, 2023
Artist-In-Residence, Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, Otis, Oregon, 2018
2018 Community Medal of Arts Award, Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo
Kalamazoo Arts Development Initiative Grant, (Professional Development) ACGK, 2018
2017 Distinguished Alumni Award, Western Michigan University Frostic School of Art
Winner, Loeschner Art Competition, Frederik Meijer Garden & Sculpture Park, 2017
Purchase Prize, West Michigan Area Show, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI, 2017
Artist-In-Residence, Mission Point, Mackinac Island, MI, 2016
Honorable Mention, Mid America Print Council Members Exhibition, University of Louisville, 2016
Best Short Film Competition Winner, Award of Merit Special Mention, 2015 *Becoming Made*
Graphics Award, Muskegon Museum of Art Region Competition, Muskegon, MI, 2015
Kalamazoo Arts Development Initiative Grant, (Project Support) ACGK, 2011
Artist-In-Residence, Glen Arbor Art Association, 2010
Third Place, The American Color Print Society Members' Exhibition, Cheltenham, PA, 2007
Best of Show, Alma College Annual Traveling Statewide Print Competition, Alma, MI, 2007
First Place, Celebrating Contemporary Printmaking, Hudson Gallery, Sylvania, OH, 2006
Purchase Prize, 19th Annual Northern National Art Competition, Rhinelander, WI, 2006
Artist-In-Residence, Forest Hills Fine Arts Center, 2006
Artist-In-Residence, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, 2006
Artist-In-Residence, Hiawatha National Forest, 2005
Honorable Mention, Our Rivers & Lakes, Grosse Pointe Artist Ass., Grosse Pointe Park MI, 2005
Award of Excellence, Mother Lode International 39th Annual Art Exhibit, Placerville, CA, 2005
Cash Prize, West Michigan Area Show, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI, 2005
First Prize, The American Color Print Society, Cheltenham, PA, 2005
Arts Fund Grant, Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, 2004
Cash Prize, Bold Expressions, Northern California Arts, INC, Carmichael, CA, 2004
Honorable Mention, Print Competition, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI, 2004
Honorable Mention, 24th National Print Competition, Artlink, Fort Wayne, IN, 2004
Purchase Award, 48th National Print Competition, Hunterdon Museum of Art, NJ, 2004
Juror's Choice Award, Art on Paper '04, Maryland Federation of Art, Annapolis, MD, 2004
Second Prize, Editions Printmaking 2004, Lawrence Street Gallery, Ferndale, MI, 2004
Emerging Artist Grant, Arts Council of Kalamazoo, 2003
Publicity Prize, Landscape Unlimited, Fine Arts Building Gallery, Chicago IL, 2003
Honorable Mention, Bold Expressions, Northern California Arts, Carmichael, CA, 2003
Arts Outreach Fund Grant, Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, 2002
Best Series Prize, Pushing the Boundaries, Peninsula Art School, Fish Creek, WI, 2002
Cash Prize, Mother Lode International 36th Annual Art Exhibit, Placerville, CA, 2002
Third Place, Hollywood International Print Exhibition, Hollywood, FL, 2002
Cash Prize, Watermark 2002, Southeastern Community College, Whiteville, NC, 2002
Cash Prize, 22nd Annual National Print Competition, Artlink, Fort Wayne, IN, 2002
Third Place, Illiana Artists Regional Exhibition, Indian University NW, Gary, IN, 2002
Artist-In-Residence, Isle Royale National Park, 2000
BUNKA-CHO Fellowship, 1998
Seven United State Patents, 1990-93

Screenings & Presentations of *Becoming Made* (select list)

University of Indiana Southeast, New Albany, IN (Autumn 2016)
Muskegon Museum of Art, Muskegon, MI (Autumn 2016)
Atelier 6000, Bend, OR (Autumn 2016)
Saugatuck Center for the Arts, Saugatuck, MI (October 2015)
Interlochen College of Creative Arts, Interlochen, MI (July 2015)
Mackinac Public Library, Mackinac Island, MI (June 2015)
Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI (March 2015)
Mott Community College, Flint, MI (February 2015)
Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI (February 2015)

Special Projects

Becoming Made (35-minute documentary) 2011 – 2014
Sleeping Bear Dunes Portfolio (series of ten color woodblock prints) 2006 – 2008
East Meets West Print Exchange (participated in and organized 120-piece exhibition)
 Little Cities Gallery, Kalamazoo, July 2004
 Towa Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo, Sept 2003
Reflections of Superior (artist and coordinator of works based upon circumnavigation of Lake Superior)
 Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Thunder Bay, Ontario, May – Sept 2004
 William Bonifas Fine Arts Center, Escanaba, MI, Jan – Feb 2004
 Manistee Art Institute, Manistee, MI Oct – Nov 2003
 Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI Oct – Nov 2003
 Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw, MI, July – Aug 2003
 Holland Area Arts Council, Holland, MI, May – June 2003
 City of Marquette Art and Culture Center, Marquette, MI, Mar – April 2003
 Finlandia University, Hancock, MI, Jan – Feb 2003
 South Haven Center for the Arts, South Haven, MI, Sept – Oct 2002

Solo Shows

Floating World, Copper Country Community Arts Center, Hancock, MI 2020
Then and Now, Saginaw Valley State University, 2019
University of Michigan Gifts of Art, 2018
Muskegon Museum of Art, Muskegon, MI, 2016
Great Lakes Woodblock Prints, The Inn at Harbor Shores, St. Joseph, MI 2016
Wood Print: Nature and Process, Mott Community College, Flint MI 2015
Good Goods, Saugatuck, MI 2009 & 2015
Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, 2009
Pine Tree Gallery, Ironwood, MI 2007
Forest Hills Fine Art Center, Grand Rapids, 2006
Lansing Art Gallery, Lansing, 2003
Southwestern Michigan College, Dowagiac, MI, 2003
Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo, 2002
Oasis Gallery, Marquette, MI, 2002
New Moon Gallery, Benton Harbor, MI, 2000
Western Michigan University, MFA Exhibition, Kalamazoo, 1999

Community Arts Center, Hancock, MI, 1999
Rocks, Trees, Water, Ark Gallery, Saugatuck, MI, 1998
Kalamazoo Nature Center, Kalamazoo, 1998

Joint & Group Exhibitions (select list)

2023

Cross Currents Joint Print Show w/ Yoshisuke Funasaka, Kalamazoo Book Arts Center, Kalamazoo, MI
Indelible Landscape, group show, Constellation Studios, Lincoln, NE
Faculty Exhibition, Frogman's Press, University of Iowa, Iowa City IA
Mokuhanga Exhibition, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA

2022

Joint Print Show w/ Yoshisuke Funasaka, Hudson Gallery, Sylvania, OH
Faculty Exhibition, Frogman's Press, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE
7-5 Group Exhibition, Grand Marias Art Colony, Grand Marais, MN

2019

East Meets West, five-person print show, Gallery Rutan, Ginza, Tokyo

2018

Water is Another Matter, Great Lakes Research Center, Michigan Tech, Houghton, MI
Faculty Exhibition, Frogman's Press, University of Nebraska – Omaha, Omaha, NE
Faculty Exhibition, Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, NV

2017

Joint Print Show w/ Ladislav Hanka, Alma College, Alma, MI

2014

Joint Print Show w/ Yoshisuke Funasaka, Takayama, Japan

2013

Ebb & Flow: Cross-Cultural Prints, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio
Land of the Rising Sun, South Haven Center for the Arts, South Haven MI
10-Year Retrospective Exhibit, Forest Hills Fine Art Center, Grand Rapids, MI
Members Show: Wave, South Haven Center for the Arts, South Haven, MI

2012

Art of the Print, Copper Country Community Arts Center, Hancock, MI
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI

2010

The American Color Print Society Members' Exhibition, Cheltenham, PA

2009

Perspectives on Place, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI
Being Sentient, Buckham Gallery, Flint, MI
ArtPrize, Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, MI

The Saugatuck Dunes, Saugatuck Center for the Arts, Saugatuck, MI
National Printmaking Invitational, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, IN

2008

Faculty Exhibition, Frogman's Press, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD
Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, MI
Print Exhibition at Danforth Gallery, Livingston, MT
Viewpoints – International Drawing and Print Exhibition, Mt. Hood Community College, OR
Joint Print show with Kristen Martincic, Hudson Gallery, Hudson, OH
Faculty Exhibition, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI

2007

East Meets West, four-person print show, Gallery Rutan, Ginza, Tokyo
Woodworks, Water Street Gallery, Douglas, MI

2006

Water Show, six-person all media exhibition, Giola Gallery, Chicago, IL
Faculty Exhibition, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI

2005

Joint Print show with Yoshisuke Funasaka, Gallery Rutan, Ginza, Tokyo

2004

Gifts from Minong – Artists on Isle Royale, Pine Tree Gallery, Ironwood, MI
Art of the Spirit, The Works, Newark, OH
Michigan Artist Invitational, Flint Arts Council, Flint, MI
Joint Print Show with Yoshisuke Funasaka, Eva Maria Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI
American Woodcuts Today, National Invitational, University Place Art Center, Lincoln, NE

2003

Water, National Invitational, Bunnell Street Gallery, Homer, Alaska
East Meets West with Yoshisuke Funasaka, Gallery Rutan, Ginza, Tokyo
Faculty Exhibition, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI

2002

A Room of Your Own, Michigan Guild Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI
The Nines Gallery, Douglas, MI
Faculty Exhibition, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI

Workshops & Lectures

1998 – Present

Venues Include:

Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek Wisconsin
Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, Minnesota
Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, Nevada
Frogman's Press @ University of Nebraska – Omaha, Nebraska

Oregon College of Art and Craft, Portland, Oregon
Ottawa School of Art, Ottawa, Ontario
Charlevoix Circle of Arts, Charlevoix, Michigan
A 6000, Bend, OR
Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, OR
Mott Community College, Flint, MI
Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI
Glen Arbor Art Association, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, MI
Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI
Kendall College of Art & Design, Grand Rapids, MI
Grand Valley State University, Allendale MI
Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI
Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Japan
Michigan Oriental Art Society, Warren, MI
Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI
Battle Creek Society of Artists, Battle Creek, MI
Holland Friends of Art, Holland, MI
West Shore Graphics Arts Society, Muskegon, MI
Studio 23, Bay City, MI
Ann Harrison Gallery, Kalamazoo, MI
Kalamazoo Nature Center, Kalamazoo, MI
Southwest Michigan College, Dowagiac, MI
Kalamazoo Book Arts Center, Kalamazoo, MI
Morgan Conservatory, Cleveland, MI
Crooked Tree Arts Council, Petoskey, MI
Bloomfield Birmingham Art Center, Birmingham, MI
Forest Hills Fine Arts Center, Grand Rapids, MI
Ann Arbor Women Artists Association, Ann Arbor, MI
New Visions Gallery, Marshfield, WI
Holland Area Arts Council, Holland, MI
Bonifas Fine Arts Center, Escanaba, MI
Community Arts Center, Hancock, MI
Ark Gallery, Saugatuck, MI

Further Teaching

Visiting Faculty, Kendall College of Art and Design, Grand Rapids, MI – woodblock printmaking workshop. 2008

Faculty, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI. Taught woodblock printmaking and beginning drawing. 2000-2008

Visiting Scholar, Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Japan. Taught Ukiyo-e history and printmaking techniques to American students in Japan. Guided field trips to traditional ukiyo-e workshops and galleries in Kyoto. 2006 & 2007

Adjunct Faculty, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 2000 & 2001