

February 19, 2019
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ALTOONA TO EXHIBIT ARTWORK BY GARY JURYSTA

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art in Altoona is pleased to announce its newest exhibition, *Gary Jurysta: Driven to Abstraction* funded by its Marketing Destination Partner Explore Altoona. The exhibition opens Friday, February 22, 2019 in the Museum’s Preacher and Detwiler Gallery and will remain open until Saturday, August 17, 2019.

Gary Jurysta is an artist who works from Pittsburgh, PA. Jurysta obtained his B.S. in Art Education from Edinboro University in Edinboro, PA. Later he went on to receive his M.F.A in Painting from City University of New York and his M.Ed in Art Education from University of Pittsburgh. Jurysta has since exhibited in a variety of places in the United States including Pennsylvania, New York, California, and Maine. He has also taught at multiple colleges and universities including Bucknell University, Slippery Rock University, Saint Andrews College, and more.

According to Jurysta, technical and stylistic exploration and change has developed and informed his artwork. “The essence of authentic ‘painting’ I believe, resides in pure inventive abstraction.” His work involves an explorative technique that employs fluid application of paint to achieve a dynamic visual.

In addition to a visit throughout the six month exhibition, the Museum encourages the public to experience and celebrate Jurysta’s work through programming opportunities including Wicked Wednesday on March 27, 2019 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m and *Lunch a l’Art* with Jurysta on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at noon. Reservations to attend Wicked Wednesday may be placed by calling (814) 946-4464. Cost to attend is \$15 per person. To make reservations for *Lunch a l’Art* call (814) 946-4464. Cost to attend is \$14 for members and \$15 for non-members

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art in Altoona is located at the Brett Building in Downtown Altoona. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The Museum is open to the public free of charge. For more information, visit www.sama-art.org or call (814) 946-4464.