

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto is pleased to offer the artwork of two uniquely talented artists – Cynthia Nixon and Will Espey. Both artists offer their own artistic interpretation while anchored in the values of family, place and heritage. These two exhibitions – *Cynthia Nixon: Lighthouse* and *Will Espey: Sovereign* – present a juxtaposition of personal experience with native lore and myth. Nixon and Espey explore the world around them with the artist's eye to capture and create artwork that transcends the canvas and tells a story of the human condition in a very complex and ever-changing world. Both artists are represented in a number of public and private collections.

This assemblage of fine art has been under the capable direction of SAMA Curator, Dr. Scott Dimond, and I thank him for his work. The Museum staff has helped with the exhibition process and I thank them for their efforts. I also recognize an active and involved community whose continued support is critical to the Museum's future. Finally, I thank the Director's Circle, Museum Associates, Exhibition Patrons and other donors who give generously to help make an interesting, informative and entertaining exhibition program possible.

G. Gary Moyer
Executive Director



Pilgrims, 2012-14

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE (\$10,000)

Benzel's Bretzel Bakery	Mrs. Kashana Kopac
Mr. and Mrs. William Benzel	Mr. and Mrs. Harry McCreary
The Donald & Sylvia	Mrs. Dorothea Nelson
Robinson Family Foundation	Mr. and Mrs. Michael M. Strueber
Franciscan Friars, T.O.R.	Mrs. Mary Weidlein

MUSEUM ASSOCIATES (\$5,000)

Conemaugh Health System	Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin Kooman
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Devorris	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sullivan

EDUCATION SPONSORS (\$2,500)

Dr. Magdi and Karen Azer	Harold & Betty Cottle Family Foundation
Benzel's Bretzel Bakery	Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
Dr. Joel E. and Mary Borkow	Dr. Scott and Diane Little
C & G Savings Bank	Sheetz Inc.
Mr. James Cayce and Mr. Thomas Dosh	Mrs. Shirley Pechter
Hon. and Mrs. Timothy Creany	Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
Mr. and Mrs. John K. Duggan, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Wolf
Dr. James and Chantel Garofalo	

EXHIBITION SPONSORS (\$1,500)

Atty. and Mrs. Gary Costlow	Mr. and Mrs. James Titelman
Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Morgan	Dr. and Mrs. John Wandrisco
Mr. and Mrs. Edward O'Brien	Dr. Paul Woolley
Mrs. Nancy Sheetz	



Museum Contacts

SAMA Altoona

Brett Building
1210 11th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
814-946-4464
Fax 814-946-3131
altoona@sama-art.org

SAMA Johnstown

PPAC, UPJ
450 Schoolhouse Road
Johnstown, PA 15904
814-269-7234
Fax 814-269-7236
johnstown@sama-art.org

SAMA Ligonier Valley

One Boucher Lane and
Route 711 South
Ligonier, PA 15658
724-238-6015
Fax 724-238-6281
ligonier@sama-art.org

SAMA Loretto

Post Office Box Nine
Loretto, PA 15940
814-472-3920
Fax 814-472-4131
loretto@sama-art.org

Hours:

Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturdays: 1 to 5 p.m.
Closed Sundays and Mondays
Ligonier Valley Museum open Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Johnstown Museum:
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Admission is free

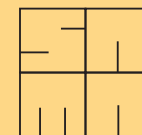
www.sama-art.org

Cover: *Selkie, 2004-06*



Cynthia Nixon *Lighthouse*

October 23, 2015 - January 23, 2016



Southern
Alleghenies
Museum
of Art at Loretto

Artist Statement

My work participates in a thousand-year-old tradition. From Byzantine icons through medieval altarpieces, Northern Renaissance figure paintings and American folk art, there is a style that is allegorical and iconic. It balances — and creates a tension between — surface (paint, borders, decoration) and image. This back-and-forth creates a shimmer as the “window on the world” and its object compete for attention. My calling and career as an artist began over thirty years ago. In the 1970s I immersed myself in the politics of feminism as it played out in textile mediums. Stitching and figurative imagery characterized my practice. Since that time, as culture has changed around me, I have persisted in a uniquely hybrid body of work: detailed figurative paintings with luminous borders of gold leaf, and mosaics of reflective metallized film and metallic lamé. The paintings’ borders have an obsessive quality. They surround and amplify the central theme, reflecting light and movement, and sometimes reflecting a glimpse of the viewer.

My current series explores allegorical themes while the subjects are personal: self-portraits and members of my family, with settings in rural Pennsylvania and on the coast of Maine, places where I have lived and worked most of my life.

Artist Bio

Cynthia Nixon was born in Rochester, New York, grew up on the coast of Maine and upstate New York, and from an early age knew she wanted to be an artist. She received a B.A. from Dickinson College, an M.Ed. from Penn State University School of Visual Arts, and studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia. She is represented in many public collections including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, the Museum of Arts & Design, New York, and the Trout Gallery at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States, including a solo show at Del Mano Gallery, Los Angeles, at Noho Gallery, New York, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, and internationally in Art in Embassies, U.S.

Department of State. She lives outside State College, Pennsylvania with her husband, Randy Hudson, an architect, where her studio is surrounded by farmland preserves and mountains.



Night Light, 2012-14

Cynthia Nixon

Bird of Day, Bird of Night, We Will Fly to the City of Silver, 2002-10
Oil on canvas, metallic lamé, 39" x 43"

Branch, 2012-14
Oil and 23K gold leaf on canvas, metallized film and metallic lamé, 78" x 54"
Private collection

Fisher, 2015
Oil and gold leaf on canvas, metallized film and metallic lamé, 56" x 60"
Private collection

Fisher Drawing,
2014-15
Pencil on vellum,
42" x 20"
Private collection

Guardian, 2014-15
Oil on canvas,
metallized film
and metallic
lamé, 63" dia.
Private collection



My Fire, 2010

Moth and Moon, 2004-06
Oil on canvas, satin, metallic lamé and gilded leaves, 37" x 37"
Courtesy of the artist

Mussel Shells, 2007
Oil and gold leaf on canvas, 12" x 15"
Courtesy of the artist

My Fire, 2010
Oil on canvas, metallized film and metallic lamé,
13" x 13"
Courtesy of the artist

Night Light, 2012-14
Oil and 23K gold leaf on panel, 50" x 62"
Private collection

Night Light Drawing, 2012
Pencil on vellum, 48" x 60"
Private collection

Nine Shells, 2007
Oil and gold leaf on nine canvases, each 8" x 10"
Courtesy of the artist

Pilgrims, 2012-14
Oil and 23K gold leaf on panel, 50" x 62"
Private collection

Seal at Rest, 2004-06
Oil on canvas, metallic acetate and satin ribbon, 32" x 33"
Courtesy of the artist

Seeker, 2015
Oil on canvas, metallized film and metallic lamé, 63" dia.
Private collection

Seeker Drawing,
2014-15
Pencil on vellum,
36" x 36"
Private collection

Selkie, 2004-06
Oil on canvas, gold leaf, metallized film and metallic lamé, 36" dia.
Courtesy of the artist

Traveler, 2004-06
Oil on canvas, metallized film and metallic lamé,
45" x 35"
Courtesy of the artist

Urchin, 2007
Oil and gold leaf on canvas, 12" x 15"
Courtesy of the artist

Wanderer, 2015
Oil and gold leaf
on canvas,
metallized film
and metallic
lamé, 56" x 60"
Private collection

Wanderer Drawing,
2014-15
Pencil on vellum,
42" x 20"
Private collection



Branch, 2012-14



Guardian, 2014-15