



Artist Stirling Gorsuch at work

COURTESY ASTORIA VISUAL ARTS

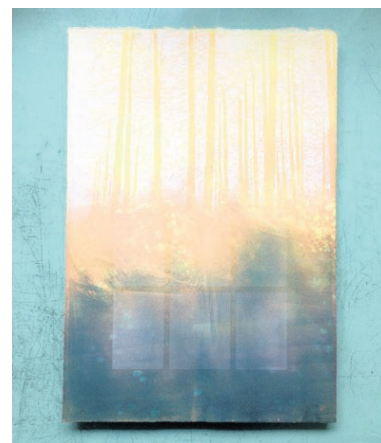
Printmaker Stirling Gorsuch chosen for AVA artist residency

ASTORIA — Astoria Visual Arts is delighted to welcome artist Stirling Gorsuch to work in its studio (80 11th St.) in Astoria, rent-free, as part of the AVA artist-in-residence (“AVA a-i-r”) program. The residency runs Jan. 1 through April 30.

Gorsuch, whose work is widely known regionally, has worked almost exclusively in the realm of printmaking the last six years, including mixed media, combining prints with drawings, paintings and collage.

He plans to use the AVA a-i-r studio to work on larger-scale paintings. The planned pieces will be done on rag paper and panel using oil paint. The format size will be 18 inches by 24 inches and larger. Gorsuch will be working across media as well (monotype and painting, linocut and watercolor, for example).

Gorsuch’s work is driven by a curiosity about how the natural



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“Summer Ends” (2017), a 13-inch by 19-inch linocut/monoprint by Stirling Gorsuch

world develops. From memories and drawings, he depicts places he has visited as starting points to build on. He focuses on these particular locales, contemplating their history, while rediscovering them

through the creative process.

“As I spend more time revisiting these places, I become more enamored with their complex natural history, and the rich visual experience accompanying them,” he said. “In consideration for new images, I’m searching for a story in the landscape that I can accentuate through visual means. Signs of geological activity, or indications of how weather has shaped the land are examples of what fascinate me as an observer.”

During Astoria’s Second Saturday Art Walk in February, Gorsuch will showcase completed works and works in progress.

AVA a-i-r is designed to encourage the creative, intellectual and professional growth of local artists. The program is supported by members of Astoria Visual Arts and the generosity of Astoria Coffee House & Bistro and Merry Time Bar and Grill.

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Christmas at the Liberty

Details on Santa visits and all December events available at www.libertyastoria.org

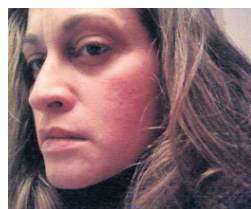
Artist Wendy Harmon holds her first Astoria show

ASTORIA — Wendy Harmon, a local visual artist originally from New York City, will have her first show in Astoria at The Wake Gallery (160 10th St.) in January 2018. The opening reception will be held during Astoria’s Second Saturday Art Walk on Jan. 13.

Harmon spent much of her childhood at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and, later, at The NJ Center for Visual Art every day after school. Summers were spent at art programs at Skidmore and Carnegie Mellon.

She received her BFA from Maryland Institute College of Art in 1995, and in 1996 had four solo shows in one month, was awarded an Individu-

al Artist Award, as well as a Governor’s Citation. She went on to do a yearlong residency at a Zen Buddhist monastery, where she studied brush work with Kazuaki Tanahashi, author of “Brush Mind.”



Wendy Harmon

In 2001, Wendy entered the MFA program at Johnson State College with the VT Studio Center. There she received a Partnership Award from MICA and Pilchuck, where she studied glassblowing with Sonja Blumdahl, who nominated her for a Corning Award.

Harmon has exhibited all over the U.S. and is in various collections, including that of Patrick MacDonnell, author of the comic strip “Mutts.”



PHOTOS COURTESY WENDY HARMON

A piece by Wendy Harmon