

CLEVE CARNEY  
ART GALLERY

# *Past Time*



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## Arient Family Statement

We have been closely involved with self-taught art since 1977. At that time, there was little or no museum or gallery interest. All serious collectors of the genre would have fit in a small room. Remarkably, a sea change has transpired in the intervening years. Museum and galleries too numerous to list have jumped on the self-taught bandwagon.

This all came about by the power of the work itself. It is always about the art.

Shows at small museums and college galleries that were willing to take a chance and show this new field led the way. Thoughtfully curated with catalogues, they added to the scholarship and visibility needed to build awareness. Eventually larger museums have started paying attention. Amazingly, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City will have a self-taught art show in 2016.

Having been friends of all four artists in this show, we know they would be extremely proud to be part of the first self-taught art show at College of DuPage.

We have enjoyed working with Barbara Wiesen and Seth Hunter on this project. Starting with a visit to our home, artists were selected, photos taken, and as a result, this exhibition. We hope visitors enjoy the wide range of work and are able to relate to the energy and vitality these artists poured into their creations.

—*Jim, Beth and Matt Arient*



Cleve Carney Art Gallery

**Past Time**

***Self-Taught Art from the Collection of Jim and Beth Arient***

Thursday, Sept. 3 to Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015

The Cleve Carney Art Gallery would like to thank Jim, Beth and Matt Arient for their generous support and advice; Barbara Wiesen for her vision and guidance; and the various students who have had a hand in producing this exhibition.

**Seth Hunter**

*Interim Director and Curator*

Cleve Carney Art Gallery



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Cover image: **Georgia Blizzard work in situ at the Arient family home**

# *Past Time*

Cleve Carney Art Gallery  
Thursday, Sept. 3 to Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015

## Curator Statement

It seems impossible to account for every time I have recited the alphabet or counted from one to ten. These systems (numbers and letters) that we use to organize the world have a strong relationship to the work in this exhibition. Each of the four artists included has made a practice of assessing the world through repetition. This repetition both clarifies and complicates our looking by engaging the following: sameness, difference, focus, comparison, familiarity and refinement.

Learning through repetition can come into view when we consider the dichotomy of sameness and difference. Sameness is clearly demonstrated here by continuity of form and materials. When we look at sameness it can be easy to see things as equivalent. All of that unity quickly fades as we look deeper and begin recognizing that each part of a group is unique. These differences help us distinguish one from the next and appreciate the nuanced touch the artists have used to make the work.

There is a growing understanding in repetition both for the artist and the viewer that comes from focus and comparison. Focus on a particular way of working that produces multiple versions of a single subject. We have the luxury of specific insight into this way of working by focusing on the repeated forms in this exhibition. Both the artist and the viewer are put into a position to focus, which leads to comparison. Our ability to compare leads to a deeper appreciation of the individual artist's vision.

When we get beyond the early looking it is possible to recognize the familiarity and refinement that are being deployed by the artist in repeating forms. The artist's familiarity with their subject and approach to production gives them special insight into how to best communicate through the work. We also become more familiar with the artist's thinking (through their work) by investing time in looking. Additionally, there is visual refinement that takes place as the artist develops a specific way of working.

As viewers we are rewarded for our looking with an awareness of another person that can only come through seeing what they have made. Our seeing can become another repetitive process leading to awareness. That awareness can help us to understand the sameness, difference, focus, comparison, familiarity and refinement.

—*Seth Hunter*

# Georgia Blizzard

Born: Saltville, VA 1919 – Died: Marion, VA 2002



Opposite page:  
*Blue hole creatures*, circa 1980, fired clay and slip





*Just trying to get through this world, circa 1980,  
fired clay and slip*

Opposite page:  
*Little Mat (sic), circa 1988, fired clay and slip*

# Jesse Howard

Born: Shamrock, MO 1885 – Died: Fulton, MO 1983



Opposite page:  
*Beat their swords into plowshares, 1973, paint  
on window covering*

FULTON, MO, DECEMBER, 24, 1973. YES,  
MY BIBLE SAYS "BEAT THEIR SWORDS INTO  
PLOWSHARES, AND THEIR SPEARS INTO  
PRUNING HOOKS: READ ON! AND ON. ISAIAH. 2=4.  
SEE ISAIAH: CHAPTER. 56" AND READ ABOUT  
GREEDY >DOLLS." QUOTE. THE PLOWMEN WERE  
ASHAMED: TO PLOW FOR THERE WAS NO RAIN.  
SEE: JEREMIAH. 14=4. SEE: JEREMIAH. 15=3=4 AND 5.  
THE 'SWORD TO SLAY' AND THE >DOLLS TO TEAR, AND  
THE BEASTS OF THE EARTH TO DEVOUR AND DESTROY:  
READ ON! AND ON! NOW, TURN TO PSALMS. 129.  
VERSE: 3: I WILL QUOTE, THE PLOWERS PLOWED  
UPON MY BACK: THEY MADE LONG THEIR FURROWS:  
NOW TURN TO THE BOOK OF JOB. JOB: 4=8. I WILL  
QUOTE: EVEN AS I HAVE SEEN. THEY THAT ~~10~~ PLOW  
INIQUITY, AND SOW WICKIDNESS, REAP THE SAME.  
NOW TURN TO FIRST CORINTHIANS: CHAPTER: 9 AND  
VERSE: 10. IN NEW BOOK: READ IT. HE THAT PLOWETH  
SHOULD PLOW IN HOPE: AND THAT THRESHETH, IN HOPE:  
I HAVE PLOWED, MANY LONG FURROWS: I HAVE THRESHED  
MANY HUNDRED'S BUSHELS OF GRAIN.  
BY JESSE HOWARD.  
IN THE BEGINNING, GOD CREATED THE HEAVEN  
AND THE EARTH; GEN. 1=1. AND THE EARTH WAS  
WITHOUT FORM, AND VOID: AND DARKNESS  
WAS UPON THE FACE OF THE DEEP. AND THE SPIRIT  
OF GOD MOVED UPON THE FACE OF THE WATERS.  
GEN. 1=2. AND GOD SAID, LET THERE BE LIGHT:  
AND THERE WAS LIGHT. GEN. 1=3. AND GOD SAW  
THE LIGHT. THAT IT WAS GOOD: AND GOD DIVIDED  
THE LIGHT FROM THE DARKNESS. GENESIS; 1=4.  
AND GOD CALLED THE LIGHT DAY. AND THE DARKNESS  
HE CALLED NIGHT. AND THE EVENING AND THE MORNING  
WERE THE FIRST DAY. GEN. 1=5. BY JESSE HOWARD.

BY JESSE HOWARD.  
 AS SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD TO  
 TEACH THE M. ST. MARK? 6=34.  
 I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT. 2<sup>ND</sup> TIMOTHY. 4=7.  
 SHEBA'S HEAD THROWN OVER THE WALL TO A WOMAN. 2<sup>ND</sup> SAM. 20=21.  
 PAUL PREACHED IN ROME AND CAUSED AN UPROAR. ACTS. 28=27.  
 THE SADDUCEES SAY THERE IS NO RESURRECTION: ACTS. 23=8.  
 JEWS TOOK COUNCIL: TO KILL SAUL. THE ACTS. 9=23.  
 PAUL AND THE VIPER ACTS=28=3: PAUL ACCUSED. ACTS. 25=9=10=11=12.  
 DOB. JEREMIAH: 15=3. PLOW IN HOPE: 1<sup>ST</sup> CORIN. 9=10.  
 ANANIAS AND HIS WIFE FELL DEAD. THE ACTS: CHAPTER: 5. JUDAS HANGED <sup>HIMSELF</sup> = MAT. 27=5.  
 ARMAGEDDON. REVELATION. 16=16: BABYLON IS FALLEN: THE GREAT CITY IS  
 FALLEN. REVELATION. 18=2: IN THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON BLOOD TO  
 HORSES BITS: REVELATION=14=20: JUDAS IS SCARIOT: BETRAYED CHRIST  
 FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER: MATT; 26=14. WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT A MAN  
 TO GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD, AND LOSE HIS OWN SOUL? ST. MARK. 8=30:  
 JOHN BEHEADED IN PRISON. ST. MATT: SIX. 34. JOHN'S HEAD CUT OFF AND  
 HANDED TO A WOMAN. THE BOK OF MICAH. CHAPTER. 4 FOUR. AND VERSES. 1=2:  
 AND 3. QUOTE. AND HE SHALL JUDGE AMONG MANY PEOPLE, AND REBUKE  
 STRONG NATIONS AFAR OFF: AND THEY SHALL BEAT THEIR SWORDS INTO PLOW-  
 SHEARS, AND THEIR SPEARS INTO PRUNING HOOKS: NATION SHALL NOT LIFT  
 UP A SWORD AGAINST NATION, NEITHER SHALL THEY LEARN WAR: ANY MO-  
 RE. READ IT. "SPIRITUALLY CALLED SODOM. CITY OF SODOM WHERE JESUS  
 CHRIST WAS CRUCIFIED. AND IN EGYPT. REVELATION: 11=8. PAGE. 1177. IN MY 8<sup>TH</sup>  
 KING DAVID TOOK THE BIG GIANT'S HEAD TO JERUSALEM: 1<sup>ST</sup> SAMUEL: 17=54.  
 PLOWED WICKEDNESS: HOSEA: 10=13. PLOWED WITH OXEN. AMOS: 6=12.

ALDERSON - W. VA. JULY. 11. 1961. AXIS SALLY IS RELEASED FROM  
 PRISON ALL HALLGARD AND WORN AND 60 YEARS OLD AND  
 WITH GRAY HAIRS IN YOUR HEAD. YOUR FACE SHOWS NO  
 REMORSE: FOR THAT YOU HAVE DID, ASKED FOR A COMM-  
 ENT: WELL, AFTER 15. YEARS IN PRISON, WHAT CAN I SAY. MRS  
 IVAD AQUINO, BETTER KNOWN AS TOKYO ROSE. SERVED ATREA-  
 SON - SENTENCE FOR HER PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS FROM JAPAN.  
 SHE NOW LIVING IN FRISCO. CAL. BY JESSE HOWARD.  
 COPIED FROM GLOBE DEMO.

Axis Sally, 1961, paint on wood

Opposite page:  
 Sheep without a shepherd, undated, paint on wood



# Tim Lewis

Born: Isonville, KY 1952



From left to right: *Deer*, 1988, enamel on wood; *Space launch*, 1989, enamel on wood; *Noah's Ark*, 1995, enamel on wood



From left to right: *Large eagle*, 1993, enamel on wood; *Gray dinosaur*, 1988, enamel on wood; *Uncle Sam*, 2009, enamel on wood

From left to right: *Brown bird with black and white bird*, 1991, enamel on wood; *Small eagle*, undated, enamel on wood; *Rodeo*, 1994, enamel on wood



## Lanier Meaders

Born: Mossy Creek, GA 1917 – Died: Mossy Creek, GA 1998



Opposite page:  
*Untitled*, undated, glazed stoneware





Above and next page:  
***Untitled, undated, glazed stoneware***