



Open Canvas 'artfully' set for Nov. 17

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MILWAUKEE... The eagerly awaited Open Canvas 2007, a fundraiser benefiting The William F. Eisner Museum of Advertising and Design and Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design college scholarships, will take place on Saturday, November 17, 6 – 11 p.m., at 320 E. Buffalo St. in Milwaukee's Third Ward.

Open Canvas offers the unique experience of watching more than 80 leading artists create individual paintings in one day, bidding on the works through a silent auction, and taking new treasures home that evening.

The benefit is presented by Good Knight Promotions and chaired by Jeff Kursel. Kursel originated Open Canvas with his family in memory of his father, William Joel Kursel, whose passion for art and creativity was at the forefront of a successful advertising career.

Peninsula Art School faculty member Mike Judy is Honorary Artist Chair. Currently living in St. Paul, Judy has combined a successful career as a professional musician and that of a fine artist, melding the two fields to create "musical" works that viewers can "hear" with their eyes. Judy has also been a lead artist at the Sausalito Art Festival.

Among other noteworthy artists are internationally recognized Annegret Reichmann of Portland and Germany, founder and annual guest artist of The School of the Art Institute of Chicago's "Bare Walls" fundraiser; Mel Theobald, president of Chicago's Absolute Graphics and a former conservator, review critic and art professor; Peter Kursel, a longtime university painting professor, current lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and president of Head Stretcher Corp.; and MIAD alumni, faculty and president Neil Hoffman. A full list of participating artists is available at miad.edu.

Fine food, hors d'oeuvres and libations are served throughout the evening courtesy of 25 sponsoring restaurants and caterers, who are among the more than 50 event sponsors. In addition to Good Knight Promotions, lead sponsors include Artist and Display, International Infiniti and Jack Richeson & Co, featuring Quiller Acrylics.

Tickets for the event are \$50 in advance, \$55 at the door. They are available at miad.edu; by calling MIAD at 414.847.3200 or the Eisner at 414.847.3285, or in person at Artist and Display, 9015 W. Burleigh St.