

WYNN DAVIS



THE GALLERY

The purpose of the Stillwater Public Library Gallery is to provide education through exhibits and displays; to increase community involvement in the library; and to provide an enjoyable environment for the library's users.

For more information about the gallery,
contact Lynne Bertalmio, Director,
651.275.4338 ext. 118

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651.275.4338
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A Field Menagerie to Birds of North America

Stillwater Public Library Gallery

January-February 2015
Artist Reception

6:00-8:00 pm

Artist Biography

Wynn Davis is a high school art teacher in River Falls, WI. He received his Bachelor's degree in Art Education and a Master's of Science and Education degree in Fine Arts both at the UW-River Falls, with emphasis in Photography and Drawing. His post graduate work in Education was concluded at the University of St. Thomas, MN. Wynn has lived along the St. Croix River Valley his whole life and currently resides in Stillwater, MN. His drawings consist mostly of birds and nature of the upper-Midwest, which are rendered in detail, revealing qualities of early 20th Century gravure plates and silver gelatin prints. Conclusively, the drawings capture a surreal menagerie from figments of his imagination and observations through countless hours of wild excursions in the outdoors. Wynn continues to explore and visually record nature's intimate details throughout the upper Midwest and north shore region, while actively exhibiting his work to share with others the beauty, diversity and importance for conservation. Wynn recently published his first book titled, "A Field Menagerie to Birds of North America." Lastly, Wynn has spent countless hours competing, volunteering, and exploring the landscape and trails of the Upper Midwest, particularly the Superior Hiking Trail and the National Scenic Ice Age Trail. Isle Royale National Park has always been a yearning destination yet to experience and articulate visually through his artwork.

Artist Statement

It's hard to argue that the birds don't have it right. It seems to me that they enjoy their existence and find it worthwhile. They are not vying for immortality nor are they dreaming of some cloying crackpot utopia. My observations suggest that they find great value in nest building, foraging, and play; a healthy and simplistic lifestyle.

My drawings are a direct extension of my participation of the outdoors. They are records of personal observations curbed by curiosity and imagination. Running over 5,400 miles a year by way of foot into some of the country's most erogenous and wildest wooded and urban areas allow for a full examination of nature. It sharpens the mind, invigorates the body, and intensifies the emotions. Is there any better reason to do anything?

As a result my graphite and colored pencil drawings are a sophisticated menagerie of North American birds and natural curiosities I've encountered on my daily forays. My interpretations are a confluence between figurative realism and subjective romanticism, perhaps extending the exotic scientific drawings and interpretations of the early 19th Century explorers.

In essence, my work is not meant to agitate or preach, but rather to find the meaning and joy in the things that are simple and true.

To purchase artwork or for more information,

please contact the artist directly.

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