

FotoFocus: Weston Gallery hosts Luensman

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Even though this is the inaugural edition of FotoFocus, Judith Turner-Yamamoto, PickworthBell Communications, public relations and marketing, says, "In terms of depth of programming, it's as if we are in the sixth year of the event."

On October 5, the photographic extravaganza kicks off officially with Sideshow, a street party in the Backstage Theater District (Main and Vine streets and Sixth and Seventh street alleys, Downtown). From 8 p.m. to after midnight, there will be music by Neutral Milk Hotel's Jeremy Barnes' new band and A Hawk and a Hacksaw, food, drink, stunts, daredevils, artist-made games, rides, an audio-visual fun house and more.

Seeing everything FotoFocus has to offer would be a full-time job. "There are a few down days," says Linda Schwartz, curatorial and administration manager, "but not many."

Here are some "must-sees."

Artist Doug and Mike Starn from Gravity of Light. Photo/Cincinnati Art Museum

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1 of 15

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It's said that the prophet hath no honor in his own country. But there is always the exception.

In Cincinnati that would be Anthony Luensman. After Kenyon College (B. A., 1988) and a few residencies outside the city, he's made his hometown his home base.

In addition to a studio in Camp Washington almost impossible to replicate elsewhere, Luensman has enjoyed strong local support with solo exhibitions at all the major arts institutions: the Contemporary Arts Center (Zeloso, 2003), the Cincinnati Art Museum (Arenas, 2007) and, for the second time, the Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery – Irato in 2002 and this year Taint, which is supported by a \$20,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The quintessential multimedia artist, Luensman likes "to play with media across fields. I want to make it all work together."

For Taint, Luensman filled the entire Weston space – 3,500-square-feet on two levels – with sculptures incorporating light, movement and sound; photographs with sculptural additions; videos, and animated projections on the street windows.

What's it all mean?

Luensman leaves that up to the viewer. He doesn't "enjoy explication. It closes off how people view the work." He just hopes that visitors "will be excited by the visual."

Anthony Luensman: Taint. Through Dec. 9. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery, Aronoff Center for the Arts, 650 Walnut St., Downtown. 513-977-4166, www.westonartgallery.com. Free.



Digital print 'Candy Neck' is part of Anthony Luensman's multimedia exhibit at the Weston Art Gallery through Dec. 9.

ZOOM

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