



3-2-2009

## Merwin & Wakeley Galleries Present Creative Works

Allegra Gallian '09  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news>

---

### **Recommended Citation**

Gallian '09, Allegra, "Merwin & Wakeley Galleries Present Creative Works" (2009). *News and Events*. 342.

<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/342>

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@iwu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@iwu.edu).

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

March 2, 2009

**Contact:** Allegra Gallian, '09, (309) 556-3181

### **Merwin & Wakeley Galleries Present Creative Works**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Works by artists Chris Berti, Laura O'Donnell and Matthew Urban will be displayed March 10 through April 2 in Illinois Wesleyan's Merwin & Wakeley galleries, located in the Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art Building (6 Ames Plaza West, Bloomington).

The exhibits are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 12 to 4 p.m., Tuesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. On Tuesday March 10, Berti and O'Donnell will give a lecture at 4 p.m. in room 218 of the Ames School of Art Building, and an opening reception will take place for exhibitions at 5 p.m. in the galleries.

The Merwin Gallery will feature *Natural Relationship* with the works of Berti and O'Donnell. Berti received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in ceramics from Alfred University, Alfred, N.Y. in 1981 and his Master of Fine arts in ceramics at the Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Mich. in 1983. Berti is currently an associate professor of art at Parkland College, Champaign, Ill. His work involves creating carvings from brick and tile.

O'Donnell received her Bachelor of Arts degree in art and ceramics from Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio In 1992, her Master of Arts degree in art history from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1998 and her Master of Fine Arts degree in ceramics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 2000. She currently teaches modern art history and ceramics at Parkland College, Champaign, Ill. O'Donnell's work uses the figure, nature and architecture as visual reference points, and it explores the relational complexities between inner and external realities. Her work has been exhibited nationally and appears in *Surface Design for Ceramics* by Maureen Mills as well as six of Lark's "500 Series" books.

The Wakeley Gallery will showcase *See Life* by Urban. This is Urban's third and most notable solo exhibition, looking at aquatic life in glass. The shape, color and movement of tropical sea fish life inspire each piece of glasswork. Urban got his undergraduate degree in glass at The University of the Arts, Philadelphia, Pa., and got his Master of Fine Arts degree at Illinois State University in 2007. He has been an artist in residence and an instructor at Corning Museum

of Glass, Corning, N.Y. and a staff member at Pilchuck Glass School, seattle, Wash., and he has studied around the world with numerous master glassmakers. Urban recently opened a private art studio in Bloomington, Ill.

For additional information, contact Carmen Lozar, director of the Merwin & Wakeley galleries, at (309) 556-3391.

-30-