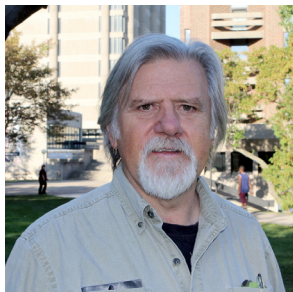


# Buffalo Arts Studio

Tri-Main Center  
2495 Main Street, Suite 500  
Buffalo, NY 14214  
(716) 833-4450  
[www.buffaloartsstudio.org](http://www.buffaloartsstudio.org)  
Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday 11am-5pm



Reinhard Reitzenstein has exhibited internationally in over 100 solo exhibitions and almost 300 group exhibitions. He has completed over twenty public art commissions along with many private commissions. Reitzenstein's work is represented in over 50 public and corporate collections internationally including National Gallery of Canada, Art Gallery of Ontario, University of Toronto, Teutloff Collection (Germany), CONAC (Caracas, Venezuela), City of Pirkkala (Finland), Fidelity Investments (Boston, Massachusetts), Trilogy (Austin, Texas), Tridel Corp. (Toronto), City of Toronto Parks, National Capital Commission. He is currently Associate Professor at SUNY, Buffalo where he directs the Sculpture Program. He is represented by the Olga Korper Gallery, Toronto and Indigo Art, Buffalo, New York.

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 Buffalo Arts Studio



Reinhard Reitzenstein  
*WTF (Where's the Forest)*  
May 24 - June 29, 2019  
Opening Reception; Friday, May 24, 2019

### Reinhard Reitzenstein *WTF (Where's the Forest)*

Reinhard Reitzenstein's *WTF (Where's the Forest)* is the first exhibition in Buffalo Art Studio's two-year project that reflects the belief that artists and curators can effect change through purposeful collaborations that balance community need with artistic insight. Titled *Justice in the Arts*, this comprehensive project includes four exhibitions each year that foster critical dialogue about social, ecological, representational, and economic justice. Much of Reitzenstein's work centers around the tree as an archetype for self and the symbiotic relationship humans share with the forests of the world. The tree serves as a marker of man's ravages upon, and attempts at reconciliation with, the natural world.



*Feel the Buzz*, 2019, tree, beeswax, wood

*WTF* brings the remains of a full tree covered in yellow beeswax into Buffalo Arts Studio. Suspended from the ceiling, *Feel the Buzz* hovers over the concrete floor, bisecting deep cracks that have grown over time and faded yellow lines that once guided machinery through the factory. The encounter with the tree and its scent within the former automotive plant points to the complicity of the industrial past and gentrified present in the production of greenhouse gasses and eradication of the green spaces necessary to counteract global warming.

Cover image: *Night 水*, 2019, four woodcut panels on paper, 80 x 160 in in total (80 x 40 each)

*Add a Little to a Little and There Will be a Big Heap* combines real tree roots and crown with a series of laser-cut discs and simplified tree forms to create a column that connects the floor to the ceiling. The branches at the top of the sculpture reach out to seemingly hold up the concrete support beam, echoing the signature Albert Kahn columns throughout Tri-Main Center. This juxtaposition of the natural and the industrial prompts viewers to take the time to really see the dynamic beauty of the trees themselves.

Also included in the exhibition are large scale woodcut plates and prints. The rhythmic lines suggest the growth of trees as marked by interior rings and exterior bark. The single silhouette, inverted as if caught between floating and falling, reminds viewers of the vulnerability of each tree as well as the forests. The large-scale woodcuts were produced at Mirabo Press, located in the former Sherwood Electromotion plant where large, specialized motors and engines for subways and trains were once manufactured. Like Tri-Main Center, Sherwood historically contributed to the production of greenhouse gasses and the rehabilitation of both buildings as creative, ecologically responsible facilities is essential to the context of the project. As the specter of global warming looms ever larger, the forests become more precious and each tree more valuable, Reitzenstein's work forces viewers to confront this reality and consider their own actions.



*Add a Little to a Little and There Will be a Big Heap*, 2019, plywood, wood, paper