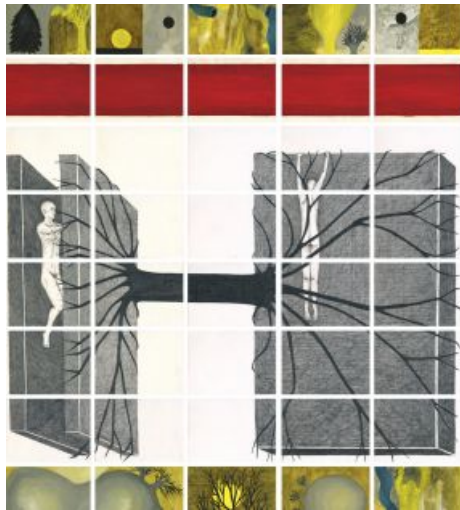


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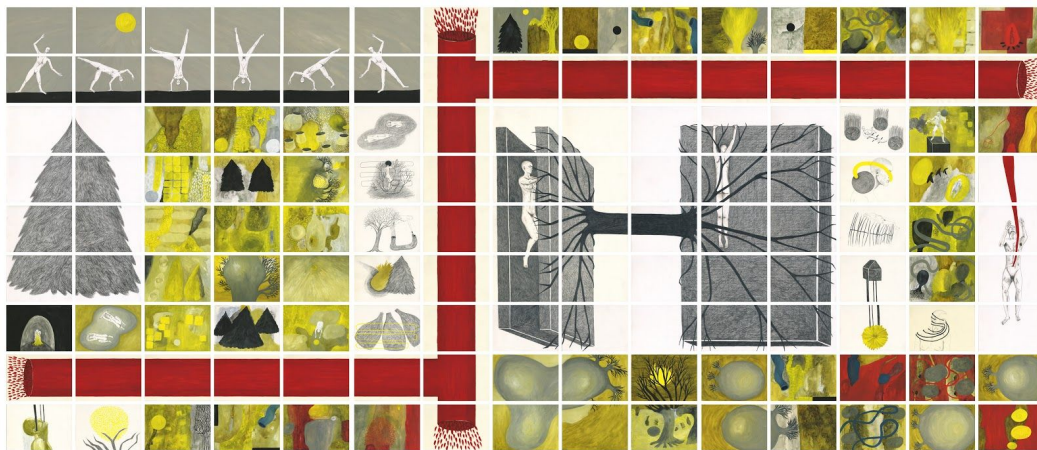
BUFFALO, NY – Buffalo Arts Studio is pleased to announce that its first event of 2019 is an opening reception for solo exhibitions by **Sheila Barcik**, and **Lee Hoag**. Both exhibitions will be on view from January 25 - March 2, 2019 within Buffalo Arts Studio's galleries. The opening reception will be part of **M&T Fourth Friday programming at Buffalo Arts Studio on Friday, January 25, 2019 from 5-8pm**, with brief remarks at 6pm.

Sheila Barcik's solo exhibition, ***From the Core***, explores life, existence, and the existential experiences of searching and surviving in the contemporary world. Barcik constructs grids of single sheet drawings, each presenting a unique space in time. Together, the small works forms new images that flow from one moment to the next. The unsettling landscapes function as a cryptic schematic, populated with figurative and symbolic forms that are both familiar and foreign. Barcik invites the viewer to wander slowly through this ambivalent environment, taking time with each individual drawing as well as the full installation.

Lee Hoag's solo exhibition, ***Amalgams***, expands upon traditional ideas of assemblage sculpture. He works with collected objects to create new, unexpected forms. He chooses objects for their organic forms and couples them with language to evoke subconscious associations within the viewer. Well dosed with mystery, humor, and innuendo—both sacred and profane—Hoag's sculptures conjure up the unimaginable within viewers. His work transforms everyday objects into charged psychic forms.

Sheila Barcik holds a BFA and MFA, both from the University at Buffalo, SUNY. Barcik's work has been exhibited internationally, including numerous group exhibitions across the United States, Germany, and Switzerland. Recent exhibitions include a two-person exhibition alongside Gary Sczerbaniewicz at Anna Caplan Contemporary (Buffalo), *dandelion gray* at Galerie Nord (Berlin), *oqbo paperfile* at Positions as part of the Berlin Art Fair, 2018. Barcik is also a two-time recipient (2013, 2017) of a grant from The Helene Wurlitzer Foundation based in Taos, New Mexico.

Lee Hoag holds a BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute as well as an MST in Art Education from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Hoag's work has been exhibited widely throughout Western New York, including a solo exhibition at the Rosalie "Roz" Steiner Gallery at Genesee Community College (2013), and a twenty-five year retrospective of his artwork at the Ohringer Gallery at the Rochester Institute of Technology (2017).



Sheila Barcik, *From the Core*, 135 Sheets 201 x 466.5 cm (79 x 184 in) Single Sheets 21 x 29.7 cm (8 3/8 x 11 3/4 in) Watercolor, Gouache, Egg Tempera, Charcoal, Graphite on Paper 2010 – 201.



Lee Hoag, *Fallout*, 30"x29"x24", mixed media assemblage, 2018.



High-resolution images are available upon request

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Buffalo Arts Studio is a not-for-profit arts organization whose mission is to provide affordable studio space and regular public exposure for regional, national, and international artists through exhibitions, and to enrich the community with art classes, mural programs, and public art. Buffalo Arts Studio is located at 2495 Main Street, Suite 500, Buffalo, NY 14214. The gallery is open Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Buffalo Arts Studio receives major support from:

Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation, Children's Foundation of Erie County, City of Buffalo, Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo, Erie County Cultural Funding, Emerging Philanthropists of Color, Garman Family Foundation, John R. Oishei Foundation, Josephine Goodyear Foundation, Simple Gifts Fund, M&T Bank, Open Buffalo, Rigidized Metals, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

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