

**Edward G. Bisone**

October 7, 2005 - January 10, 2006

Opening reception and artist's talk, First Friday, October 7, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.



**edwardbisone**





*Drawing*, 2005, mixed media on paper mounted on cardboard, 21 x 17 ¼ in.



*Harlequinade II*, 2005, mixed media on paper, 22 x 18 in.



*Unraveling II*, 2005, mixed media on paper, 26 x 20 ¼ in.



*Exploring Texture*, 2005, gesso, acrylic, watercolor on paper, 24 x 18 in.





*White Line Painting*, mixed media on paper, 26 x 21 1/4 in.



*Unraveling*, 2005, mixed media on paper, 24 x 19 1/4 in.

In Edward Bisone's commanding and poignant work, the paintings take on a life of their own, flowing in opaque and translucent washes of brown, white, red, and yellow. The end result is a shroud through which organically-derived shapes such as flowers, human faces, and amoeba-like characters come to life. These images float across the surface of the paper, at times pushed by brilliant fields of color, drawing the viewer into the picture. The use of abstract forms in these compositions owes much to the Surrealist language of Wassily Kandinsky, Joan Miro, Max Ernst, and André Masson. Edward Bisone is also greatly influenced by the Post Impressionists and Abstract Expressionists, identifying, in particular, with the work of Paul Cézanne and Richard Diebenkorn. Bisone's aversion to precision and mechanical aesthetics becomes apparent in his colored shapes and lines, arranged in vibrant, biomorphic compositions. The shapes suggest drama and movement. The intense, vivid colors create a sense of space, while the lines give the works an energy and visual tempo.

Bisone's work is a lyrical, symbolic reflection of his life journey. He describes his work as "a cerebral exploration of pictorial space." Adamantly disconnecting his present artwork from commentary on the values of the current *zeitgeist*, he concerns himself more with the "holistic spirituality of the metamorphosis and fragility time plays on

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**SEPTEMBER 2005**

life." In his words, the creation of artwork is "a result of a necessity to create—plain and simple." Bisone works on approximately ten pieces simultaneously. Through strong sales and a committed regional collector base, Bisone never keeps a large inventory. Once a work leaves the "coop," as Bisone calls it, he is relieved of the responsibility for its development, akin to an offspring leaving the nest.

In the last decade, Bisone has developed an interest in spirituality, reflecting his idea that "art is influenced by something unexplainable. The more scientists and mathematicians discover, the more questions that arise—for example, the mystery of creation." Once in the home of one of his patrons, the work takes on its own life force. When he finds himself in that home and looking intently at the work he created, Bisone is always enlightened and surprised at its evolution.

In the end, Bisone finds that "the picture does all the work. Each artwork is a pause in time—a snap shot in the journey of life." He refers often to one of his favorite motivational quotes from Marcel Duchamp: "Artists rarely know what they are doing." Bisone follows this mantra to explore and experiment with a freedom and confidence not many artists achieve in a lifetime. **Michael J. Beam, Curator of Exhibitions**

# Edward G. Bisone

**Artist Statement** The two words that probably describe my interest in creating visual images during the last decade are “process” and “experimentation.” Prior to that, my artwork was influenced by the *Sturm und Drang* movement of the Expressionists. I am also interested in the naïveté of children’s and outsider art.

The initial working of a piece is very often automatic. As the work progresses, more conscious attempts to externalize a feeling or an idea intrude. The process involves adding, subtracting, and altering elements, all in the name of “the search.” The final result is sometimes totally unrelated to the original concept.

## Education

1950  
Bachelor of Arts, State University of New York, Buffalo, New York

1960s  
Graduate studies with Seymour Drumlevitch, Professor of Art, University at Buffalo, New York

## Recent Exhibitions

1996  
Small Works on Paper, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

1990  
Paintings from Behind the Orange Curtain, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

1988  
Adams Memorial Art Gallery, Dunkirk, New York

1987  
Recent Paintings of Edward G. Bisone, Associated Artists Gallery, Buffalo, New York

## Recent Juried Exhibitions

2003  
Patriotism I Buffalo, Buffalo City Hall Gallery, New York

Members Exhibition, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

Abstraction II Exhibition: Works from the Burchfield-Penney Art Center Collection, M&T Bank Gallery, Buffalo, New York

What’s Love Got To Do With It? Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

2002  
Invitational, Stuyvesant Gallery, Buffalo, New York

Love and Lust, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

Out of the (Red, White and) Blue, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

Gerald Mead Collection Exhibition, Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, Buffalo, New York

2001  
National Juried Exhibition, Impact Gallery, Buffalo, New York

Members 5 Exhibition, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

2000  
Ninth Annual Regional Artists Exhibition, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York, First Place Award

1999  
Eighth Annual Regional Artists Exhibition, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

Trilogies 1 Exhibition: The Work of Three Artists, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

The Agency of Meaning, Contemporary Works from the Burchfield-Penney Art Center Collection, Burchfield-Penney Art Center, Buffalo, New York

Members III Exhibition, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

1998  
Sixth Annual Juried National Exhibition, Carnegie Art Center, Tonawanda, New York

Seventh Annual Regional Artists Exhibition, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

Sixth Annual Regional Artists Exhibition, Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York, Second Place Award

1994  
Drawn West: Fourth Biennial Drawing Exhibition, Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Utah State University, Logan, Utah

1992  
West Coast Works on Paper, The Ink People Center for the Arts, Eureka, California

Drawn West, Third Annual Drawing Biennial Exhibition, Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Issue of Choice, Los Angeles Contemporary Art Center, California

Eighth Annual Works on Paper Exhibition, Berkeley Art Association, California, Honorable Mention

1991  
Twenty-Sixth Annual Exhibition, Fine Arts Institute of the San Bernardino County Museum, California, Honorable Mention

## Gallery Affiliations

1985 to present  
Art Dialogue Gallery, Buffalo, New York

2001 to present  
Rental Sales Gallery, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York

2002-03  
Boston Corporate Art Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts

## Public Collections

City of Cypress, California

University of North Dakota, Minot, North Dakota

Berkeley Arts Association, California

Burchfield-Penney Art Center Collection, Buffalo, New York

Keenan Art Center, Lockport, New York

Burchfield-Penney Art Center, Buffalo, New York

# TopSpin

Artists of Western New York and Beyond

The museum’s TopSpin Gallery – long dedicated to the exhibition of work by local and regional artists – now presents the **TopSpin** series. This juried series of solo exhibitions draws from the richly diverse work of WNY artists, as well as that of artists beyond the region. **TopSpin** will feature a broad range of visual expressions, varied in media as well as message.

**TopSpin** is made possible through the generous support of Tops Markets, LLC.

## 2006 TopSpin Series

**Lillian Méndez**

February 3 -  
May 14, 2006

**Opening Reception:**  
First Friday, Feb. 3,  
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Ani Hoover**

June 2 -  
September 24, 2006

**Opening Reception:**  
Friday, June 2,  
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Joseph Miller**

October 3, 2006 -  
January 21, 2007

**Opening Reception:**  
First Friday, Oct. 6,  
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Photographs by  
Chester Barosky

Catalog design by JCharlier  
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The Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership and a lifetime of learning, supports The Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University.



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