Woman Made Gallery
Annual Report 2017
Woman Made Gallery continues to serve as an important forum for experimental and diverse work. A promoter of women working in all media and tireless advocate for women working in the arts, Woman Made Gallery hosts thought-provoking lectures/events and invites jurors, curators, and artists to develop challenging solo and group shows. I'm proud to support this valuable non-profit arts organization. Happy 25th anniversary, WMG!

Filippo Brunelleschi, Mary 2017, Chicago, Illinois
Mission

Woman Made Gallery (WMG) supports, cultivates and promotes the diverse contributions of women in the arts through exhibitions and other programs that serve, educate and enrich the community.

Woman Made Gallery is a not for profit organization founded in 1992. Its goal is to support women in the arts by providing opportunities, awareness, and advocacy. It accomplishes this through programs including:

- Juried Group Exhibitions
- Solo and Invitational Shows
- Pop-Up Events
- Artist Workshops
- Gallery Talks
- Outreach Programs
- Online Exhibitions
- Literary Events

Image: Installation by Cathy Schwalbe from WMG's 19th International Open

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Top image: Sydney Stoudmire, Erin Waser and Beate Minkovski
Bottom: Installation view of 19th International Open
Message from Woman Made Gallery

Woman Made Gallery went through challenging times after the retirement of its founding Executive Director, Beate Minkovski in December 2014. In 2016, new programming focused mainly on curated and solo shows to provide much needed curatorial experience to younger and minority women, and to spotlight women artists at a key point in their career. While generous foundation support was provided for this new direction, it was not enough to offset the reduction in revenue from WMG’s past model of juried group shows. Also, the board’s decision to move to smaller, easier to manage, bi-monthly micro-fundraisers instead of the annual large spring gala reduced fundraising revenue.

Art sales increased and WMG gained a more diverse following. However, because of the change in earned and fundraising income, revenue declined 40% over two years. In December, WMG decided to re-focus on the membership program and reinstate the annual spring gala/art auction. This decision came too late and due to the revenue decline, there were inadequate funds to pay WMG’s staff. All staff was forced to resign in January 2017. Artist and former board member, Deb Flagel, offered to lead WMG on a volunteer basis through the end of the fiscal year, June 2017.

Re-focusing on the membership program and reinstating the annual spring gala/art auction along with a return to juried shows and contributions from long-time supporters, provided much-needed financial stability to WMG.

Things to tell you ... Thank You

“An abundance of good things have happened since the beginning of this year, and we are grateful for all of it. Working consistently since 1992 in fulfillment of its mission, WMG has shown the work of around 8000 women in more than 400 group and solo exhibitions. Thanks to generous donations and membership renewals, entries for juried exhibitions, gifts for our fundraiser and volunteer support, WMG is able to continue in 2017, promoting the work of artists via exhibition opportunities, web exposure, networking, and more. We are thankful and proud of all we are able to accomplish with the generous assistance of so many people, including donors, members, artists, jurors, volunteers and visitors. We could never do our work without you! Thank you!”

Deb Flagel - Executive Director
WMG Programs: July 2016 – December 2016

1. July 2016: “Quest: Choose Your Adventure” was a two-part project featuring a solo exhibit with art by Krista Hoefle, and a panel discussion with members of Not Your Mama’s Gamer: http://womanmade.org/quest

2. July 2016: “Code/Switch” explored technology as subject as well as medium, offering a survey of art by 31 artists reflecting on the creative use of tech, through a socio-cultural lens: http://womanmade.org/codeswitch

3. August 2016: “Far Away from Home” reflected upon the situation of Berlin based artist Kim Dotty Hachmann, who merges all into one life: work, family, art, motherhood and herself: http://womanmade.org/far-away-from-home-kim-dotty-hachmann

4. August/September 2016: WMG’s “19th International Open” exhibited works from 35 female artists across the United States as well as internationally. Juried by Wai Kit Lam, the exhibition included painting, embroidery, photography, mixed media, sculpture, installation, and video: http://womanmade.org/19th-international-open

WMG Programs: January 2017 – June 2017

8. March/April 2017: WMG hosted an invitational group exhibition, ‘Stronger Together’ in celebration of WMG’s 25th Anniversary with work by select artists from WMG’s past, and those who have served as jurors and/or have exhibited at WMG since 2010. Forty-three artists were included. https://womanmade.org/artwork/stronger-together/


10. May/June 2017: WMG presented the exhibition “GrassRoots,” an exploration of environment. Juried by Pamela Callahan and WMG’s Executive Director, Deb Flagel, the exhibition included works by 49 artists presenting ideas of the world and our place in it: http://womanmade.org/grassroots

11. May/June 2017: WMG’s Fiscal Year 2017 ended with “Reunion I,” the first of two group exhibitions featuring WMG artist members in celebration of WMG’s 25th Anniversary year. WMG Co-founder, Beate Minkovski, selected the work of 38 artists for this show: http://womanmade.org/reunion-i
WMG Literary Events and Other Programs

Other FY 2017 WMG Programs included inspiring Artist Talks, Panel Discussions and Workshops, as well as Literary Events curated by Nina Corwin, documented by Kurt Eric Heintz, and marketed by Angela Narciso Torres: [www.womanmade.org/poetry](http://www.womanmade.org/poetry)

Left image: Kurt Eric Heintz, Angela Narciso Torres, and Nina Corwin.


“Provocative and inspiring; the Woman Made Gallery breaks down barriers and builds support structures for women artists and they do it with so much passion and verve.”

Natascha Dea - December 2017
WMG Fiscal Year 2017 Members … Thank You!

Thank You to all of our supportive Members this past fiscal year. Between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, one hundred ninety-four people either renewed their membership or joined Woman Made Gallery as a new member.

In celebration of WMG's 25th Anniversary, and as a measure of gratitude, we hosted two exhibitions featuring artwork by all members who submitted for the shows. Please check 'Reunion I' showing work by 38 artists and ‘Reunion II’ with work by 51 artists. All exhibitions are viewable online: https://womanmade.org/exhibitions

We pay special tribute to three wonderful artists and supporters who passed away in 2017. We miss Annette Barbier, Nancy Hild, and Andrea Harris. Truly amazing and highly creative human beings, they inspired many others and left a lasting legacy.

We are proud and grateful to celebrate this 25th Anniversary Year with our members, supporters, and community. It is your involvement with and connection to Woman Made that propels WMG's mission.

"Fabulous space, friendly staff and great artists! Most definitely recommend becoming a member and/or showing here!"

Mary Saran, 2017
WMG 2017 Donors … Thank You!


Artwork by Mary Ellen Croteau
25 Years of Art, Empowerment, Connection + Friendship

Renowned artist, Nnenna Okore was our honored guest at Woman Made Gallery’s landmark Anniversary celebration. Two exhibitions were on view, ‘Grassroots’ and WMG’s ‘Reunion I’ exhibition with art by members. All WMG Exhibitions may be viewed online: https://womanmade.org/exhibitions

Sponsorships, a silent auction and a raffle helped to raise $8,000 for WMG.

Top image: Artwork by Nnenna Okore
Left image: Nnenna Okore
Top image: WMG Halloween Party during Adele Supreme Solo Show, October 2016
Bottom: Students from After School Matters visiting Wild Cuts Group Exhibition 2017
WMG 2017 Members … Thank You!


"Thank you for the level of professionalism you maintain and the diversity of your calls for art. I am happy to be a member of such a fine, supportive, nurturing gallery for Women in the Arts."

Rosalie Koldan, Amboy, Illinois
Thank You

Woman Made Gallery is supported in part by grants from The Arts Work Fund; The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; The Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; The Efroymson Family Fund, a CICF Fund; The Illinois Arts Council Agency; The MacArthur Funds for Arts and Culture at The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation; The Joyce Foundation; a major anonymous donor; and the generosity of its members and contributors.

Woman Made Gallery is grateful to the many people who support this organization through memberships, individual donations, goods and services. All of our contributors are regularly acknowledged in our newsletters and on our website.

We thank our anonymous Art Angel, who has contributed generously and repeatedly through Harris Bank.

Woman Made Gallery
685 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60642
www.womanmade.org

Gallery Hours: Thurs–Fri noon–6p.m. / Sat–Sun noon–4p.m. / Admission: Free