

## Reclaiming Art in Smartphone Era

The Oakland University Art Gallery is hosting an exhibition that explores the work of international contemporary artists focused on portraiture. The show – titled “The Roving Eye: Aura and the Contemporary Portrait” – proposes to reclaim portraiture as a practice central to the artist, rather than the amateur.

“The portrait has been around since the beginning of time and we tend to take its significance for granted,” gallery director Dick Goody said.

“The wonderful thing about this exhibition is that it brings the genre up to date. Here one has the opportunity to see how international contemporary artists working in various disciplines are responding to making images of people (and animals) against the backdrop of the banality of the millions of throw-away smart phone portraits taken everyday across the planet.”

The gallery is located in 208 Wilson Hall on the OU campus. The show runs through March 31. Website at [ouartgallery.org](http://ouartgallery.org).

Curated by Goody, the exhibition is accompanied by a full color catalogue and showcases the work of the 18 artists.

Artists showcased are: Michaël Borremans, Noah Becker, Jeff Burton, Andrew Bush, Kent Dorn, Charlotte Dumas, Anh Duong, Pierre Gonnord, Debbie Grossman, Andrew Guenther, Rosemary Laing, Loretta Lux, Scott Schuman (The Sartorialist), David Shrigley, Tereza Vičková, Matthew Watson, Nicole Wittenberg, and Lynette Yiadom-Boakye.



“Portrait of Antonia” taken in 2007 by Loretta Lux



Frank Lams is acting train engineer.



Kids are intrigued by all of the train exhibits, which demonstrate how railroads work. The 400 tables comprise 5 operating layouts.

## Avondale Schools Take the ‘A’ Train To Raising Funds for Education; State’s Largest Train Show Jan. 20

Before there were cars, there were trains. Some who enjoy visiting the Auto Show might want to visit the Avondale School District’s “A Train” Show on Sunday, Jan. 20, at the high school, 2800 Waukegan in Auburn Hills.

The event is the largest model train show in the state by attendance, boasting nearly 400 tables of trains this year.

The show attracted over 2,700 adults and 1,000 children in 2012.

Admission is \$3 per person; children 12 and under are free, and there are door prizes.

Frank Lams, Avondale’s assistant superintendent for Administrative Services and a train hobbyist himself, has coordinated the “A Train” since its inception.

According to Lams, new activities have been added this year, including a presentation of the feature movie, “Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Blue Mountain Mys-

tery,” in the high school’s auditorium. He maintains the ‘A Train’ is one of the best entertainment values in town for families.

“Any money (visitors) spend on admission and refreshments goes toward a great cause – the Avondale Education Foundation,” Lams said.

Tom DelPup, president of the Avondale Education Foundation (AEF), said the “A Train” show raised \$11,320 for AEF in 2012 and will serve as the Foundation’s primary fundraising initiative for 2013 as well.

“We welcome creative activities, such as the ‘A Train,’ which bring families together and also raise awareness and funding for Avondale’s Education Foundation.

“AEF’s role in enhancing educational opportunities for our students continues as traditional education funding decreases,” DelPup said.

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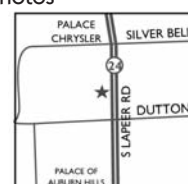
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