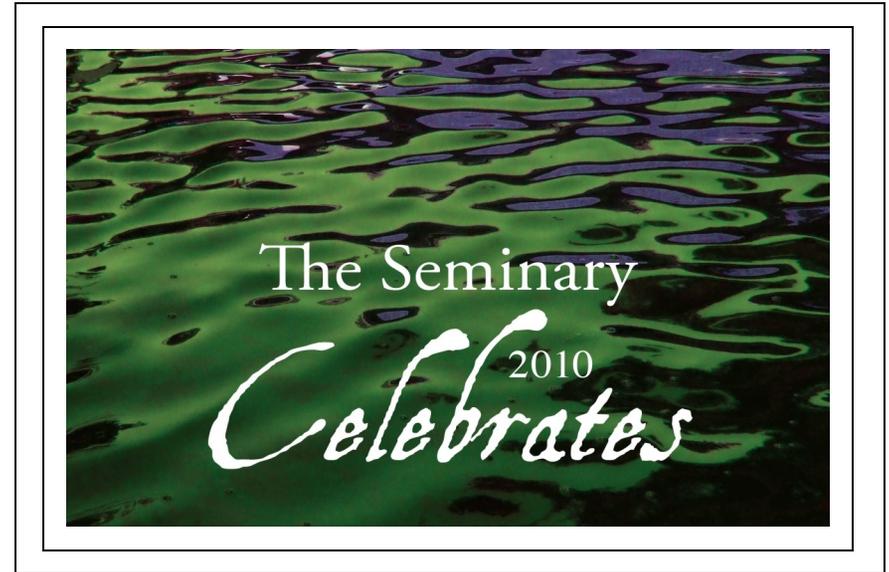


The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion presents

The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion is a program of Wesley Theological Seminary. The Center sponsors a variety of cultural events which explore the intersection of art and faith. All contributions are tax-deductible and gratefully accepted.



Recent Works
by Students, Staff and Faculty
an exhibition in memory of
Constance Sherridan Hefner

April 5 - May 7, 2010
Opening Reception April 7 at 4:30

The Dadian Gallery
www.wesleyseminary.edu/lcar
Wesley Theological Seminary
4500 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20016
202.885.8608

Curator's Statement

As the Spring semester draws to a close, Wesley Theological Seminary celebrates the arts with an exhibition drawn from the life of our own community. Whether the artwork was made by members of the faculty, staff or student body, the works reflect a desire to express ourselves creatively in the hopes of arriving at a greater understanding of ourselves and the world in which we dwell, whatever the medium.

This year, as in previous years, *The Seminary Celebrates* is made possible by a generous endowment given in memory of Constance Sherridan Hefner. Constance was the only daughter of Jean and Tom Hefner, who were members of the Council for the Arts and Religion in the 1990s, and who continue to be gracious supporters of the arts and the seminary. The portrait of Constance was painted Glen Hill, who is well known in the local art community. We are grateful to the Hefners, and to the members of our community who made this exhibition possible.

Alexandra Sherman
Curator, Dadian Gallery

Alexandra Sherman, staff

Mirror, Mirror

Watercolor, mirror

This painting was an exploration of the fairytale Snow White. The tower represents our own psyche, there are dark twists and turns that at times we fear to confront. Ultimately, one must face one's self in the mirror.

Sleeping Beauty

Watercolor, gold leaf

My husband and I stumbled upon an old abandoned church on our way to Louisa County, VA.. It was covered with gorgeous vines, and shrouded in darkness and mystery. The vines called sleeping beauty to my mind. There are things that lie hidden within our subconscious for years, it is up to us to cut away the vines and open the door and begin exploration.

Joan Yamashita, student

Reborn From Blood

Acrylic on canvas

I was meditating on the idea of being born again and on Psalm 139, specifically the line about being knit together in the mother's womb, when this piece began to take form in my heart and my mind's eye. Through Christ's sacrifice and our baptism, by his blood we are born again.

Faith

Found object sculpture

This piece came from meditation on the story of the bleeding woman who reached for the hem of Jesus' robe and was healed by her faith. By reaching out, she is able to plug back into the Father. Her brokenness is the very thing that saved her. The tress is symbolic of both the body of Christ she reached for and the God she has been separated from for so long.

Jeannie Marsh, student

Blues Dialogue

Mixed media: fiber collage, thread, images printed on silk and cotton
Inspired by the improvisation of live jazz ensemble, the conversation of musician, instrument and audience. I was able to enhance photographic images of musicians and instruments to create the base for each small quilt, I then stitched highlights on each of the images. The book form was inspired by John Coltrane's CD catalogue.

The Sower

Fiber

Celebrating 250 years of ministry, the Cresaptown United Methodist Church selected the parable of the Sower as the celebration theme. The stole is part of the parament set I created for the event. Woven fabrics created one panel, while the other is appliquéd, beaded, stamped, painted, embroidered and quilted.

Sara Sheppard, staff

Sun Rise

Fused Glass

The sun rises just over the horizon reaching toward our creator God. We watch as the rays stretch and boldly become a part of our reality. I enjoy working with fused glass because of the interesting patterns that are created in the melting and fusing process. Each piece is a gift as it comes out of the kiln.

Starry Night

Fused Glass

This piece is a mosaic of sorts. It began with the starry piece in the center. I added the outer pieces with colored frit to create a circle. The piece was then slumped over a handmade form to create the bowl. This piece is made entirely of scraps and is pieced together like a puzzle.

Artist's Statements

Kyungsuk Cho, student

Cross, Power for the Oppressed

Korean traditional papers, wood, wire, foam board

This is a symbolized work, representing the power of cross, which has liberated the oppressed. The map is the Korean map - the letters on it "Yong-bi-eo-chun-ga" is a traditional Korean poem. Its content is primarily praise of the kingship of the Chosun Dynasty. In that era, due to the Confucianism ideal, women were especially oppressed. One example of this oppression is "Garima", which is hung on and torn by the cross. Women had to conceal their face and body with Garima—its function can be easily understood by reminding of Hijab, a veil for women in Islamic tradition. A symbol of traditional oppression (Garima) is being torn by the power of the cross. "At the moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom."(Matt. 27:51a) It's the power of the cross, the liberation.

Barbara Donelson, staff

We're Off to See the Wizard

Fused glass

Last year I ran across this great quote by Christian George (in *Sacred Travels: Recovering the Ancient Practice of Pilgrimage*) when I was working on my thesis, which was about pilgrimage. The quote stuck with me and became the inspiration for this art piece.

"Judy Garland plays Dorothy, a girl who traveled through a land that was not her home. She was a pilgrim, following the yellow brick road. It was a strange land – a land of tin men, scarecrows and munchkins. There were obstacles to overcome and witches to watch out for, not to mention the lions and tigers and bears (oh my!). But Dorothy knew that as long as she stayed on the path, Kansas would be around the corner. Turns out Oz wasn't all it was cracked up to be, and at the very end of the movie, Dorothy taps her shoes together and says those unforgettable words: 'There's no place like home. There's no place like home. There's no place like home.' We might very well at the end of our lives forget the vast majority of things that we have learned, but there is one thing in this world worth remembering. We are going home. And pilgrimage will fuse with paradise, somewhere over the rainbow."

Carol Follett, staff/student

Jesus, the Mediator

Oil (water soluble)

I used slides of a classmate. I stopped short of a likeness to the model to say more about the subject. I tried to engage the mystery, to make Jesus close and far, knowing and feeling, everyday and ultimate. "But who is He, the one who is the middle point, the Mediator between the reconciling action of God and the reconciled being of man, in whom both at once are actual and revealed? . . . In Him, we have to do wholly with God and wholly with man, and with both in their complete and utter unity." – Karl Barth

David Gass, student

Tuesday Morning Prayer

Wax on pressed wood pulp

This piece was created as part of a "drawing your prayer" devotional. As I sat and contemplated all the ways God has been with me throughout the past four years of Seminary, I began randomly expressing God's blessing in color and line. The finished product shows many loose ends, but the blessing upon blessing. As I view the finished product I am able to discern patterns and objects that I did not see or comprehend before.

Amy Gray, student

The Martyr's Rose

Cut paper

The Martyr's Rose was created as a part of a semester long project to create a visual environment for worship while the chapel was being renovated. The window was made as the set for the chancel drama "Rejoice and Mourn" which was set simultaneously in two places: 12th century Canterbury Cathedral and in a chapel in El Salvador 1980. The play was performed during Lent with Lenten colors behind the window.

Amy Gray, student

"... a wind from God swept over the face of the waters."

Acrylic and Silver leaf

This image was inspired by dialogue in Denise Hopkins' J-Term class Genesis 1-2-3 in which we discussed the challenge of interpreting and imaging Genesis 1:1.

Josie Hoover, staff

If Not For Your Grace

Interpretive liturgical dance

This is a video of In The Spirit Liturgical Dance Ministry ministering to "If Not For Your Grace" (Israel Houghton & New Breed) on October 11, 2009. The dance was ministered during morning worship services at Westphalia United Methodist Church (Upper Marlboro, MD.) with **Gerald Speight** creating/producing the DVD as the videographer.

Mikki Kang, student

Fish of Hope

Glass, paint and aluminum foil

This painting is a meditative tool that can be used in worship. The fish is a traditional Christian symbol. Jesus' disciples Peter, John and James were fisherman. The fish is also one of God's creations. There are many instances of Jesus' work and feeding using fish.

Liv Liabraaten, staff

Vow

Gouache on glass, thread

This is an exploration of union - of birth, of illness, old age and, as the Sufis say of *Ur* or death - the ultimate wedding with God. Each is apocalyptic and plain, taking blood, giving wing. And yet *La'illaha il'Allahu. ("there is no reality but God; there is only God")*