

CURATORS' CHOICE

Why Curators should choose Bobbi Mastrangelo's "Grate Works of Art" for exhibition and acquisition.

WHAT ARE GRATE WORKS OF ART?

Bobbi Mastrangelo's "Grate Works of Art" are a perfect choice for museum exhibition and acquisition. Her body of works is based on the theme of manhole covers, water covers, grates and drains. She has created unique art based on **common objects** that we all neglectfully walk over or drive over. Her art is an urban form of **POP ART**.

Mastrangelo has lauded the covers in many media; most popular are her deeply embossed prints on handmade paper and her trompe l'oeil sculpture relief works. With expert craftsmanship, Mastrangelo renders the covers to look like heavy metal and their environments to resemble asphalt, pavers, Belgium Blocks or bricks. In fact, Her "Borough of Manhattan" (now at the Zimmerli Museum) appeared so realistic, that she was accused of stealing a manhole cover to put up on the wall.

<http://bobbimastrangelo.dev4.mvisolutions.com/museum-collections/>

MASTRANGELO'S GALLERY OF ART AVAILABLE FOR EXHIBIT

The Gallery contains the works available for exhibition or acquisition.

<http://bobbimastrangelo.dev4.mvisolutions.com/grate-works-gallery/>

Remember to click on the compressed images to view their correct proportions.

The sculptures are not signed on the front. Ivan Karp, the noted NYC Art Dealer who promoted the Pop Artists: Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein and Robert Rauschenberg, advised Mastrangelo to sign her sculptures on the back, not in the front. "These sculptures are like pieces of the sidewalk or street. Viewers will immediately recognize them as Mastrangelo creations."

STORIES BEHIND THE ART

Some of the art works have stories to tell which will captivate museum visitors.

“Three Sewer Hitter” pays tribute to the game of stickball “the Baseball game” invented by city kids in the early 1900’s

<https://bobbimastrangelo.com/MyNews/three-sewers-a-home-run-in-stickball/>

In 1986 Mastrangelo founded a grassroots Adopt -a Spot-Beautification Program

<https://bobbimastrangelo.com/MyNews/earth-care-part-two-mastrangelos-environmental-actionearth-day-is-every-day/>

“When the People Care” promotes “Earth Care Action

<http://bobbimastrangelo.dev4.mvisolutions.com/grate-works-gallery/>

“Inside 526A-R” causes viewers to contemplate the underside of a manhole cover as it would appear underground.

<https://bobbimastrangelo.com/MyNews/insideout-mastrangelo-exhibits-three-great-works-at-orlando-museum-of-arts-1st-thursday-may-1-2014/>

“Believe it or not, Bobbi’s “Grate Works” strike a chord. It’s fun loving art that brings a smile to your face and a sense of awe to your mind as you wonder how anyone could think of doing something so absurd, so downright hilarious as manhole art.”

~ Danielle Hayduck “Looking at the Grater Picture,” Suffolk Woman

MANHOLE ART CAPTURES MEDIA ATTENTION

Exhibiting Manhole Art captures Media Attention: That is what Mastrangelo learned throughout her four- decade career. Exhibiting “The Grate Works” will probably garner media attention for the host Museum as well. Below are four TV presentations of Mastrangelo and her art.

First Interview: 1984 Newsday Long Island, NY “Bobbi Mastrangelo, Grate Works Beginnings”

[I https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKw3mutBhec](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKw3mutBhec)

1987 “Manholes Fascinate Mastrangelo”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aflt5MQpN1I>

!998 Bobbi Mastrangelo’s Grate Works of Art”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RELR84wchJI>

2013 WUCF-TV Artisode # 108

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpA8ATTAE_k

RELATED EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND HAPPENINGS

There are many interesting public activities to enhance the exhibition period:

1. **Cover Rubbings.** Public Works Departments and Water Authorities could loan various sized covers for rubbings,

2. **Painting Manhole Covers** Sidewalk Sewer covers can be painted green, Sidewalk Water covers can be painted blue.

3 **Elaborate Manhole Cover Painting** of the plain Orlando cover at the Orlando Museum of Art to match the former logo colors as Mastrangelo has done with her sculpture “The City Beautiful.”

<https://bobbimastrangelo.com/MyNews/2015-npcw-the-city-beautiful/>

MASTRANGELO’S VISION

On Oct. 31, 2017, Mastrangelo suffered a Hemorrhagic Stroke, which affected her left side. She is recovering well and working on the input for her new website. Below are Mastrangelo’s future plans.

In 2020, with the aid of her assistant, she plans to create her “Mars Grate” and A Water Authority Cover sculpture.

If those two sculptures do well, Mastrangelo has an ambitious project in mind: “Florida, We’ve Got You Covered”

Working with a team of a Project Manager and “Grate Apprentices,” sculpture relief works will be created resembling the major Florida Covers: Tampa Bay, Jacksonville, Celebration, etc. All of the major FL Public Works will be contacted for photos and rubbings of their covers with videos of their participation. A website will be devoted to the project’s progression. A Grant will help to cover expenses.

2005 - 2009 EXHIBITION LOCATIONS NEEDED FOR

“FL: WE’VE GOT YOU COVERED”

(All exhibited works will be for sale, with proceeds going to charity.)

Thank you for your time and attention to Mastrangelo's "Grate Works of Art." The art is best viewed in person. Plus, there are additional works available, which are not shown in the Gallery. A no-obligation-Studio Visit can easily be arranged. For a studio visit or more information, contact the artist directly:

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