



ART through ARCHITECTURE

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**NEW MISSOURI BANK CROSSROADS “ARTBOARDS”
TO DEBUT FIRST FRIDAY IN MARCH**

*Commissioned Images by Kansas City artists MIKE SINCLAIR and ALLAN WINKLER
On view this Spring as latest installment of Mo Bank’s Art through Architecture project*



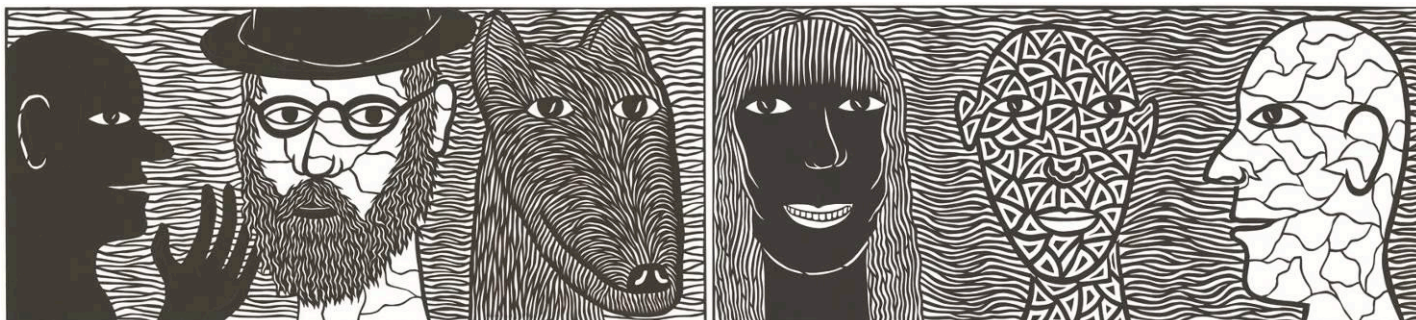
The Missouri Bank Crossroads Branch, 125 Southwest Boulevard, will debut four new large-scale commissioned images, by Kansas City based artists Michael Sinclair and Allan Winkler, on its “Artboards” in time for First Friday March, 2010. An Art through Architecture “Art Achievement” project, the Missouri Bank “Artboards” launched fall 2008, when the building’s existing double-sided billboards were renovated and converted into a highly visible site for work by area artists as part of the bank’s purchase and renovation of the building to house its Crossroads Branch, completed by Helix Architecture + Design.

Michael Sinclair will present two east-facing images, which are photographs taken at two Kansas City, Missouri parks: Blue Valley Park, located at East 23rd and Topping Avenue, and Loose Park at 52nd and Wornall in the Brookside neighborhood. These two images come from a much larger body of work by Sinclair focused on urban parks in the Kansas City area, a selection of which were exhibited at Dolphin gallery last year.

In the pairing of these two images, the distinctive symmetry of the modernist blue pavilion and flanking picnic tables in Blue Valley Park finds a parallel in the geometrical order of Loose Park’s Rose Garden, further amplified by the precise placement of white folding chairs set up for a wedding that was rained out. The images emphasize the interplay and co-dependence of nature and culture in these places, which are characterized by a mix of careful design and organic growth, while also positing a stark contrast between the two parks, one on the East side of the city, the other on the West.

On his west-facing billboards **Allan Winkler** will present images of two new black and white paper-cut artworks that depict a cast of eccentric characters. Titled “Community Meeting,” Winkler’s wonderfully

detailed pair of images exemplify the artist's skillfulness in the medium of paper cutting as well as his ability to convey joy, delight, and a deep sense of humanity using the simplest of means. His human, animal, and fantastical figures, each full of individual personality, read together as a portrait of community; a lively, diverse neighborhood of friendly cohorts. As art critic Peter von Ziegesar has written, "Winkler populates the mythological world of his own cutouts with the products of his imagination and of his keen observations of contemporary life."



About the Artists:

Michael Sinclair received his BA from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, in 1974, and went on the study in the MFA program at University of Illinois, Champaign. Represented by the Dolphin Gallery in Kansas City, he has had solo exhibitions of his photographs at the Dolphin Gallery in 2009 and 2006, and has had his photographs included in group exhibitions at venues including Jen Bekman Gallery, New York City; the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City; Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago; Rare Gallery, New York; H&R Block Artspace at Kansas City Art Institute; and Society for Contemporary Photography, Kansas City, among many others. His work is included in the collections of The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art; Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, KS, as well as many corporate and private collections.

Allan Winkler received his BFA from Kansas City Art Institute in 1975, and has also studied at the Art Institute of Chicago, University of Utah, Snowbird, UT, and Fort Mason Art Center, San Francisco, as well as completing residencies at Bemis Foundation, Omaha, and Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, Montana. An incredibly prolific artist who works in a range of media and disciplines, Winkler has presented solo exhibition at venues including Kansas City Jewish Museum's Epsten Gallery, Overland Park, KS; Pi Gallery, Kansas City; Joan Rapp Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ; San Jose State University, San Jose, CA; The Alaska State Museum, Juneau, AK; and Pro Arts Gallery, St. Louis. His work has been featured in hundreds of group exhibitions as well, including at Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, Omaha; Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Museum, New York City; Pottery Northwest, Seattle; Elastic Gallery, Chicago; Halter Museum of Art, Helena, MT; Dawson Gallery, Indianapolis; and Paragraph Gallery and Leedy-Voukos Art Center in Kansas City. Winkler was a Charlotte Street Foundation Urban Culture Project Studio Resident, 2008-9.

About the "Artboards":

The Missouri Bank "Artboards" project began in fall 2008, when the building's existing double-sided billboards were renovated and converted into a highly visible site for work by area artists as part of Missouri Bank's purchase and renovation of the building to house its Crossroads Branch. Every four months, the boards will display a set of newly commissioned artworks, produced as digital prints on ECO-flex, a new, "green" billboard

material. Thus far, the Artboards have featured works by Kansas City artists Warren Rosser, Jaimie Warren, Archie Scott Gobber, Miki Baird, Elijah Gowin, Emily Sall, Grant Miller and May Tveit.

Designed by Helix Architecture + Design, Missouri Bank's Crossroads Branch was the first Kansas City area building project to gain "Art Achievement" through Art through Architecture (AtA), a partnership of American Institute of Architects-Kansas City and Charlotte Street Foundation designed to encourage collecting and commissioning work by Kansas City area artists through architectural practice. Through AtA, new architectural projects may earn Gold, Silver or Bronze levels of Art Achievement by dedicating a percentage of the total construction budget to collecting artworks, commissioning temporary or permanent artworks, and/or including artists on design teams. The Missouri Bank Crossroads project, which also includes commissioned sculpture by artist Jesse Small, earned Gold-level Art Achievement from Art through Architecture.

Future artists for the Artboards will be selected by Missouri Bank representatives from Art through Architecture's artist database, accessible on-line at www.ArtArch.org. For more information about the Art through Architecture program, contact Josh Shelton, Chair of AtA's Steering Committee, at 816.474.3838 or jshelton@eldoradoarchitects.com. For more information about the artists and artwork, contact Kate Hackman, Administrator, Art through Architecture Art Committee/Associate Director, Charlotte Street Foundation, at 816.994.7731 or kate@charlottestreet.org.