

2023 Sheldon Museum Board of Trustee Nominees

Sheldon Museum Board of Trustee Nominee to serve Second 3-year Term:

Richard Wien is a free-lance writer. In 2019 he returned to Vermont from New York City where he worked for the CBS Corporation, retiring as VP, Internal Communications. In 2017 a play he wrote based on the life of the WWI poet Siegfried Sassoon was produced at the Riant Theatre's Strawberry One Act Festival. He is currently workshopping a play on the life of Hetty Green (Nov. 21, 1834-July 3, 1916) --Wall Street's first woman financier who lived part-time and is buried in Bellows Falls, and died richer than J.P. Morgan. Dick is a graduate of Middlebury College, the United States Army Intelligence School, and the former CBS School of Management.

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Michole Biancosino is an outside-the-box director, writer, performer, deviser, dramaturg, producer and teacher. She is one of the Co-Founding Artistic Directors of Project Y Theatre, a company that has launched world premieres in NYC, regionally, and internationally. She produces NYC's Women in Theatre Festival, now in its 9th year. The festival yearly showcases and develops new work by women playwrights; commissions works by women writers and with women or girl protagonists and 50% or more women in all roles; and sets itself up as a model for creating gender parity in our industry by going "beyond parity" now. During COVID, she co-created a hybrid streaming theatre in Vermont: Tiny Barn Theatre. Recent collaborations include "Same But Different" with dancers Lida Winfield and Christal Brown, "Waves of Gravity" with musician Neel Murgai and artist/ animator Seema Lisa Pandya at CultureHub/LaMaMa, and "Yoga with Jillian" which performed at The Pleasance as part of Ed Fringe and was a critical and audience success. The show returns to Ed Fringe for a return run this August. BA Middlebury College. MFA in Directing: Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts. She is Associate Professor of Theatre at Middlebury College, where she also facilitates an Engaged Listening Project group through the Conflict Transformation program.

Pieter Broucke is Associate Dean for the Arts; Professor and Architectural Studies Track Director, History of Art and Architectural Studies; and Associate Curator, Ancient Art at Middlebury College. His areas of expertise are ancient art and architectural history. His research focuses on the intersection of these two areas, Greek and Roman architecture. Dr. Broucke holds a Professional Degree in Architecture from Ghent, Belgium, an M.A. in Archaeology from the Center for Ancient Studies at the University of Minnesota, and a Ph.D. in History of Art and Architecture from Yale University. His doctoral dissertation with J. J. Pollitt focused on the Temple of Olympian Zeus at Agrigento, Sicily, the largest Doric temple constructed by the ancient Greeks. He published *The Archaeology of Architecture: Charles Robert Cockerell in Greece and the Levant, 1807-1810* (New Haven: Yale Center for British Art, 1994), and various articles and abstracts dealing with ancient architecture and sculpture.

Michelle Leftheris is a lens-based artist, designer and professor working across multiple disciplines. Her work, generally rooted in photographic practice, often extends beyond traditional methods of production and presentation of the photographic image. She holds a BFA in Photography from the University of Cincinnati and an MFA in Digital Media from Rhode Island School of Design. Her work has been exhibited at galleries and museums nationally and internationally including The Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow, Scotland; Pace Gallery, New York, NY; NurtureArt, Brooklyn, NY; Ortega Y Gasset Projects, Brooklyn, NY; Cindy Rucker Gallery, New York, NY; Microscope Gallery, Brooklyn, NY;

Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY; Frances Colburn Gallery, Burlington,VT; The Wassaic Project, Armenia, NY and The Flux Factory, Queens, NY. She served as core faculty and Director of Special Projects in the MFA Photo, Video and Related Media department at the School of Visual Arts in New York City. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Studio Art at Middlebury College.

Ethan Mitchell is an Addison County native and local historian. He grew up on an intergenerational sheep farm in New Haven, where he still lives (now with his wife and daughter). He has worked as an art handler and museum installer, and has also worked on historical preservation projects, and renovation of older buildings. Ethan was one of the organizers of the “Invisible Odysseys” community art project. For the last two decades, Ethan has been a history teacher, primarily working with the Willowell Foundation, where he co-founded the New Roots project (an elementary and middle school program in the Monkton woods). His current research foci include: the use of Lake Champlain as a corridor for human smuggling in the early twentieth century; the likely use of the Vermont poor-farm system to institutionalize indigenous people; and the French-colonial and indigenous history of the lower Otter Creek.

Tulip Larson '25 is an English major and Art History minor at Middlebury College. She is passionate about Virginia Woolf, early modern plays, and Dutch art and is interested in pursuing a career in curatorial work or publishing. On campus, Tulip works as a student associate at Middlebury College Davis Library’s Special Collections and as an Arts & Culture editor for the Middlebury Campus. She also plays guitar and mandolin in an on-campus band called The Soopspoons. Originally from Portland, OR, Tulip loves exploring Vermont and the beautiful nature it has to offer. In summer 2023, she interned at the Henry Sheldon Museum where she had the opportunity to learn about archival work and collections management. Ms. Larson will be the Sheldon Museum’s non-voting student board member, serving a one-year term.