



January 4, 2012 (Updated January 17, 2012)

For Immediate Release

Artist Reception: ~~January 17, 2012 from 5 – 7:00 p.m.~~ (Canceled due to weather, to be rescheduled.)

930 Tacoma Avenue S, Room 737, Tacoma, WA 98402

RSVP to [ksorgen@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:ksorgen@co.pierce.wa.us)

## Five Works by Local Artists Added to Pierce County Collection

On January 17, 2012, the Pierce County Arts Commission will host a public reception for the artists whose artwork was recently added to the county's portable art collection, known as the Art Bank. Works by Ellen Ito and Jennifer Peters, Chandler O'Leary, Michael Ferguson, Rebecca Schofield, and Kurt Solmssen will be on view from 5-7:00 p.m. at the County Executive's Office. The chosen works are the result of a selection panel of current and former arts commissioners, artists, and curators who reviewed more than two hundred works submitted by 45 artists for consideration.



A range of media and approaches to art making are represented by the new acquisitions. Ellen Ito and Jennifer Peters' photograph, *Staple* (2010), is from a series documenting the detritus found in the nooks and crannies of the Tacoma Art Museum, creating deeply textured images from overlooked spaces. Chandler O'Leary's hand cut and hand colored linoleum block prints, *Flock* (2009), depict five Washington bird species. Other works take their subject from the landscape, such as Michael Ferguson's richly colored acrylic painting, *Beach Logs* (2008), or a view of a rocky cove in Rebecca Schofield's oil painting, *Shark's Reef* (2008). Kurt Solmssen's lithograph, *Harry's Golden Hour* (1999), portrays the artist's friend in a fleeting moment of golden sunlight as he admires the view from the porch of his house in Vaughn, WA.

The Pierce County Art Bank portable artwork collection is installed in public spaces throughout Pierce County buildings with the goal to improve the quality of the work environment, support local artists, and increase awareness of the diversity of art production in the county. The Art Bank, part of the Public Art Program, serves our mission to bring art into the life of all Pierce County residents. To learn more about the program and view additional images please visit: [www.piercecountywa.org/arts](http://www.piercecountywa.org/arts)

Contact: Nicholas Nyland (253) 798-3797

Image: *Harry's Golden Hour* (1999) by Kurt Solmssen, 8-color hand pulled lithograph, 28x35in.