



For Immediate Release
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May 20, 2025

ANTON ART CENTER TO HOST NEW EXHIBIT OF SHAPED PAINTINGS BY MICHAEL ROSS

Mount Clemens, Mich. – The center's first floor gallery will feature *A History of Dreams: Paintings and Objects by Michael Ross*, an exhibit of nearly fifty original shaped paintings, panels, and three-dimensional objects ranging in size from small to large, including diptychs, triptychs, and cubes. The borders of the compositions are designed to reflect, complement, and enhance the artwork's content.

Michael is an artist, muralist, and curator working out of 333 Midland Studios and the Annex Gallery in Highland Park since 2014. His work combines shaped surfaces with painted gradients, patterns, shapes, and color. He cites the Indian classical music form of 'Raga' as inspiration through its "defined framework and interior improvisation that speaks to both the present moment and the eternal". Ross graduated from Oakland University in 2003, majoring in Anthropology and a minor in Studio Art.

About his body of work, Michael shares, "I like to think of my work as representing a few different realities: the one which exists in the 'real' world and the ones you find in your dreams. In either case, that reality is often beautiful and/or convoluted, and always weird. I'm interested in how a two-dimensional painting can occupy a more sculptural space and cut into the third dimension." While exploring these ideas, he says, the paintings have developed into shaped, multi-piece forms combining sharp angles with contrasting curves.

Michael's paintings feature repetition of a variety of color gradients and shapes that may also include recognizable content, such as landscape, figure, or portrait. Michael continues, "As I paint, I allow the piece to evolve into the form it takes. The combination of mannered patterns with improvisation gives a sense of peace, calm, and overall well-being for me. I incorporate a sense of the space I am in, creating in a sense of 'belonging' to that space."

Applying paint in thick strokes and crafting uncommonly shaped canvases calls attention to the adaptability of the act of painting. Michael adds, "In my latest series, I'm highlighting the beauty of the medium and its plane—'paint for paint's sake'. This emphasizes the multitude of ways in which it can be perceived through its manipulation by the artist and by what the viewer brings to the experience of viewing art. I'm striving for a 'pure' art experience, both for myself and the viewer."



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All are invited to attend the Opening Reception & Artist Talk on Saturday, June 28th from 1pm to 3pm, with refreshments provided. Read and see more about Michael Ross and his artwork on his website, www.mrossart.com.

The collection will be on display to the public at the Anton Art Center June 28 through August 16, 2025. Gallery Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm. The exhibit will be located on the first floor of the Anton Art Center. All are welcome to enjoy the new exhibit.

For questions or information, visit www.theartcenter.org or call 586-469-8666. The Anton Art Center is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located at 125 Macomb Place, Mount Clemens, Michigan, with a mission to enrich and inspire people of all ages through the arts.

The Anton Art Center (AAC) was founded in 1969 in the historic Carnegie Library building in walkable downtown Mount Clemens, Michigan. The AAC aims to build an open community around creative expression by presenting a wide array of programming to appeal to diverse audiences, providing support for the arts and becoming a focal point for arts programming, and working towards inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in all that we do. Our mission is to enrich and inspire people of all ages through the arts. Our funders include the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, the Kresge Foundation, Michigan Arts and Culture Council, the Erb Family Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

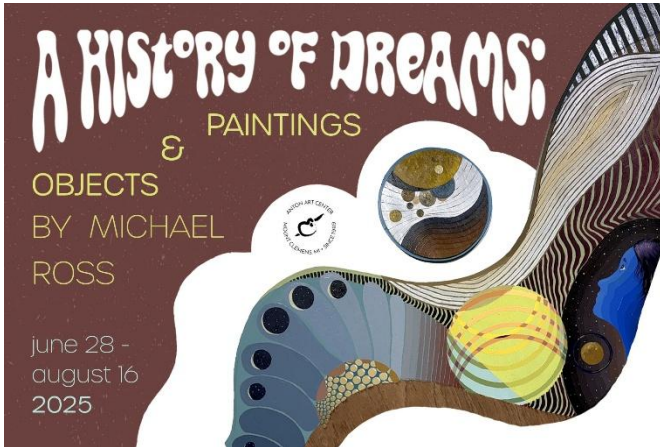
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A History of Dreams: Paintings and Objects by Michael Ross

Sample images



Exhibition postcard.



Diamond Sea, Michael Ross, Oil paint, *A History of Dreams: Paintings and Objects by Michael Ross*.



Object 41 Die, Michael Ross, Oil paint, *A History of Dreams: Paintings and Objects by Michael Ross*.



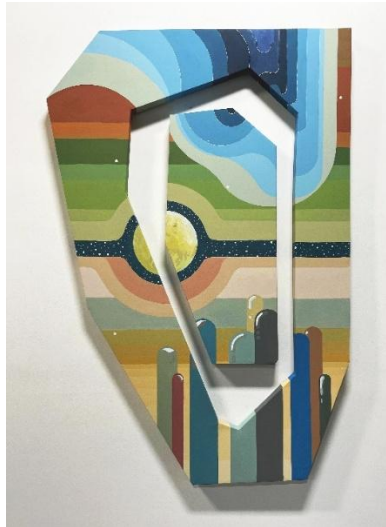
The Drums of Roy Haynes, Michael Ross, Oil paint, *A History of Dreams: Paintings and Objects by Michael Ross*.



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Cloud IV In Transit, Michael Ross, Oil paint,
A History of Dreams: Paintings and Objects
by Michael Ross.



Milky Night, Michael Ross, Oil paint, *A*
History of Dreams: Paintings and Objects by
Michael Ross.