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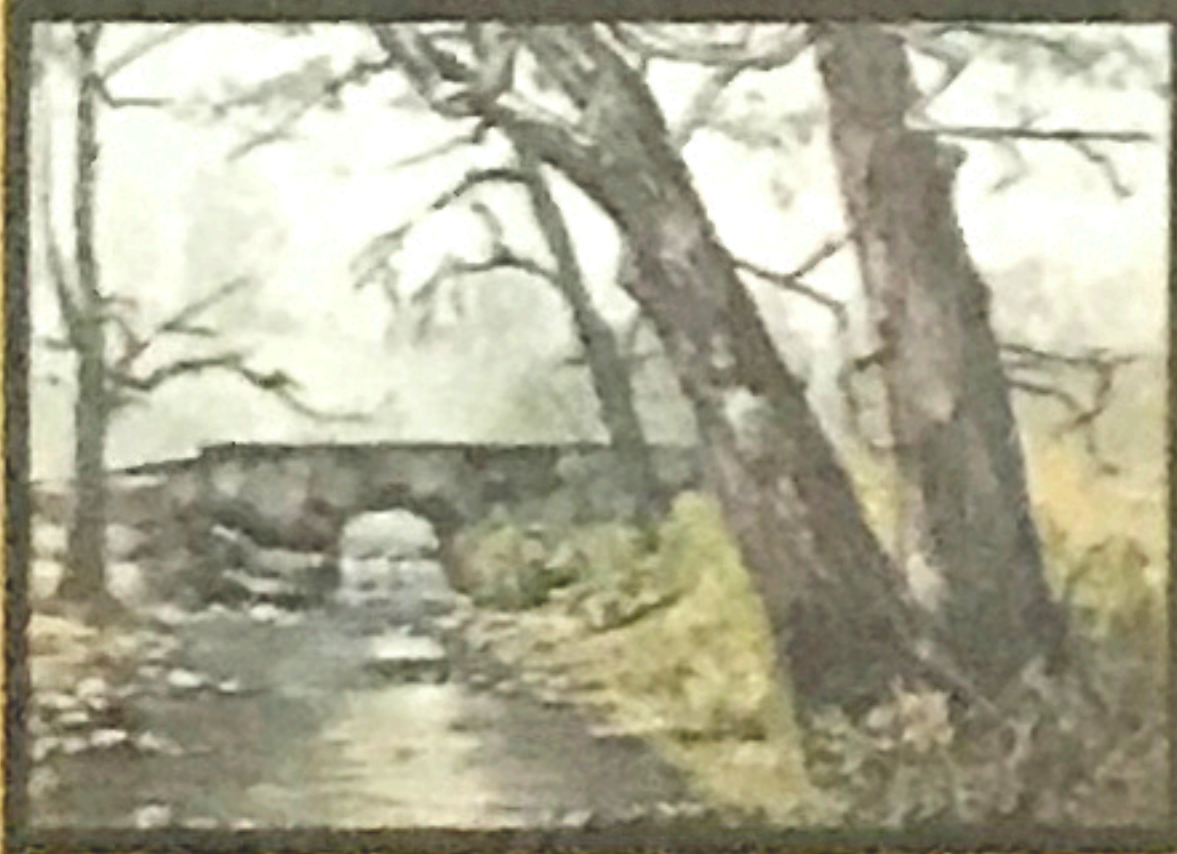
GALLERY @SECOND

ON EXHIBIT THROUGH OCT. 13

MARK TOPP • DANIEL J. POPP

ON EXHIBIT STARTING OCT. 18

JOHN HASSLER



JEAN ZAUN



Reception/3rd in the Burg:
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Big City Art In Downtown Mechanicsburg

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and MODE Magazine



BY VANGIE UNTI

Mechanicsburg may not be the first place you think of for viewing contemporary art, but that was part of the appeal for the husband and wife team of Richard Reilly and Danielle Charette, New York City natives and founders of the Metropolis Collective. The gallery's name says it all; a dual homage to the owners' hip urban roots and their vision for the space as a community collaboration, celebrating art and music from local talents alongside that of internationally established artists. "We felt there was a niche here that we could fill. We want to be fresh and show truly contemporary, modern things that

you wouldn't otherwise see every day," said Charette.

The funky art deco location on Main Street features two separate and very different art galleries. The Trash Art Gallery in front displays serious contemporary art by internationally-acclaimed artists. The Hole in the Wall Gallery in back is reserved for local community artists to showcase their work alongside more established national artists. The Collective also houses an impressive recording studio and Stage Noir, an open stage for musical and performance art venues.

One of the most exciting aspects of the Metropolis Collective will be the ever-changing innovative exhibits and

shows the couple plans to feature in the space. "Every month we go to New York and actively seek new art. We crate it up and bring it here so people can enjoy it," said Charette, a graduate of the Savannah College of Art & Design and a respected painter in her own right. "We also welcome newcomers and locals in the community. We want this space to be open to everybody." The Metropolis Collective will feature completely new exhibits with fresh themes and new art each month.

Though exhibiting gallery art was the inspiration for the creative duo to open the Metropolis Collective, it is clear that the Mechanicsburg location will offer much more variety than the typical art space. The Collective began holding concerts as part of their recent Sex and Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll exhibit, featuring an unforgettable performance by Damn Kids. "We were conscientious about the noise level so before the show we talked to our neighbors, to make sure that they were comfortable with it," said Reilly. "When we talked to the Mayor, who happens to live next door, and explained who we were and what we were doing he had just two words for us," said Reilly with a grin. "Rock On." Reilly had no problem taking the mayor's advice. As a founding member of the seminal punk rock band The Victims and owner of the label Rickochet Records, Reilly hasn't missed a beat. He is currently working on several shows for the gallery featuring up-and-coming musical talent from Philadelphia. "We want to feel good

about every aspect of what we put in here," said Reilly.

The Metropolis Collective's third series of exhibits kicks off on October 5th with WEEGEE, an exhibit showcasing new works from New York City art icon Rick ProL. Displayed in the Trash Art Gallery, WEEGEE will feature ProL's unique pieces, described as a dichotomy between unsettling yet beautiful, dark yet vibrant, and cartoonish yet brutal. The Cool Cat Show will be on display alongside ProL's work in the Hole in the Wall Gallery. This exhibit will feature local and national artists' broad interpretations of "cool cats"; not necessarily of the feline persuasion either. The Cool Cat Show will coincide with the Metropolis Collective's Scaredy Cat Campaign fundraiser, which will launch on the same evening. All proceeds from the Scaredy Cat Campaign will benefit the local Harrisburg Area Humane Society. "As furry friend lovers with 8 cats we are very excited about the Humane Society fundraiser," said Charette. "We really hope to raise a lot of money for the organization."

Don't miss the opening reception for Rick ProL's WEEGEE and the Hole in the Wall Gallery's Cool Cats Show on Friday, Oct. 5th from 6:00 - 10:00pm. The event is free and open to the public. The Metropolis Collective is located at 17 W. Main Street in downtown Mechanicsburg. For more information, check out MetropolisCollective.com, or be friendly and like their page at [Facebook.com/MetropolisCollective](https://www.facebook.com/MetropolisCollective). Contact the Metropolis Collective via email at info@metropoliscollective.com or by phone at 717.458.8245.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Metropolis Collective founders, Richard Reilly and Danielle Charette.