

Wellspring.

This Spring 2020 issue of FUSION Magazine looks deeply in as our outside has drawn away. In three arresting and beautiful pieces, artists Anong Migwans Beam, Oksana Berda, and Habiba El-Sayed (in conversation with M.C. Baumstark) offer meditation and reflection. Anong, Oksana, and Habiba are all new contributors to *FUSION*. We welcome and thank them. I also pay tribute to artists Ann and Carl Beam, Anong's parents, whose work and spirits join in.

A picture is worth a thousand words. Over the following pages, in "Wellspring," you'll find an image gallery of nine artists and eight works – sculpture, hybrid object, ceramic, photograph, vessel. Leonardo da Vinci once wrote that a poet would be "overcome by sleep and hunger before [being able to] describe with words what a painter can in an instant."¹

This issue also showcases the winners of FUSION's Spotlight for Featured Student Artists: Christy Chor, Clay; and Zihao Xiong, Glass. Breathlessly beautiful, technically accomplished, and engaged deeply in the conversations of our times, it's a pleasure to present such inspired work.

And so, to goodbye. For the past three years, as Director of Magazine, artist Salina Szechtman has championed fresh perspectives and professionalism at *FUSION Magazine* and as a member of the FUSION Board of Directors. I've been so very fortunate to have her as a publishing colleague and literary companion. She has enriched our work on behalf of ceramic, glass and intermedia artists in Ontario and beyond. She also taught me how to make a pinch pot.

Please read her message on p. 5 and know that the Mississauga Potters' Guild is fortunate to have her as their new President. And please welcome artist and Board Member Catharina Goldnau, who takes over from Salina and joins me in creating, with our contributors and designer Derek Chung, a forum for new, old, thoughtful, playful always engaging artists and their work.

May you find your own wellspring as our world turns.

Margot Lettner
Editor

¹ H.W. Janson and Anthony F. Janson, *History of Art*, 6th ed. (New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2001), 613.