If You Can Draw It, You Can Make It

C3 Explores 3D Printing

by Brent Brotine
photos by T. J. Hine, Steve Starr, and David Tanimura

While most C3ers are familiar with 3D images, many obtained their first look at 3D printing in action at our February 12th program. Nearly three dozen members and guests came together at the Firecat Projects studio on Damen to watch how this new technology is changing the way that objects are conceived, designed and produced.

Our presenters were two well-known artists who are pioneers in 3D applications. Tom Burtonwood teaches at Columbia College and the School of the Art Institute, and is a founding member of “The 3D Printer Experience” makerspace in Chicago. He has been the artist in residence at the Chicago Public Library’s downtown Innovation Lab. Holly Holmes teaches at the School of the Art Institute and the Hyde Park Art Center, and is noted for her modular sculptures that mimic cell structures and organic forms. As Tom and Holly’s works were being shown at Firecat, we had a close-up look at both their finished sculptures and the process used to print them. We began the evening watching Dialogues on the New Plastic, a video that interviewed thought leaders in the 3D printing space. Tom then explained which artistic processes lend themselves best to 3D printing, such as model prototypes, portraits, and fashion.

We learned how the future of 3D printing encompasses everything from candy and chocolate to body parts and prosthetics. A three-dimensional CAT scan of an organ could be sent to a 3D printer to produce a model for the surgeon about to operate on the real thing. Tom posed the intriguing thought that the ultimate goal of the 3D community is to produce a self-replicating machine, so that one machine could seed an entire factory or civilization in space.

As the pièce de résistance, Tom and Holly demonstrated the magic behind the process. Using a MakerBot 3D scanner and printer, with MakerWare software running on a MacBook, we watched how scanned 2D photographs of one of the Art Institute lions could be turned into a 3D model online and sent to the printer. We watched how scans are created from objects, and we patiently watched the MakerBot deposit thin plastic layers over and over to replicate the work.

Selected links for more information

learn3dprinting.co (NOT .com) — Tom’s own educational site
thingverse.com — downloadable ready-to-print 3D files from the MakerBot user community
tinkercad.com — the online 3D CAD tool from Autodesk
blender.org — free open source software for 3D content creation
Living a Creative Life

For those of you who are actually reading these columns (Hi, Mom!), I ended the last with a decision to immerse myself back into photography. Creativity not for anyone’s sake but my own.

Being a gear head, I spent some time looking for bargains on eBay—nothing outlandish or even expensive, just what tools I would need to feel digitally equipped instead of challenged. (Back when I was shooting regularly, I carried two 1971 Nikon Fs, with 35mm and 85mm lenses mounted, and an even older F I had modified and mounted with a 21mm true wide angle lens and viewfinder. Never went anywhere without at least one camera, ’cause you just never know.)

And we end up with the snowiest and coldest winter in decades, which I am man enough to say made me wimp out on doing much shooting so far. I did go out on the -15° day in January, just to prove I could, and tested my newly acquired Nikon lens to digital camera adapter. (The shot above is 5 blocks of Southport compressed by using an old manual focus Nikkor 135mm on a micro 4/3 camera. Took 8 shots, then couldn’t feel my fingers.)

Missed some of the cold and snow in early February because I went to Phoenix to visit an old friend. He and I were best buddies through most of boyhood on up until we went our separate ways for college. We stayed in touch, on and off, and I went to his wedding, but he moved about 15 years ago and we lost contact. He recently received a bad prognosis, and was trying to get closure on some of his past relationships.

We actually had a great time together, and quickly recaptured the rapport we had in days long gone by. We were certainly different now, but had shared so many meaningful experiences, that it was easy to fall back into our close friendship.

I had brought along photos I had scanned of our old days working together at the Chicago Academy of Sciences. (For you young’uns or transplants who didn’t get a chance to see the precursor to the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, you missed something amazing.) This journey into the past made my friend realize he hadn’t looked at his old slides in years, and while I was there, he started going through them. We figure it will be about a two week project to review them and decide which ones he wants to digitize and annotate; we both hope that’s two weeks worth of reasons for him to get out of bed in the morning.

It also reminded him that we had started photography there together—learning with the director’s 8x10 Deardorff, then buying our own 35mm SLRs when we had saved up enough money. (He bought a Minolta SRT-101, and I, a Mamiya Sekor 1000 DTL.) He started thinking that maybe he would get a new digital camera, and start taking pictures again.

There’s this whole Art As Therapy movement going on now. In a very condensed version, it’s about how viewing art can be therapeutic. Back in the Victorian and Modern periods, they also had Art As Therapy, but it centered on the therapeutic value inherent in making art, in being creative.

For me, for my reasons, and for my old friend’s for his, that’s the definition I’m banking on. To be creative, to live a creative life, is to really be alive, to be aware of the now. And odd as it may seem, I have C3, in part, to thank for making me remember that.
Upcoming Programs
by George Berlin

The days are getting longer — stretch out your brain and join us for some fun art adventures, too!

Although it’s been a cold and blustery winter, let’s look out on the horizon towards sunny days, remember those?

In May, we’re kickin’ it old school by powering up the wayback machine and bringing some timeless photography techniques into the modern age! We’ll start with digital pinhole photography, one of the oldest forms made new again, followed by some exploration into slit-scan video, another updated classic that uses a simple technique to create amazing results. And then, as the sun drops in the sky, long exposure light painting photography to animate light writing and other cool ways to freshen up your work.

Did I mention it’ll all take place along the lakefront, with us bathed in glorious sunlight? Ahhh.

Then in June, the always spectacular Chicago Creative Coalition Annual Event—not to be missed!

And in July look for the C3 PhotoArt Fest as part of Jeff Fest Art and Music Festival again this year. See you then!

Watch your inbox
May
Timeless photo techniques
June
C3 Annual Event
July
C3 PhotoArt Fest

How to join C3
The easiest access to a C3 membership application is through our website: www.chicagocreative.org/join-c3/. Pay online through PayPal or contact membership@chicagocreative.org for a membership application to fill out and mail with a check to: Chicago Creative Coalition, P.O. Box 578477, Chicago, IL 60657-8477, Attn: Membership Director.

E-mail questions to: C3@ChicagoCreative.org or to the Membership Director: membership@chicagocreative.org

C3 Newsletter Advertising Opportunities
The C3 newsletter is published quarterly from September to July and reaches a wide range of communication arts professionals. B&W ads are accepted in hi-res press-ready pdf format. Contact Cindy McEwen at macindy@aol.com for more information.

Display Advertising

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Classified Advertising

C3 MEMBERS RATES
Free for the first 30 words, 10¢ each additional word.

NON-MEMBERS RATES
$25 for the first 30 words, 25¢ each additional word.

Sponsorship Opportunities
C3 offers both members and non-members an opportunity to place products and services before our membership through two Sponsorship Programs: an Individual Program Sponsor and an Annual Sustaining Sponsor. For more information contact T. J. Hine at tj@hinephoto.com

The C3 Mission
Chicago Creative Coalition enriches, educates and inspires creative lives. We provide the framework for creative collaboration through insightful, educational programming and unique opportunities for networking and creative expression.

2013–14 Board of Directors

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C3 Board meetings are open to all. They’re held the first Tuesday of the month from September–May at 6 pm. Join us.

C3 Newsletter

Print and Mail Services: Marilyn Jones, Consolidated Printing
Newsletter Staff: Brent Botrine, Cindy McEwen, Gerta Sorensen

We welcome editorial submissions (including opinion pieces) that may be of interest to our readers. Send your articles or ideas to Brent Botrine at Chicago Creative Coalition, P.O. Box 578477, Chicago, IL 60657-8477 or e-mail them to him at brent@botrine.com. Please note that we reserve the right to edit or reject any articles submitted to C3. Note that this newsletter does not return unsolicited materials. The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author(s), not those of Chicago Creative Coalition.

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Connect with C3 online

ChicagoCreative.org
A Holiday Party Approved By Gumby

by Brent Brotine
photos by Victor Powell and Cindy McEwen

After years of parties featuring our wicked White Elephant gift exchange, this year was devoted to being good. So the price of admission to the members-only party at T. J. Hine’s studio was not only a dish to share, but also a new educational game or toy for the children living at Lydia Home, the host for C3’s Chicago Artist Month activities.

And since we had the kids on our mind, our after-dinner entertainment was tapping into our inner children by creating a group stop-motion animation. Led by Animator Extraordinaire George Berlin, we all chose items to animate from a collection of animal figures, block letters, buttons, cars, Legos, Play-Doh, and all sorts of other doo-dads. Then frame by frame on a tabletop white background, we created a movie masterpiece, aided by hand-drawn marker background art of flowers blooming, letters forming and fireworks bursting.

Then for all the world to see, we posted the finished movie to the C3 Facebook page. Visit our page at facebook.com/C3chicagoconnect, scroll to December 8 on our timeline, pop enough popcorn to last you through one minute and nineteen seconds, and enjoy the show!

And in case you didn’t get the chance to donate to Lydia Home’s kids, any time is a good time to help this worthy organization. Visit them on the web at lydiahome.org.
C3 members stop a Zipcar® in its tracks

by George Berlin and Stan Kotecki
photos by Stan Kotecki

Chicago Creative Coalition members Stan Kotecki and George Berlin collaborated on a car painting/time-lapse project promoting car-sharing service Zipcar this December.

George was picked to paint all over a Zipcar that was then available for rent all around Chicago for the month. A portion of the proceeds went to After Supper Visions, a project that helps the homeless by giving them cameras to show the world their point of view, exhibiting their photos, and returning all proceeds from sales after costs (70%) back to the artists.

Stan offered to shoot video, still photos, and time-lapse photography of the painting process.

While George jumped around like a jackrabbit, Stan continuously moved cameras and re-framed the shots to catch all the action for the first 8 hours. He used a Nikon D800 for the time lapse, and an iPhone to take stills. Painting the whole car took 16 hours straight, including applying a varnish coat to add a little more longevity in Chicago’s polar vortex!

This was a great promotional video for George, Stan, Zipcar, and of course C3. See it online at: http://youtu.be/1cwJ2DFlxhs

From the Board

by Karen Woodbury

Despite the challenging winter weather, the Chicago Creative Coalition Board of Directors continues to work hard for our membership. Operating under the assumption that the cold and snow can’t last forever, we’ve already entered the planning stage for another Photo Art Fest, a memorable annual meeting in June, and some fun spring programming that will take us outdoors.

At the end of 2013, C3 launched a board internship program. Many of you had the opportunity to meet Lauren McPhillips, our 2013–2014 board intern, at the holiday party. Lauren has a degree in photography and a day job working for an arts/culture-based NPO here in Chicago. Welcome to The Chicago Creative Coalition, Lauren!

As our 2013–2014 intern, Lauren will have the opportunity to work closely with the board on a variety of programming, research, and membership based projects. One of the first things we’ve asked of Lauren is to reach out to C3 members who haven’t taken advantage of member features and benefits on the new website. It’s Lauren’s mission to get everyone’s portfolio enabled and searchable on the website. Don’t hesitate to give her feedback about the experience and/or ask for technical assistance.

Lauren will also be assisting in programming and events, we’re hoping her fresh perspective as a recent college graduate will assist the board in increasing its outreach to students and young professionals. Lots of exciting things on the horizon in 2014!
1 Aware Affair Print Ad
Ad for a fundraising event called “Aware Affair” held a few years ago by the Test Positive Aware Network, an HIV charity.

2 Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence Program Book
The ICHV Lincoln awards is an event that I branded. They focus on gun violence prevention in the state and award selected public figures for excellence.

3 The Night Ministry Logo
I recently re-branded the Night Ministry, a charity that provides health and food services to homeless and needy individuals throughout Chicago.

4 Logo
Spec logo created for the visual identity of the Chicago Urban Trees Initiative, a nonprofit organization whose goal is to plant thousands of trees in city spaces.

5 Home Services Direct Print Advertisement
An ad in Sun City showing quality of kitchen remodeling for HSD.
1. Animator Extraordinaire **George Berlin**, working with Pheta Design Link, created an amazing website walkthrough demo for the CES 2014 debut of the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) Network. It was presented at a live press event streamed worldwide from Las Vegas.

At the “Art in Motion” Opening Night Awards & Celebration in February, **Joey Korom** (below) was honored to receive an award. This fundraiser and juried art exhibition brings the art and philanthropy communities of Chicago together to support the cause of Art Therapy. Participants are selected by The Art Institute of Chicago’s Modern and Contemporary curator from works submitted by hundreds of artists from around the country. Congratulations, Joey!

2. **David Tanimura** reports that his art piece was voted second best in show among emerging artists at Inspiration Corporation’s 2014 fundraising silent auction gala in March, “One Inspired Evening.” The piece that won is titled “Diana.” The piece that won is titled “Diana.” Congratulations, David!

3. **Cindy McEwen** is now selling handmade glass beads and jewelry through Everlasting Fire Studio at 5036 N. Lincoln. This is a glass studio and gallery offering classes and workshops in glass beadmaking, stained glass, chainmaille, jewelry making and other forms of art. Stop by or visit everlastingfirestudio.com.

4. In December, **Jeff London** and **Gerta Sorensen**, along with their son, Evan, headed south to New Orleans for 5 days. In addition to hanging out in the French Quarter, they took in some music at Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro, toured a Creole plantation, and sampled many of the region’s cuisines—from Cajun to Creole. One of the highlights was a tour of Mardi Gras World, where they design and build massive floats for some of the 52 parades held during the two weeks leading up to “Fat Tuesday.”

5. In December, **Stephen Starr** was awarded a Graphic Design USA American Graphic Design Award for the 2011 Dermatology Foundation Annual Report for excellence in design and communication. Congratulations, Stephen!

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**New C3 Members**

**Tamara Laville**
artsdivatl@gmail.com
Name Mary Kay McCaw
Company McCaw Creative
Occupation Creative Consultant and Yoga Instructor!
Current Project Reimagining my business/life
Dream Client People who are smart, fun, love to collaborate, and respect process
Family/Kids/Pets Two “adult” kids, one grandchild, one 70 lb. golden doodle, Alfie
Hobbies/Interests Too many to list: painting, movies, books, spirituality, health and wellness, travel, people!
Three Words that Best Describe Me Brave, fun, curious
Favorite Movies Amelie, Hugo, In the Fold, A Separation…so many, so different
Favorite CD/Recording Artists Joni Mitchell, Arcade Fire, Bob Dylan, Miles Davis, Gene Harris, Bonnie Raitt
Book(s) I’m Reading Right Now 101 Design Methods, Goldfinch, Super Brain
Gadget I Can’t Live Without Sonicare toothbrush
Favorite Web Site Netflix, Flavorwire, NYTimes
I’d Give Anything to Hang Out with Dead: Einstein, Alive: Bono
Prized Possession(s) My 1996 Toyota Camry station wagon, my old house
My Fantasy Is to be Bonnie Raitt
My Inspiration Comes From It all
Favorite Food Thai or Sushi
Favorite Restaurant Itto Sushi
Favorite TV Show Don’t watch “TV”, but Breaking Bad and Sopranos on Netflix
Favorite Radio Station(s)/Air Personalities XRT, Lin Bremer
Places I’ve Traveled China, India, Nepal, Europe, Mexico, all over U.S.
The One Thing Nobody Knows About Me I really am Bonnie Raitt
I Always Find this Funny Pretty much everything my dog does… she’s a living cartoon
Favorite Way to Chill Out Yoga
If I Won the Lottery, I’d Live half the year in Nepal, volunteering, half in Mallorca growing olives and being selfish

C3 Membership Benefits

Programs and seminars for personal and professional development
Social events and outings that strengthen Chicago’s creative community
For-members-only workshops that spark new ideas and promote networking
Member exhibitions that generate awareness, commissions and sales
C3 website showcase that has search engine preference and directs traffic to your own site
Private e-list where members exchange ideas and provide assistance
Quarterly newsletter featuring member success stories and event recaps
Publicity opportunities through the newsletter, website and E-list
Free member classifieds plus discounts on newsletter display ads
Friend of C3 annual award eligibility
Committee and Board appointments that build leadership skills
Mentoring opportunities such as internships and special events
… plus annual membership dues that are among the lowest you’ll find at any professional creative organization.