

UNDERWRITERS

Community Foundation for Muskegon County

Alcoa Foundation

Nichols

Hooker DeJong

Eagle Alloy

Hines Corporation

Annoesjka/Alan Steinman

Jan and Chris Deur

Pat and Patricia Shafer

Peter Gawkowski-GNC Subway

Jackson-Merkey Contractors

The Cheese Lady

Charlie Langeland

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Holiday Inn Muskegon Harbor

The Lakehouse Grille

Muskegon County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Port City Construction

RCP Marketing

Third Street Grill

Verplank Trucking Co.



The Scold, on location at the Muskegon Museum of Art
(detail, top)



- 1 *The Great Spirit*** (Owl; 26-ft. tall)
Muskegon Convention & Visitors Bureau
610 W. Western Ave.
- 2 *The Realist*** (Red-Tailed Hawk; 19-ft. tall)
Lakeshore Museum Center
430 W. Clay Ave.
- 3 *The Scold*** (Crow; 18-ft. tall)
Muskegon Museum of Art
296 W. Webster Ave.
- 4 *The Tourist*** (Victoria Crowned Pigeon; 19-ft. tall)
Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce Muskegon office
380 W. Western Ave.
- 5 *The Tastemaker*** (Falcon; 19-ft. tall)
Muskegon Farmers' Market
242 W. Western Ave.

Avian Avatars

Mythic apparitions consider
the state of the world

by The Myth Makers

Donna Dodson & Andy Moerlein

through April 2016

Downtown Muskegon, Michigan

Presented by

The Muskegon Museum of Art

Avian Avatar, The Tastemaker (detail)
on location at the Muskegon Farmers' Market





The Great Spirit
an Owl

Muskegon Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
6th Street & Western Ave.

A humble leader embraces the strengths and weaknesses of humanity and inspires from a spiritual perspective.

Not all of us can do great things. But we can [each] do small things with great love.

Mother Teresa



The Tourist
a Victoria Crowned Pigeon

Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce Building
3rd Street & Western Ave.

A close relative of the common and often debased pigeon, the Victoria Crowned Pigeon has recently arrived from far away. Like many who are visiting for the first time this lively bird wants to experience it all. The Tourist is prepared to shape culture with its spontaneous taste making and impulsive choices.

Who we are cannot be separated from where we're from.

Malcolm Gladwell



The Realist
a Red-Tailed Hawk

Lakeshore Museum Center
4th Street & Clay Ave.

The most common of raptors, the Red Tail Hawk is a determined competitor. Everyone has a killer instinct, a desire to fly and an ambition to achieve their fifteen minutes of fame.

When it comes to luck, you make your own.

Bruce Springsteen



The Scold
a Crow

Muskegon Museum of Art
2nd Street & Clay Ave.

A raucous chatterbox who dresses in ever chic, uncompromising Artist Black, the Crow is a gregarious gadfly and a peripatetic poet who has an opinion on everything.

I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life...

Henry David Thoreau



The Tastemaker
a Falcon

Muskegon Farmers' Market
Terrace Street & Western Ave.

An uncompromising harbinger of taste, the critic is not a populist. The Falcon is an idealist, a philosopher and an opinionated vocalist with a social vision. The revered place of the falcon in many cultural traditions lends virtue to this sacred avian gathering.

The truth is not for all...but only for those who seek it.

Ayn Rand

AVIAN AVATARS is a collaboration born from a mutual love of the wild by Andy Moerlein and Donna Dodson. Moerlein takes inspiration from events in the natural world that leave visual marks, striking a narrative chord in the artist. Dodson's imagination is sparked by the inherently mysterious but informative nature of birds and other animals.

Although monumental in scale, these ephemeral works are but temporary in nature. Made from natural materials, they are meant to only last three to five years, naturally fading and disappearing while adding a chapter to the life stories of their host communities.

AVIAN AVATARS is presented by the Muskegon Museum of Art. **Plan to join the MMA on September 24, 2015, for a special Meet the Artists reception at 5:30 pm.** Weather permitting, the reception will be preceded by a guided walk around town by the artists to visit all five sculptures.