## TWEAK OF NATURE

## **Betsy Meyer Memorial Exhibition gets** 'Tweaked' at Main Line Art Center

By Joyce E. Santora

The Main Line Art Center in Haverford is featuring the works of three artists in the 11th Annual Betsy Meyer Memorial Exhibition, "Tweak of Nature," which runs through April 21. At a special opening on March 13, artists Seunghwui Koo, Kate Stewart and Tasha Lewis, each of whom received the 2015 Meyer Family Award for Contemporary Art, gave individual talks about their work.

The exhibit, curated by Main Line Art Center Executive Director Amie Potsic, is inspired by "the exhilarating energy of natural and urban environments." According to Potsic, "The artists speak to our collective experience as human beings navigating the elements, the animal kingdom and each other. Manipulating and tweaking our perception of nature and its creatures, they create new beings, surroundings, and



Meyer of Center C Andrea and Gayle, ic of Drexel Hill welcomes the family vening reception. They include her Meyer and Andrew Meyer, and and

realities that surprise, challenge and delight."
Artist Koo, who lives in New York City but is originally from Korea, exhibits sculptures in the form of a pig, which she says is known for good fortune and luck in her home country. While pigs generally represent greed in the U.S.,

she says opposite portrayal gives people the opportunity to choose to look at the animal in a different light and to view them as positive energy rather than neg-

Lewis, a graduate of Swarthmore College who now lives in New York, uses magnetic cyanotype sculp-

magnetic cyanotype sculptures and plexiglass to show "moments of thaw" and "natural specimens breaking out of something solid." She said a two-thirds scale model of her own body with the head of a falcon depicts how the animal is guarding her stomach and intestines from anxiety and in-

Artist Steward, who lives in Philadelphia, exhibits targe-scale custom wall coverings that she says "show catastrophic events having an effect on nature." One exhibit shows the effects on a tornado, complete with lightning bolts breaking through a window and a wind tunnel of chairs and other debris being pulled toward the sky.

"Nature is the binding element between the three artists exhibiting here," Steward explains. "We look at nature in a unique way and of how it is expressed.

My pieces focus on a nobeside her cat on a suitcase bearing the image of the Big Apple. Selling for \$1,900, this acrylic on resin sculpture is one of only five she created. Koo said the pig is a sign of f-good fortune and luck in Korea, her home country.

madic society as imagery after the apocalypse. I am I very interested in the sublime, and have done research on tornado alley and severe weather effects."

The exhibition is presented each spring in memory of Teaching Artist Betsy of forward-thinking artists who push boundaries

with their work. Last year,
the Main Line Art Center
and the Meyer Family expanded the exhibition program to include the Meyer
Family Award for Contemporary Art, which consists
of a solo exhibition and an
award of \$1,000 given to
each selected artist.



Main Line Art Center Board president Tom Rees of Gladwyne attended the opening reception with his wife, Josephine, and Rotarian Tom Hough of Gulph Mills.

Looking over the Members Jamie J Bryn Mawr and Li

shoulders of Main Line Art Center Board Jessar of Wynnewood, Tina Aberant of Inda Gloss of Philadelphia are 24 pieces Seunghwui Koo. The red pig heads are

"New Yorker" biced at \$700 ap



Tasha Lewis' exhibition features magnetic cyanotype sculptures and plexiglass to portray natural specimens breaking out of something solid, like this fox, which is priced at \$2,500.



Philadelphian Kate Steward's exhibition focuses on custom wall coverings that portray catastrophic events having an effect on nature. In the fourth iteration of "Gotterdammerung," which means "Twilight of the God," she includes windows to add energy and movement.



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