

Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery

*Outside in Ohio: A Century of Unexpected Genius*

Curator's Biography

Mark Chepp

Mark Chepp retired as Director Emeritus from the Springfield Museum of Art in December of 2006, after having served as the Museum's Director since 1991. Since January of 2007, he has pursued a career in academia, teaching at Urbana University, where he also directs the University's Miller Center for Visual Arts. He is also active as a studio artist, and recently his paintings have been exhibited at the Canton Museum of Art, Columbus' Keny Galleries, the Ohio State Fair Fine Arts Exhibition, and at the Springfield Museum of Art. His 2010 solo exhibition in Columbus was named one of the year's top ten by the Columbus Dispatch.

As an independent curator, Chepp has organized exhibitions focusing upon his specialty, Folk and Outsider art. Currently, "The Creative Spirit", comprised of selections from his personal collection, and "Outside in Ohio", an exhibition of Ohio Outsider art from the past century, are on tour around the state.

Chepp serves on the Boards of the Springfield Museum of Art, the Westcott House Foundation, the Hartman Rock Garden (leading its restoration in 2009), and BlueSky Dayton.