

August 20 through October 22, 2023

Environmental Exposure

Art Influenced by Nature
Glen Ediger
of North Newton, Kansas

Artist Statement

Philosophy - Everything we do leaves an impression. Our actions, whether intended or not, create an effect on our environment and on our relationships.

My art-form is an expression of that effect. It intends to expose both literally and figuratively the effects of our actions, by the creating a patina onto the medium, literally creating an effect on the exposed material. "Art influenced by nature".

Process - I set up a composition, so that over a period of days, weeks, months, to over a year, the ENVIRONMENT, including rain, snow, ice, sun, animals and accumulated debris, create an EXPOSURE on the medium, which may include copper, steel, wood or other flat materials. The aesthetic of the art is actually created by the interaction with nature. I only set up the exposure and - with no manipulation - nature does the rest.

Inspiration - I observed how rusting-junk on top of an old rusted-out car left an impression on the metal. "Could this be an art form?"

Presentation - Consistent with "Everything we do leaves and impress" all frames are made from reclaimed lumber.

Uniqueness - I am not aware of any other artist doing anything like this, I believe it to be completely unique.

My Guidelines:

- 1) Keep it abstract, with frequent illusions to landscapes
- 2) No silhouettes other than circles, lines, found objects, or organics
- 3) Leave exposed outdoors without any manipulation, just let nature make an impression
- 4) Stop the exposure when it looks most interesting
- 5) Lightly remove larger residue, and seal with polyurethane
- 6) Framing is also an important part of the art, frames are always made from reclaimed materials

Biography

Retired Director of Design at Vornado Air for 30 years: Involved in the design, engineering and development of Vornado products since 1985, creating a world-wide product line of consumer products.



At Water's Edge by Glen Ediger

Inventor: Listed as the inventor on over 130 U.S. Patents and many International Patents.

Award 2012: BETHEL COLLEGE - OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS.

Design Consultant: Product in the Chicago Athenaeum Museum permanent collection. 3 pieces of my industrial design work included in a special exhibit at The Art Institute of Chicago. Consultant to many companies, including NASA, Zebco, S/V Tool, Bell Helicopter, Hesston, Dixon Lawnmowers, X-Mark Lawnmowers, Rival, Celebrity Boats, Brahma Toppers, Wescon, and many more.

Author Awards 2013: "Leave No Threshing Stone Unturned" researched, written and designed by Glen. Winner of 2 national awards (IPPY and Good Books), and Kansas Authors Club - History book of the year.

Author 2014: "Hoffnungsaus – A Hopeful View" researched, written, and designed by Glen.

Mennonite Farmer blog on Facebook: Over 500 posts about the history of Mennonite Farmers around the world, "Mennonite Farmer" with over 6,000 followers in 45 countries.

Artist: Created a new art genre called "Environmental Exposure." I set sheets of steel, copper, or wood outdoors with materials setting on top, and expose it to the weather for days, weeks, months or over a year, to create abstract landscapes with the rust, dust and patina.

Land Speed Car Project: Helped design and build the body of the totally hand built car, and crewed for a land speed record attempt at Bonneville in 2017.

Article: Featured in a personal profile in the April 2018 issue of *The Mennonite*, "From farm boy toy-maker to designer-inventor: Glen Ediger creates tools and writes history". Also, many other articles in various periodicals.

Bio: Born on a wheat farm in western Harvey County, and lived in Harvey County my whole life. Education- Buhler High School, Bethel College – BA Art. Married to Karen since 1974, they live in North Newton, Kansas. One son Brandan and two grandsons.

Interests: 1982 Porsche, 2002 V-Rod, 1980 BMW motorcycle, Audi TTS, antiques, art, crosswords, woodworking, travel, history, galleries and museums.

Activities: Frequent guest speaker on "Threshing Stones", "The Art of Engineering", "History of Fans", "Mennonite Ethnic Foods", and "Mennonite History" - Board involvement: Kauffman Museum Board President – German Car Club of Kansas – Carriage Factory Art Gallery - Bethel College Mennonite Church - Antique Fan Collectors Assoc. Museum - Camp Mennoscah - Mennonite Men of the Plains - Regular volunteer at Harvey County Homeless Shelter. Former Bethel College Mennonite Church Club Director for 13 years, youth sponsor, deacon, mentor, and many other committees.



Birger Sandzen
- MEMORIAL GALLERY -

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Gallery Hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.