



P. BUCKLEY MOSS: ***SOWING SEEDS***

June 2–August 7, 2016
Sherwood Payne Quillen '71 Reception Gallery and
Miles C. Horton Jr. Gallery
Moss Arts Center

MOSS
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SOWING SEEDS:

CULTIVATING CREATIVITY IN THE RURAL LANDSCAPE

Many are familiar with the work of artist P. Buckley Moss, with its distinctive character and subject matter that includes placid landscapes, stark and sinewy trees, spirited and expressive animals, and her stylized renderings of the Amish and Mennonite communities. Dubbed “the People’s Artist,” Moss is a household name, her work sold and shown in over 200 galleries nationwide. While she has enjoyed significant commercial success, the foundation of her work is and always has been an unwavering commitment to art education. Moss, through action and example, is a validation of the transformative power of the arts.

The art of P. Buckley Moss is more than the sum of its parts; it is, for her and those she inspires, a conduit or a doorway. As a child, it was art that provided Moss with a sense of worth and, eventually, purpose. It is through art that she attained not only a career, the Holy Grail of many artists, but self-realization and a means by which to elevate others stifled by adversity or invisibility. It is no coincidence that this exhibition is presented alongside our Young Artists exhibition, *Home*; it is in the spirit of P. Buckley Moss that this year’s youth exhibition was conceived and produced. Both exhibitions explore concepts of creativity and identity in relation to the land and how the rural landscape can inspire, obscure, and define. Together, the two exhibitions suggest both what is needed in terms of education and the arts, especially in rural communities, and what is possible.

On view in this exhibition is a selection of original watercolors and etchings curated from the Moss permanent collection, currently housed in the artist’s former Waynesboro home, which is referred to by the family as “the Barn.” These works were chosen to present a brief survey of Moss’s stylistic approach to landscape, as well as a visual celebration of our connection to the land. Within these pastoral images are glimpses of the comforting constancy of the land, as well as the promise of possibility in the unexplored, the unseen, and the renewed, both before and behind our eyes.

Meggin A. Hicklin
Exhibition Program Manager, Moss Arts Center
Sowing Seeds Exhibition Curator



P. Buckley Moss ▲
Untitled (Landscape)
Watercolor
17 x 17 inches framed
Image courtesy of the artist

My art states in a forthright manner the ancient proposition of the triumph of beauty and truth over injustice. I do not paint the dark side of contemporary existence, for I am dedicated to painting the hope of the future—hope that seeds positive thoughts of love, family, and the beauty of the world. The directness of my own brand of abstract expressionism is deeply informed with a rich cultural, mystical, and religious symbolism that connects with people and lends my work its compositional strength.

As a dyslexic, my art is paradoxically both my refuge and my means of communication. Very early in life, when I failed at everything else in school, my art became my solace. What talent I lacked academically was more than made up for through my art; whereas some people succeed in spite of a disability, I believe I thrive because of mine. Now, with recognition and success, I reach out in my charitable endeavors to help others through my art, especially those with learning differences.

—P. Buckley Moss



◀ P. Buckley Moss
Raven's Roost, 2013
Watercolor
9 1/8 x 10 1/8 inches
Image courtesy of the artist



◀ P. Buckley Moss
Winter's Calm
Watercolor
40 x 40 inches
Image courtesy of the artist



◀ P. Buckley Moss
Blessed Peace, 2007
Watercolor
25 5/8 x 40 inches
Image courtesy of the artist

On cover
P. Buckley Moss
Image of Peace
Original watercolor
30 x 56 inches framed
Image courtesy of the artist



About P. Buckley Moss

Patricia Buckley Moss (b. 1933) began her early life as a seemingly ordinary if not lackluster student in the Richmond Borough of New York City. Unknowingly challenged by dyslexia, Moss struggled academically but demonstrated notable artistic talent. After encouragement from a teacher, Moss began to take her creative endeavors more seriously, as did others. From 1951-1955 she studied fine art and graphic design at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, having received a scholarship for her artistic abilities.

In 1964, Moss moved to Waynesboro, Virginia with her husband and six children. Captivated by the rural landscape and the Amish and Mennonite communities, Moss developed what would become her signature style. After winning her first artistic award in 1967, Moss's creative career gained remarkable momentum and hasn't slowed since. Not content with mere commercial success, Moss has dedicated great effort, time, and resources to supporting the arts, as well as the ideals and communities that continue to inspire her work. Through the P. Buckley Moss Foundation, the P. Buckley Moss Society, and numerous charitable events and contributions, Moss embodies the idea of "paying it forward" and is a staunch advocate for arts education for children of all backgrounds and abilities.

In 2013, Moss was named a fellow of Virginia Tech's outreach programs, and the university's Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement and its new arts center were named in her honor.

For more information on P. Buckley Moss and her philanthropic programs, visit www.pbuckleymoss.com.



Pictured is one of the artist's working studio spaces, this one in the Waynesboro "Barn," though Moss is known to work "everywhere she goes." She remains incredibly prolific, often creating works faster than her family can catalog them.

The framing workroom at the P. Buckley Moss Gallery in Waynesboro, Virginia; I was greeted by a familiar friend (Burruss Hall, Virginia Tech, giclee print)

Works in the exhibition

All works courtesy and collection of the artist, © P. Buckley Moss. Dates of works listed where available.

<i>Appalachian Autumn</i> Watercolor on paper 20 1/2 x 10 inches	<i>Peace in the Valley</i> , 2012 Watercolor 11 1/4 x 22 inches	<i>Trees in Winter</i> Etching 34 1/2 x 28 inches framed
<i>Appalachian Spring</i> Watercolor on board 22 x 11 inches	<i>Raven's Roost</i> , 2013 Watercolor 9 1/8 x 10 1/8 inches	<i>Untitled (Landscape)</i> , 2011 Watercolor on board 5 1/8 x 5 1/16 inches small fraction
<i>Appalachian Summer</i> Watercolor 20 1/2 x 10 1/8 inches	<i>Reflections of Fall</i> Watercolor Approximately 36 x 25 inches framed	<i>Untitled (Landscape)</i> , 2008 Watercolor on paper 5 1/4 x 6 inches
<i>Appalachian Winter</i> Watercolor Approximately 20 1/2 x 10 inches	<i>Secret Hideaway</i> , 2009 Watercolor on paper 8 1/8 x 6 7/8 inches	<i>Untitled (Landscape)</i> Watercolor 31 x 52 inches framed
<i>Blessed Peace</i> , 2007 Watercolor on paper 25 5/8 x 40 inches	<i>Sound of Silence</i> , 2004 Watercolor on paper 6 x 25 1/2 inches	<i>Untitled (Egret)</i> Watercolor on board 40 x 60 inches
<i>Colors of Fall</i> , 2010 Watercolor on board 11 x 12 inches	<i>Summer Haven</i> , 2001 Watercolor on board 12 1/2 x 15 inches	<i>Valley Winter</i> Watercolor 70 x 50 1/2 inches framed
<i>Image of Peace</i> Watercolor 14 3/4 x 41 inches	<i>Summer Reflections</i> , 2009 Watercolor on board 16 5/8 x 14 1/16 inches small fraction	<i>Virgin Dawn</i> Watercolor 55 x 74 1/2 inches framed
<i>Lords of the Valley</i> , 1989 Watercolor 39 x 59 inches	<i>Trail to Humpback Rock</i> , 2014 Watercolor on board 30 x 27 inches framed	<i>Winter's Calm</i> Watercolor 40 x 40 inches

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Rebecca Ghezzi and the Moss family; the P. Buckley Moss galleries of Waynesboro, Virginia and Blacksburg, Virginia; and, of course, Pat Moss.

P. Buckley Moss
Peace in the Valley, 2012
Watercolor
11 ¼ x 22 inches
Image courtesy of the artist



General Information

Admission to galleries and exhibition-related events is free.

Gallery Hours

Tuesday–Friday, 10 AM–6 PM

Saturday–Sunday, 10 AM–4 PM



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www.artscenter.vt.edu



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