

THE COLOR ROOM

Street Art has taken many forms since it began to appear on the streets of New York City during the 1920's and 1930's; Urban Art, Guerrilla Art, Graffiti. By the 1970's a cultural movement had begun and Street Art became a response by young people to their socio-political environment, rebelling against popular culture and mass media reality. Eventually, the Street Art phenomenon gained the attention and respect of the rest of the art world and was soon considered a legitimate form of artistic expression. Today Street Art is represented in galleries around the world, and now at the Monroe Arts Center.

The Color Room is a permanent installation by Madison, WI artist, **Mike LRoy**. The Color Room spans the stairway between the first and second floor, off the Wellington Gallery. The value of the Color Room at MAC lies in the conversations that will surround this work of art. With eleven different languages spoken in and around Green County, MAC appreciates and celebrates our local diversity with this mural. This is a collective piece of art that celebrates individuality and insists on dialogue. It is colorful and vibrant. It is thought provoking and opens our spaces at MAC to new ideas and important conversations.

The Color Room tells our story at MAC, while leaving room for the rest of the story. With this mural, we are sharing our platform, promoting regional talent, and most importantly, opening our hearts and minds to all that MAC can be as an art museum and a community hub where challenging dialogue is welcome.

The Color Room is a permanent installation made possible by; Paul & Sue Barrett, John & Katie Baumann, Dave & Julie Buchanan, Kevin & Chris Callahan, Bob & Wendy Erb, Marc Farmer, Lee & Chris Knuteson, Chuck & Chris Wellington, and Andy & Julie Wilke.