



STATE OF INDIANA

Eric J. Holcomb, *Governor*

Jacob Speer, State Librarian

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY
140 N. Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 232-3675
www.in.gov/library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Indiana State Library acquires Barbara Stahl art collection

Indianapolis – Feb. 5, 2018 - The Indiana State Library is pleased to announce the acquisition of a collection of drawings, paintings, photographic prints and personal papers from notable Indianapolis artist, Barbara Stahl. Owner of Stahl Studios, Inc., Stahl is best-known as the artist who has been painting the Indiana Pacers schedule on the side of Bankers Life Fieldhouse, formerly the Conseco Fieldhouse, in downtown Indianapolis for nearly twenty years.

The collection comprises over four cubic feet of material, including clippings, photographs, undergraduate artwork slides, wax paintings on wood panels, screen and intaglio prints, charcoal drawings and mud paintings Stahl completed in Belize. The acquisition is the first purchase of abstract work created by a female artist for the library's permanent collection. "Being included in this prestigious collection is very special and something I am extremely proud of," Stahl said.

Stahl first contacted the state library in September of 2016. A month later, staff from the library's Rare Books and Manuscripts Division met with Stahl to discuss the possibility of displaying her art in the library's exhibit hall. From April 13 to July 17, 2017, Stahl's large-scale oil painting series, "Skybridge" was on display in the library. Shortly after the well-received fine art exhibit ended, the Indiana State Library Foundation purchased a painting, "Consciousness Rising," from the series to put on permanent display in the library. The purchase sparked the conversations that led to the library acquiring the collection.

The accessioning process has been completed and the collection is now available for patrons to view in the reading room on the second floor of the state library.

A native of Vincennes, Indiana, Stahl moved to Indianapolis in 1992 after receiving her MFA in painting from the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to the painting the Pacers schedule, Stahl also created the commemorative Super Bowl XLVI art project mural, "Morning Magnolias," along the White River Canal.

Read more about the collection acquisition [here](#).

The Indiana State Library is dedicated to serving Indiana residents, leading and supporting the library community and preserving Indiana history.

Photo caption: The Indiana State Library visits Barbara Stahl at Stahl Studios, Inc.

###

Contact: John Wekluk, communications director, Indiana State Library; (317) 753-9766 or jwekluk@library.in.gov