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Lightboxes and People Swatches adorn the Ploch Art Gallery

Brookfield, WI (October 26, 2009) Melanie Kehoss' work combines human interaction and pop art, focusing on the use of decoration to augment memories and assert identity. *Decorario* is on view at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center's **Ploch Art Gallery** from **November 6–December 28**. The Ploch Art Gallery is free and open to the public Monday–Saturday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm.

Kehoss' work begins with drawing from life or imagination, and proceeds with traditional, craft, and digital techniques. The approaches inform each other, adding layers of meaning to simple compositions. Appealing colors, patterns, and light lure viewers, and then challenge them to solve the visual riddles that the pieces present.

In the Lightbox Series, patterns framing the image work like inside-out wallpaper, playing with the use of decoration and design to set a mood. Scenes are illuminated from behind, making the characters or their surroundings literally glow, and creating a voyeuristic viewing experience. Meanwhile, the People Swatching Series connects colors and their names with brief stories. While the series as a whole appears decorative, the openness of the scenarios allows viewers to identify with select pieces.

In the two short years since receiving her Master's degree in Fine Arts from UW-Madison, Kehoss has built an impressive list of exhibitions and projects, which includes spearheading a temporary public art installation with Madison's condemned bus shelters.

An opening reception takes place at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, November 11. The reception is free and open to the public; RSVP by calling (262) 781-9520 or e-mail rsvp@wilson-center.com.

The Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary cultural arts center that offers performances by regional and touring groups, arts education, and an art gallery with changing exhibitions. Wisconsin artists are showcased at the Hidden River Art Festival in September and in the Ploch Art Gallery with five exhibitions each year. **The Wilson Center for the Arts is just minutes west of Milwaukee, nestled in Brookfield's Mitchell Park south of 198th & Capitol Drive. For information about the Wilson Center call (262) 781-9470.**