



**Brinsley Tyrrell**  
Ohio Lands Forever

Cover:  
*The Way beside the Apple  
Tree (detail)*, 2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"

Right:  
*The Wood with Underbrush*,  
2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"

Right, below:  
*Moon over a Frozen Lake*,  
2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"



**Brinsley Tyrrell**  
*Ohio Lands Forever*

Jun 4–Jul 31, 2010

William Busta Gallery  
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Cleveland OH 44115

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## Ohio Lands Forever

In 1975, Brinsley and Lilian Tyrrell moved from Kent, Ohio to rural Freedom Township in Portage County. They had purchased a farmstead—a 19th century farmhouse, a bank barn, a variety of outbuildings and a few acres of land around them. In disrepair when they moved in, they fixed what was necessary, planted trees and a garden, and left a certain amount to grow as it would. They shared their land with dogs, mostly German Shepherds, and walked with them as they ran through their land and the surrounding fields.

In the late 1970s, Brinsley Tyrrell began a series of drawings, in pastel, of his landscape. After 10 years, he set this body of his work aside, to concentrate on sculptural commissions. Twenty years later, when he began to work on a project for the West 117th Street rapid transit station in Cleveland, he conceived of working in glass enamel on steel, and, in preparation, began drawing the landscape again.

In the glass enamels, his arm and wrist moved as when drawing, a memory of a landscape well known—of paths often taken; of fields observed through fallow and planting, harvest and snow cover; and of trees in bud, full leaf and barren. A memory of landscape always in change, through day and night, bright and overcast, winter and summer, traveling though time, and, yet, in an essential way, unchanged.

This is the second exhibition of this body of work. It is different, in a way, as you'd expect. Tyrrell is finding new ways to work with color, testing possibilities of texture and exploring the medium's alternate capacities for reflective planes and deep perspective.

When I first had the privilege to view Brinsley Tyrrell's *Ohio Lands*, I was entranced by their intensity and grace and I was delighted as they transformed the way I am able to see the landscape in which we live. My initial sense of wonder has increased as I realized how exceptional these works are—it is a special gift to a place when it is given the eyes and hand of an artist who has the capability and passion to make it immortal. True, to us urban dwellers, we don't see these landscapes out our dining room windows, but they are there, just beyond our horizon, embracing us.

William Busta



Top to bottom:

*Path To The Backwoods  
With Red Trees*, 2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"

*The Oak Tree in Its Glory*,  
2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"

*The Way beside the Apple  
Tree*, 2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"

*White Sapling at Dusk*, 2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"

# Brinsley Tyrrell

Born 1941, Godstone, England

Resides in Freedom Township, OH

## Education

Camberwill School of Arts and Crafts, The University of London, England; Intermediate Degree in Fine Arts. National Diploma Design.

## Selected Recent Public Art Projects

- 2007 *Ohio Lands Forever*, five glass enamels on steel, 117th St. railway station, Regional Transit Authority, Cleveland, OH.
- 2007 *Cells*, time-based outdoor sculpture, SPACES, Cleveland, OH.
- 2006 *Entrance Gates, Tree of Hope* (collaborations with Steve Jordon, blacksmith); *Buried Dinosaur*. Preston's Hope Playground, Beachwood, OH.
- 2005 *Grinding the Harvest*, wrought iron railing; *Restoring the Land*, wrought iron bicycle rack (collaborations with Steve Jordon, blacksmith). Mill Creek Falls Park, Cleveland, OH.
- 2003 *Coventry Tales*, 59 wrought iron tree guards (collaboration with Steve Jordon), Cleveland Heights, OH. Commissioned by Coventry Merchants Association and ODOT.
- 2003 *Cleveland West Park Police and Firefighters Memorial Walkway* (collaboration with Steve Jordon, blacksmith), Rocky River, OH. Commissioned by the Police and Firefighters Union.
- 2002 *Orchard fence* (collaboration with Steve Jordon), Orchard school, Cleveland, OH. Organized by Cleveland Public Art and Parkworks.
- 2000 *Behind the Brain Plaza* (collaboration with Mike Norman, horticulturist), Beck Memorial Gardens, Kent State University. Commissioned by the Ohio Percent for Art Program.
- 1999 *Butterfly Gates, Fly Gate, Praying Mantis Gate* (collaboration with Steve Jordon), Cleveland Botanical Gardens, Cleveland, OH. Commissioned by Hershey Foundation.
- 1995 *Gates of Great Americans*, Public School 15, New York. Commissioned by New York City Percent for Art Program and New York City School Construction Authority.

*The Side Field with the Yellow Tree*, 2009  
glass enamel on steel;  
36 x 48"

## Selected Exhibitions

- 2008 *Ohio Lands Forever* (one-person), William Busta Gallery, Cleveland, OH
- 2007 *Stacking and Carving* (one-person), Eells Gallery, Blossom Music Center, Cuyahoga Falls, OH.
- 2007 *Public Art*, six wrought iron storytelling panels. Massillon Civic Center. Organized by the Massillon Museum, OH.
- 2005 *NEO Exhibition*, Cleveland Museum of Art, OH.
- 2004 Gallery 138 (one-person), Kent, OH.
- 2001 *Coming of Age*, The Riffe Gallery, Columbus, OH.
- 1996 *Urban Evidence: Contemporary Artists Reveal Cleveland*, the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, and SPACES, OH.

## Selected Awards

- 2002 Lilian and Brinsley Tyrrell, Governor's Award for the Arts in Ohio.
- 1992 Ohio Arts Council Fellowship (also 1991, 1981, 1978).
- 1989 The Cleveland Museum of Art, May Show, The Sculpture Award (also 1988).

## Professional

- 1968–96 Professor of Art, Kent State University School of Art, OH

