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The sophisticated yet somehow childlike illustrations of JULIETTE BORDA [“America XL”] have charmed viewers around the world. Her bright, opaque colors come from gouache paints. Borda’s work has appeared at the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Society of Illustrators Museum, in magazines ranging from Time to Playboy, and on book jackets for W.W. Norton. Although living in Brooklyn keeps her close to the action, there’s a lot she misses from her years living in Pittsburgh and studying art at Carnegie Mellon University. For starters, she says, Central Park doesn’t hold a candle to Frick.

Photographer CHARLEE BRODSKY [cover, “Ghost Body”] spent four years photographing Stephanie Byram’s battle with breast cancer and then published the book, Knowing Stephanie, last year. The late Byram once said that their work together had allowed her to see her own body as beautiful rather than maimed. This power of photography to change lives and alter perception continues to amaze and motivate Brodsky, a professor in the School of Design at Carnegie Mellon. She says her recent project with bariatric surgery patient Sally Stewart demonstrates that photography can also be an outlet for deep-seated emotions.

Originally from Louisiana, writer JESSICA MESMAN [“Ghost Body”] was attracted to Pittsburgh because of the Andy Warhol Museum (she has been fascinated by the artist for years) and Pitt’s writing program. Three years later, she has her Pitt MFA in writing and a budding career as a freelancer. In addition to assignments for Pitt Med and magazines like Elle, Mesman is managing editor of the literary journal Creative Nonfiction.

COVER
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