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RITIMES Vol. 25 No. 9

# "Truth" & Other Nonsense in Musical Analysis-1

# **By FRANK BEHRENS**

TO ME, THIS is what George Gershwin's "Second Prelude" is all about. A lonely man is sitting despondent in a seedy hotel room. Outside the window, the marquee is blinking in rhythm to the bass notes, while the slightly less regular patter of light rain hits the a certain expression that seems panes. This reflects the deep feeling of isolation that Gershwin felt at the time he composed this short masterpiece. But more than that, it reflects the loneliness of modern man in general and therefore expresses a profound truth.

And if you buy that, I have a bridge in Brooklyn I can sell you cheap!

The key words in that "analysis" are the first two: "To me." I have brought to my writing all the baggage of my past life. I am seldom in a hotel room—more motels than hotels on my budget-and I never really enjoy being in one. Nothing in it is mine; it is impersonal. Usually, I am with my wife, but in the past I have spent some time alone in such rooms and feeling lonely is easy to do unless one has the resources (and personality) to find some congenial company.

So it should not be surprising that the opening notes in the bass of the "Second Prelude" (which are a homage to Chopin, by the way) should conjure up those particular images. Couple that with what I know about Gershwin being a city person, never married, loving to play in front of large crowds, but renting hotel rooms--while a party was still in progress in his brother Ira's apartments--in order to concentrate on his work—and we have a believable scenario for the piece.

Now any honest writer should have written "might be all about"

at the end of the first sentence. However, I have read and heard too many analyses where the only mode is the declarative one and the analyst presents no alternative perspectives on the piece.

I now turn ashen with rage at to crop up in musical analyses: "a profound truth." How the dickens a piece of music can be true or false-profoundly or otherwise-is a matter for philosophers and semanticists: the former of which use words with little or no actual meaning and the latter of which point out why they have little or no meaning.

For example, the words "Empire State Building" or "Arch of Triumph" will conjure up in the mind a very specific object that occupies space and can be perceived by at least three of the five senses. The word "dog" might conjure up a specific dog or a sort of fuzzy image of a four-footed mammal with canine characteristics. Seeing a specific dog will conjure up the word "dog," "chien," "Hund," or whatever, depending on the language that is wired into one's brain.

A politician uses "country" with an even fuzzier referent. "He is serving his country" is a good example. Is the "country" the mountains and the prairies between the oceans white with foam on the east and west, and Mexico and Canada on the north and south? Does it include the animal life in those diverse ecologies? Is the "country" the people living in it? Is it the government (another fuzzy word) or the desires of the top brass in that government? Is it any or all of the above? And so on.

The next horrible example of a

semantically fuzzy noun is an abstract quality like "peace' or "beauty" or (heaven help us) "truth." When John Keats wrote, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty," he not only gave "a profound truth" to millions of English majors to discuss in class and about which to write essays but a phrase that has no meaning whatsoever in any objective sense. Yes, we "sort of" know what he meant; but is that kind of knowledge enough to start a war or establish a cult or even engage in a debate about its "meaning"?

The first time I ran up against a narrator solemnly stating that a single chord in some modern bit of music (which I found grating at best) expressed "a profound truth," I remember groaning and nearly giving up on the entire 7-DVD series that was titled "Leaving Home: Orchestral Music in the 20th Century."\* It was more than a groan that greeted that same phrase on a CD in which a well known personality first conducts and then analyzes a 69-minute symphony. During the analysis, he claims towards the end of the disc that the entire work has expressed "a profound truth" about man's despair and eventual salvation.



May 2009

I will go into more detail about this recording in my next essay. In the meanwhile, I must admit to feeling a little better about my concept of the Gershwin work. Maybe it does express a truth, shallow or profound, that is yet to be determined.

(See Center)

No matter what, it should be a lot of fun de-punditing the pundits in these essays about musical analysis.

\*The narrator is conductor Simon Rattle. The set is on ArtHaus DVDs.

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# Letters

### To the Publisher:

Let me thank you again for the wonderful opportunity to place an ad in *ART TIMES* [April 2009]. It looked good, and I've already seen a slight bump in visits to my web site.

You're doing a wonderful job with *ART TIMES*. I hope it continues to have a long, productive life — in spite of our current hard times.

Best wishes. Beth Kurtz, NYC, NY

### To the Publisher:

Almighty knew what he was doing when he called you to the creation of *ART TIMES*. In 25 years, you not only succeeded in producing a great paper to read but also a source of valuable information, exchange, and insights into the creative process. Above it all, *ART TIMES* is a "home" for diverse artists where they can communicate, know each other, not necessarily in person, but rather via the rich cultural "milieu" you are providing in every publication. Great achievement for one person. So, congratulations to the Silver Anniversa-

ry and "Long Live *ART TIMES*. **Olga Spencer, PhD** 

Southport, CT

# To the Editor:

Thank you so much for your wonderful cover story featuring "Life", artist Sam Rein's Solo Exhibition at Poughkeepsie's Barrett Art Center, which appeared in the January/February [2009] issue of *ART TIMES*. Your favorable description of Mr. Rein's unique talent and versatility was absolutely "right on".

# Peeks and Piques!

OF THE MANY rewards that come with being an artwriter, not the least is the number of extraordinary people I have met during that time. Not that I hadn't met interesting people in my earlier life — what I usually call my 'hard hat' years, during my first 30+ years when I worked as a laborer, truck driver and barge captain among other non-collegiate-type jobs from Florida's Everglades to Canada's Hudson Bay in the Arctic - but these were, by and large, people of and in the world, practical sorts that worked hard and had no time for what many of them called 'nonsense'. Back then, I had grown up in a world with no books, no visits to museums, no sense of 'culture' beyond the ethnic culture common to my people and station in life. A second-generation descendant of Germanic ancestors, my family life was one of rules, no frills, simple foods, no heavy emphasis on learning for its own sake, but much on learning a trade and becoming 'useful' to society. The people I grew up with and worked alongside of were usually called 'decent', 'hard-working', 'patriotic', 'sensible'. It was more than mere 'culture-shock' then, when I opted to enter college after five years of active service in the US Army, discovered the world of books, and decided to focus on literature, art, writing, and philosophy — a world that pretty well covered the whole gamut of aforementioned 'nonsense' as defined by those in my past. After a fourteen-year stint as a teacher at the junior high, high school, and community college levels, I turned to art — and artists — mostly because I had the notion that it was a path toward a higher sense of self and a deeper sense of humanity. I couldn't have strayed farther from my roots — and yet it was just such straying that opened the door to those 'extraordinary' people I mention in my opening sentence. For the past thirty years or so - and especially during the last twenty-five years after our founding of ART TIMES – I've met so many exceptional personalities that have opened my eyes and enriched my soul that I feel more than just privileged — I feel blessed. I cannot catalogue here the well over 500 American, European and Asian artists - painters, vocalists, sculptors, musicians, actors, composers, dancers — I've reviewed, profiled, or critiqued over the years\*, but they all continue to feed my soul, inform my mind, expand my horizons. I attempted to pay them homage in my recently-published novel The Moun*tain* — an attempt to bring to life the evolution of a creative mind in a world that often could care less — and can only hope that I have done justice to the many who helped to write that book. And, since so many have themselves come from 'hard-hat' families

and backgrounds, I also tried to pay homage to those 'decent', 'hard-working', 'patriotic', and 'sensible' men and women in the same book. The Mountain's main character, Jacob ("Jake") Forscher, is himself a working man, a carpenter who 'follows the rules', also an offspring of hard-working immigrants (like just about everyone else in America) — yet a man who aspires to find more in life, a man who aspires to be an artist. No, Jake's story is not my story — (though parallels, of course exist - when Flaubert was asked who Madame Bovary was, he answered, "C'est moi!" -so, of course there's some of me in the book) he, like most of the characters in The Mountain, is an amalgamation of the many, many workmen and artists that I have met over the years, albeit just one of the many who were lucky enough to discover that they were more than mere creatures meant to simply survive their life-spans. Yet, here's the kicker — just nearing my 76<sup>th</sup> birthday, I finally realize that just about everyone I've met during my life deserves the description of 'extraordinary' — it just takes some of us a bit longer to stumble onto that truth.

\*You can meet — and read about — these extraordinary people by visiting either www.arttimesjournal.com or www.raymondjsteiner.com.

Raymond J. Steiner

A traditionalist with a "twist", Mr. Rein's thoughtful renderings of the human figure have been admired and studied by the many artists and students who have frequented the BAC Open Session classes that Sam monitored for many years. Sam's positive influence on his fellow artists in the Hudson Valley is immeasurable and it's been an honor to have his unique work included in many BAC exhibitions. Sam's vibrant palette and thoughtful subject matter of serene figure studies, simple still-life and tranquil landscapes create works that are simultaneously subtle and colorfully magnificent at the same time.

Your article expressed your admiration of this accomplished artist beautifully. We thank you for your insightful depiction of the man, and his works.

> Respectfully, Laurie Clark Strange BAC Exhibition Director Barrett Art Center Poughkeepsie, NY

#### To the Editor:

What a thrill and great honor to see my poem in print in the January/ February 2009 issue. Thank you so much...

It's always wonderful to read about various local exhibitions, artists and writers. I especially liked the article about Clive Barnes ["Memories of Clive Barnes" by Francine Trevens]. Thank you again for the confidence

and thanks for your consideration. Gilda Kreuter Brick, NJ

Continued on Page 18



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**By JOSEPH P. GRIFFITH** 

# May 2009 ART TIMES page 3 Speak Out Reports of newspapers' death are not exaggerated

AS SOMEONE WHO was recently laid off, for the second time in less than a decade, from a company in a dving industry (newspapers). I've been extremely worried about three things: 1) my personal situation, 2) the industry and 3) the nation.

My situation, as a 50-plus worker in a culture and society that adore youth and pride themselves on kicking older citizens to the curb, is only one of millions of sad stories, so forget me. Newspapers are closing, laying off staff and abandoning print for the Web. Much has been made of the industry's woes, some of them self-created, but newspapers will sort them out somehow. They have to, because as Stephen Colbert has said, if newspapers die, where will they print the obituary?

It's really the country I'm most concerned about.

The so-called democratization of media, fueled by the Internet, has engendered "citizen journalism." The newspaper, a mainstay of communication for a couple of hundred years. is rapidly giving way to the Internet and the blog, in which opinion and hearsay replace research and ac-

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curacy. Piling onto the media is a popular bloodsport; it's kill-the-messenger time. Whatever happened to reasoned discourse, polite disagreement, debate aimed at reaching a solution or at least a consensus, instead of diatribe and personal attacks for their own sake and to gain laughs at the expense of others?

All those bloggers chortling with schadenfreude over the perhaps prematurely reported death of newspapers don't understand the eventual cost to society. Profit drives the industry, and only the strong will survive. With fewer newspapers, the survivors will be free to report the truth, or whatever they want - or not. Journalism today often resembles a circus sideshow, but people seem to forget that John Peter Zenger, Alexander Hamilton, Sinclair Lewis, H.L. Mencken, Jacob Riis, Edward R. Murrow, Woodward and Bernstein and others like them not only informed and enlightened but also, on many occasions, saved the republic. They reported on, and sometimes helped stop, governmental and corporate

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wrongdoing, unjust wars and evil presidencies. Would that we had had their like to stand up to government for the last eight years, and it's terrifying to contemplate a future where that legacy has vanished. "Ignorance is strength," wrote George Orwell.

In a recent interview with Britain's *Guardian* newspaper, writer David Simon, a former crime reporter for the Baltimore Sun and creator of the TV show "The Wire," expressed fear for the future of newspapers and honest government.

"Oh, to be a state or local official in America over the next 10 to 15 years, before somebody figures out the business model," said Simon, "To gambol freely across the wastelands of an American city, as a local politician! It's got to be one of the great dreams in the history of American corruption."

Automation has long been a threat for many American workers. I'm reminded of Marie Dressler's smirking remark to Jean Harlow at the end of "Dinner At Eight," after Harlow has said that machinery will someday

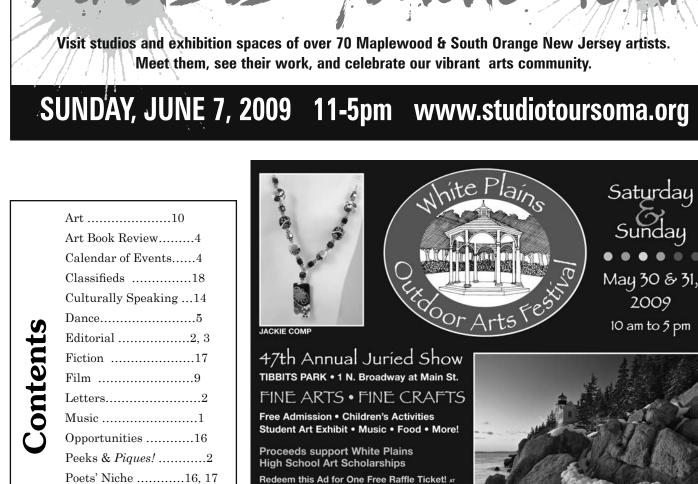
take the place of every profession. Looking over her slinky gown and almost indecent figure, Dressler says, "Oh, my dear, that's something you need never worry about."

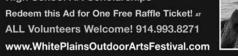
For newspaper workers, the threat is not automation, but outsourcing. Just as the U.S. manufacturing base has disappeared, with workers in Third-World countries performing tasks that used to be done here, local news is being outsourced to places like India. The Pasadena Now Web site has pioneered outsourced journalism, webcamming video of municipal meetings and other local news to India, where reporters write the stories and upload them to the website. They get paid \$10 per 1,000 words, which is basically a raise for them. Design and other functions are also outsourced, and it's catching on with some papers around the country. There are 8 million stories in the Naked City, and they're now being reported by people in another country. This is the future, and the future is now. Or, as USC journalism professor Bryce Nelson told the Associated Press:

"Nobody in their right mind would trust the reporting of people who not only don't know the institutions but aren't even there to witness the events and nuances ... this is a truly sad picture of what American journalism could become."

So what is to be done? Time is running out, if it hasn't already. While newspapers figure out the right business model to stay or become profitable - indeed, to stay alive at all readers will have to understand that the consequences of losing them far outweigh personal biases. Readers will have to make some effort to support newspapers, which may require that the papers become more responsive to criticism and more inclusive. The alternative - the death of newspapers – is unthinkable.

(Joseph P. Griffith is a freelance writer in New York).





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ROBERT RODRIGUEZ JR



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YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS: Dada's Women by Ruth Hemus. 256 pp.; 8 x 10 3/8; 80 Illus., 20 in Color; Notes; Bibliography; Index. \$60.00 Hardcover. \*\*\* The Pictures Generation, 1974-1984 by Douglas Eklund. 352 pp.; 8 5/8 x 10 3/8; 333 Illus., 286 in Color; Notes; Exhibition Checklist; Selected Bibliography; Index. \$60.00 Hardcover. \*\*\*\* National Gallery Technical Bulletin, Volume 29 (Ed.) Ashok Roy. 80 pp. 8 ¼ x 11 ¾; 124 Illus., 107 in Color. \$40.00 Softcover. \*\*\*\*\*

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS: A Force for Change: African American Art and the Julius Rosenwald Fund (Ed.) Daniel Shulman. 192 pp.; 8 ¼ x 11; B/W & Color Illus.; Exhibition Checklist; Appendix. \$39.95 Softcover. \*\*\*\*

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**PRESTEL:** Erotic Sketchbook: Salvador Dali by Norbert Wolf. 64 pp.; 6 ½ x 8 ¾; 35 B/W & Color Illus.; List of Works Illustrated. \$25.00 Hardcover. \*\*\*\*\*

Compiled by Raymond J. Steiner  $\overline{\mathcal{N}}_{\mathcal{O}}$ 



Because our Calendar of Events is prepared a month in advance dates, times and events are subject to change. Please call ahead to insure accuracy. The county (and state if not NYS) where the event takes place is noted in bold at the end of each listing. **Ongoing:** 

Saturdays 6-9pm, DINNER CONCERTS / Sundays 11am-2pm BRUNCH CON-CERTS Cafe Mezzaluna, 626 Route 212, Saugerties, NY (845) 246-5306 Ulster Thru-Jun 14 FUNNY GIRL Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford (914) 592-2222 charge Westchester

May 1, 6-9pm; May 2, 10-4pm SPRING OPEN STUDIOS & GALLERIES Farmington Valley Arts Center, 25 Arts Center Lane, Avon, CT 860-678-1867 CT May 1-10 Fr & Sa 8pm; Su 3pm "OH VIRGIL! A THEATRICAL PORTRAIT"

Woodstock Fringe, Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Sq. S. NYC 845-810-0123 charge **NYC** May 1-17 "BOSTON MARRIAGE" Capital Repertory Theatre, 111 N. Pearl St., Al-

bany, NY (518) 445-SHOW charge Albany May 1-17 Fr & Sa 8pm; Sun 3pm "THE SHAWL" and "WILDWOOD PARK" Nyack Village Theatre, 94 Main St., Nyack, NY (845) 367-1423 charge Rockland

May 1-3, 8-10, 15-17 Fri & Sat 8pm; Sun 3pm "HOTEL BALTIMORE" Albany Civic Theater, 235 2nd Ave., Albany, NY (518) 462-1297 charge Albany

May 1-3 "SOLAS AN LAE" May 8-17 "PSYCHO BEACH PARTY" May 22-24 MYS-**TERIOUS FORCES; may 29-30 "THE FANTASTICKS"** Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck, NY (845) 876-6470 www.centerforperformingarts.org Dutchess

May 1-3 SPRING CRAFTS AT LYNDHURST Artrider, Lyndhurst Estate, Route 9, Tarrytown, NY (914) 631-4481 10am-5pm; Sat 10-6pm; Sun 10-5pm charge www.craftsatlyndhurst.com Westchester

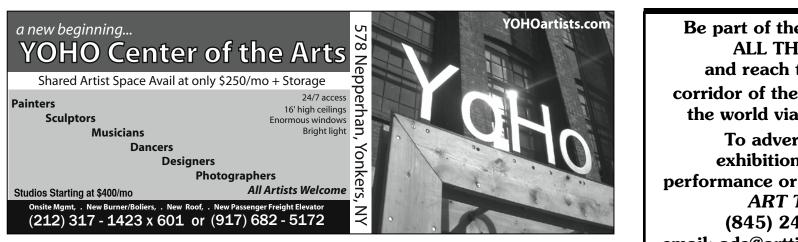
May 1,2,8,9 8pm; May 3, 3pm "BROKEN GLASS" Valatie Community Theatre, 3031 Main St., Valatie NY 866-811-4111 Columbia

May 9, 10, 16,17 11am-5pm ELEPHANT'S EYE BUCKS COUNTY ARTISTS STU-DIO TOUR Various Galleries in Bucks County, PA (215) 340-0964 www.elephantseye tour.org PA

May 14-Jun 7 "DINNER WITH FRIENDS" The Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Road, Croton Falls, NY (914) 277-8477 www.schoolhousegalleries.com Westchester May 16 & 17 24th ANNUAL FLEMINGTON SPRING CRAFTS FESTIVAL Craftproducers, Hunterdon County Fairgrounds, Rte 179, Ringoes NJ Hunterdon, NJ

MAY 23-25 SPRING CRAFT AND FINE ART FAIR Nassau County Museum of Art, One Museum Drive, Roslvn Harbor, NY (516) 484-9337 charge Nassau

May 29-June 14, Fri-Sat at 8pm; sun at 3pm "THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MAROGILDS" Cocoon Theatre, 6384 Mill St. (Rt. 9), Rhinebeck, NY (845) 876-6470 charge www.cocoontheatre.org Dutchess May 30 & 31 28th ANNUAL FADIRONDACK ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR Craftproducers, Washington County Fairgrounds, Rte 29, Greenwich, NY Saratoga Springs Continued on Page 6



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# **Dance** A Contented Choreographer Who Has Arrived and an Up-and-Coming One

# By FRANCINE L. TREVENS

DESPITE THE CONCEPT of creative people being tormented by demons, always struggling with an image they cannot quite capture, an idea that never comes fully alive, there are exceptions to the rule. One such exception is none other than Mark Morris who recently choreographed L'isola disabitata (Desert Island) which, as a Gotham Chamber Opera presentation, had its New York City stage premiere at the Gerald W. Lynch Theater at John Jay College in February, in honor of the bicentennial of the death of its composer, Joseph Haydn.

Another choreographer, half his age, who set off in a different dance direction is Joe Barros. Though both are from the West Coast, their backgrounds and the dance fields they entered are worlds apart. Mr. Morris has his own dance company, Mark Morris Dance Group. Mr. Barros his own theatre company, New York Theatre Barn.

the recent run, and along with others on the creative team, is hoping to move the work to Broadway. "The piece grows a little bit each time and it was exciting to see the show finally come to life."

Mr. Barros, while happy is far from content. His ambition is still



Leandra Ramm, Daniele Ryan, Carina Scott, Lauren Kampf, Aimee L. Corley, and Gabriele Vissar washing the clothes and scrubbing the floors in the opening number, "Welcome to Hell's Kitchen"

The entertaining *Hell's Kitchen Musical*, which Joe choreographed at Hudson Guild in Manhattan closed in March. He'd worked on this through its earliest incarnations to flaming, and his "ultimate dream is to be doing what I'm doing now as a director, choreographer and producer on an even grander level."

When asked how they started on a

new choreographic task – say *L'isola disabitata* for Mr. Morris, does he begin with the music, a preconceived image, the strengths of the dancers for whom he is choreographing, the mood of the piece, or what? Mr. Morris replied "*L'Isola* is not a dance, it is an opera. I found the singers to be unusually well prepared and willing. It was a delight.

'In every piece I work on I begin with the music. My job is fuelled by music. That's why I choreograph and that's why I am involved in opera"

Asked a similar question about choreographing, Mr. Barros rejoined, "It all begins with storytelling. After living with the music and text for some time, I begin my prep work with research and experimentation. It's best to have great storytellers, but I have worked with actors who have various levels of dance training. I arrive in rehearsal with my concept (in collaboration with the other members of the creative team) and it evolves from there."

I was aware Mark Morris had wanted to be a choreographer since he was a kid in Seattle. He is a lucky, as well as contented man, for how many of us grow up to be what we dreamt of as kids? His dream then was "To make up dances."

Joe Barros, who grew up in Pacifica, California, recalls "I always had this incredible need to create and share it with others. I never thought 'I want to be a director'...or 'I want to be a choreographer'...or 'I want to produce on Broadway'... eventually... it all just fell into place. I acted, I sang, I danced and then I began to make things happen. From those small projects in my living room and the school yard came larger projects. The first show I really produced was William Finn's *Falsettos*. I was in high school."

How many of us have reached our ultimate creative goal by our middle years? Mr. Morris's response to my question about a dream he would still hope to achieve was, "World peace comes to mind. Other than that, I'm doing what I love and what I want."

He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1980, and has since created more than 120 works for the company. He is very pleased with "The Mark Morris Dance Center, our home in Fort Greene, Brooklyn, was opened in September, 2001. It is the most wonderful place imaginable: My company, a flourishing school, community classes, a real destination."

Barros said his biggest challenge to date was, "My theatre company: New York Theatre Barn, a non-Continued on Page 7



Katharine Cosenza Butler Coastal Reflections: Recent Paintings and Etchings

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The Mark Morris Dancers in Romeo and Juliet On Motifs of Shakespeare (photo by Gene Schiavone)

Calendar

Continued from Page 4

Friday, May 1

(1909": Exhibition Wilderstein Historic Site, 330 Morton Rd., Rhinebeck, NY (845) 876-4818~(thru October) www.wildersein.org Dutchess1st FRIDAY IN ALBANY Lark Street and Central Ave District art exhibit openings 5-7pm Albany

2009 ANNUAL MEMBERS SHOW Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2079 Opening Reception 5-7pm (thru Jun 7) www.woodstockguild.org Ulster

2009 BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS Exhibit Opalka Gallery at Sage Colleges, 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany, NY (518) 292-7742 Opening Reception 5-9pm (thru Jul 24) Albany

30th SEASON Woodstock Chamber Orchestra, Bard College, Olin Hall, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY (845) 246-7045 charge Dutchess

3rd ANNUAL SMALL WORKS SHOW "The Perfect Ten" Catskill Artists Gallery, 38 So. Main St., Liberty, NY (845) 292-0310 (thru May 17) Greene

400th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF MANHATTAN Salmagundi Club, Fraunces Tavern Museum, 54 Pearl Street, NYC (212) 968-1776 (thru Jul 31) www. salmagundi.org NYC

AMERICAN AUTHORS IN THE 19th CENTURY (thru Aug 31) and THE ART OF ROBERT SCULLY (thru May 31) Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum, 94 Broad way, Newburgh, NY (845) 569-4997 (thru Aug 31) www.karpeles.com Orange

AMERICAN MASTER'S: Exhibition & Sale Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 255-7740 (thru May 7) www.salmagundi.org www.salmagundi.org NYC

AT THIS MOMENT, SHE...Group Show Pierro Gallery, Village Hall, 101 South Orange Ave., South Orange, NJ (973) 378-7754 (thru May 10) Essex

AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL DREAMING Hopper House Art Center, 82 N. Broadway, Nyack, NY (845) 358-0774 (thru Jun 8) Rockland

BENJAMIN HODDER Exhibit Romaine Brooks Gallery, 332 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 12210 (518) 462-6138 x 15 (thru May 31)) www.romainebrooksgallery.30art.com Albany

CENTRAL NY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY EXHIBIT The Arkell Museum, 2 Erie Blvd., Canajohari, NY (518) 673-2314 (thru May 29) www.arkellmuseum.org Montgomery

CLARKSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS and ST. AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL ARTWORK New City Library, 220 North Main St., New City, NY (845) 634-4997 x139 (thru May 30) Rockland

**E-CYCLORAMA** Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd. Purchase, NY (914) 251-6100 (thru Sep 13) **Westchester** 

eba'S 36th ANNIVERSARY SPRING SALON CONCERT Maude Baum and Company Dance Theatre, 351 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 518-465-9916 7pm charge Albany FEMINIST VIDEO ARTISTS Brooklyn Museum, 1st Floor, 200 Eastern Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY (718) 638-5000 (thru Jan 2010) www.brooklynmuseum.org NYC

GAZEN GALLERY Grand Opening Gazen Gallery, 6423 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck, NY (845) 876-4278 Ribbon Cutting at 4pm www.GazenGallery.com Dutchess GLENN DICTEROW: Violinist Eastman Music Center, Hotchkiss School, 11 Interlaken Rd., Lakeville, CT (860) 435-3663 7pm charge Litchfield, CT

JUDITH WELLER & HANS WITSCHI: Class Show Art Students League, The Elizabeth V. Sullivan Gallery, Vytlacil Campus, 241 Kings Highway, Sparkhill, NY (212) 247-4510 Opening Reception: 5-7pm (thru May 27) artstudentsleague.org Rockland KARLEEN DORN: Watercolor East Fishkill Community Library, 348 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY (845) 226-2145 Opening Reception 7pm www.eastfishkilllibrary.org **Dutchess** KATHY ANDERSON: Solo Exhibit National Arts Club Gregg Gallery, 15 Gramercy Park South, NYC (212) 475-3424 Opening Reception April 21 6-8pm (thru May 2) www. kathyandersonstudio.com NYC LANDMARKS OF NY and CAMILO JOSE VERGARA: Harlem 1970-2009 The New York Historical Society 170 Central Park West at West 77th Street, NYC (212) 873-3400 (thru Jul 12) NYC MEMBERS THEME SHOW Garrison Art Center Gallery, 23 Garrison's Landing, NY (845) 424-3960 Opening Reception 6-8pm (thru May 10) Putnam MULTI-MEDIA BY NATALIE MINEWSKI LaBella Bistro, 194 Main St., New Paltz. NY 845-255-2633 (thru May 29) www.labellapizzabistro.com Ulster NANCY COHEN: Perspectives on Salinity: River from Within Katonah Museum

INSPIRED BY ASIA: Works by New York City Students Asia Society, 725 Park

Ave., NYC (212) 327-9271 (thru May 31) www.asiasociety.org NYC

of Art, Route 22 at Jay St., Katonah, NY (914) 232-9555 (thru Jun 29) Westchester PLUGGED: An Alumni Invitational Exhibition Schick Art Gallery, Skidmore College, 815 N B'way, Saratoga Springs, NY (518) 580-5049 (thru Jun 20) Saratoga

QUADRAVIEW: Group Show Bertoni Gallery, 1392 Kings Highway, Sugar Loaf, NY (845) 469-0993 (thru Jun 21) **Orange** 

RANI CARSON: Entwined Roots Prince Street Gallery, 530 West 25th St., NYC (646) 230-0246 (thru May 16) www.rastafari-inspiration.com NYC

ROBIN MCALLISTER, VERONICA SWAIN, SHARON ZWICK exhibit The White Silo Farm & Winery, Rt. 37 E, Sherman, CT (860) 355-0271 Opening Reception 1-3pm (thru May 10 weekends only) Fairfield

RUTH EDWY, Paintings and ALEX KVETON, Sculptures The Union Mills Gallery, 361 Main Street, Catskill, NY (518) 303-4514 (thru June 14) Greene

SPRING BREAK: Group Show Grenning Gallery, 90 Main St., Sag Harbor, NY 631-725-8469 (thru May 17) Suffolk

SPRING JURIED SHOW The Gallery at the Kent Art Association, 21 South St. (RT 7), Kent, CT (860) 927-3989 (thru May 25) www.kentart.com Litchfield, CT STUDENT WORKS Muroff Kotler Gallery, Stone Ridge Campus, SUNY Ulster (845) 687-5113 (thru May 20) **Ulster** 

THREAD THRICE Pomona Cultural Center, 584 Rte. 306, Pomona, NY (845) 362-8062 (thru May 30) Rockland

TIFFANY LAPLACHE: Life in Motion: Paintings by Uniondale Public Library, Uniondale, NY (516) 489-2220 Reception May 17 2-4 pm (thru May 31) Nassau

TOM GARDNER- HERE AND THERE: Exhibit West End Gallery, 12 West Market St., Corning, NY (607) 936-2011 Opening Reception 5-7 pm (thru June 5) www.westendgallery.net Steuben

WORKS IN CLAY / HUDSON RIVER PAINTINGS The Outside In Piermont, 249 Ferdon Ave., Piermont, NY (845) 398-0706 (thru Jun 6) Rockland YOUNG PLAYWRITES FESTIVAL Bardavon Opera House, 35 Market St., Pough-

keepsie, NY (845) 473-5288 7pm charge Dutchess Continued on Page 8



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# **Pastel Society of America**



October Afternoon Elizabeth Mowry

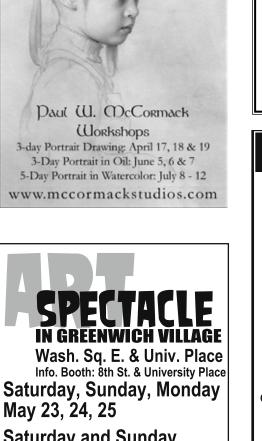
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Or www.pastelsocietyofamerica.org. Info: 212-533-6931 • pastelny@juno.com **Workshop** 

May 17 & 18, 2009 Frank Federico ~ Landscapes



# A Contented Choreographer Who Has Arrived Continued on Page 5 and an Up-and-Coming One

**By FRANCINE L. TREVENS** 

profit theatre company dedicated to the investigation, development and advancement of new works. The company is two years old and I am very pleased with the way things are going thus far." Mr. Barros believes, "Everything is a learning experience. My biggest mistakes have taught me the most."

Mr. Morris feels his biggest professional challenge was the years from 1988-1991 spent in Brussels. "Quite difficult and enormously valuable." He sums them up now. Among the works created during his tenure as Director of Dance at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, the national opera house of Belgium, were three evening-length dances: The Hard Nut; L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato; and Dido and Aeneas. Morris is noted for his musicality and has been described as "undeviating in his devotion to music."

He has won much acclaim and many awards, including eight honorary doctorates to date. In 2006, Morris received the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Mayor's Award for Arts & Culture and a WQXR Gramophone Special Recognition Award. Morris is a member of the American Academy

REENS



The sensational Omar Edwards tapping up a storm, with Chris Farha as Charlie Blue Eyes, the strippers, Alex Perone as Frankie Da Nose and Michael Briatico as Vito. The song is "Just 2 Avenues from Broadway"

of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society. In 2007, he received the Samuel H. Scripps/ American Dance Festival lifetime achievement award. At the top of his game in the classical world of dance, Mark Morris has created seven works for the San Francisco Ballet since 1994 and received commissions from American Ballet Theatre, and the Boston Ballet, among others. He founded, in 1990, with Mickail Baryshnikov, the White Oak Dance Project.

He is fortunate in working with many top names in dance including Lar Lubovitch, Hannah Kahn, Laura Dean and Eliot Feld, and feeling he has never staged a work which was not up to his standards, saying, "If a dance is not up to my standards I won't show it publicly. Most often

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I find very fine dances are underappreciated. Even a bad dance is a lot of work."

Joe Barros has worked with a number of theater people, some dancers some not. He assisted Graziella Danielle on one play, and worked with Tovah Feldshue. His risks are with untried material. Awards have yet to come for him.

What's next for each of them?

The company performs Mark Morris's Romeo & Juliet, On Motifs of Shakespeare at Lincoln Center's Rose Theater May 14 - 17.

For Joe, "May is the second anniversary of my company and I will be producing an evening called Un-titled 3D which will explore the process, product and perspective of three musical theatre writing teams and their three new musicals: *Punk*, Group Therapy and Like You Like It. Also through my company, I am producing a new musical called Hey, You Know What Movie Would Make a Good Musical? It parodies the current state of the Broadway musical."

This amused me, because I found Hell's Kitchen Musical virtually a parody of sixties musicals, which is the era in which it was set. There were shades of Guys and Dolls, Sweet Charity and West Side Story. Joe's dances were very true to the era. While they were basically simple, given the fact that many of his dancers were NOT dancers, they were none the less surprisingly exciting and varied. The number "He's a Ten" sung and danced by two older members of the cast was a show stopper as the two men danced on knees and hands and buttocks across the stage.

"My most vivid influence was the movie *The Wizard of Oz*" said Mr. Barros. "It had all of the elements of a great story and was told well. I think it's the reason I ultimately chose a career in the theatre, or that a career in the theatre chose me! My fourth/fifth grade teacher Mr. Freeman taught me to always exceed expectations."

He certainly exceeded mine, when I went to *Hell's Kitchen Musical* on closing night, and thus I predict that in another 25 years he may be as prominent in the theatrical field in which he handles so many phases, as Mr. Morris is in ballet and opera.

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Calendar Saturday, May 2

1<sup>st</sup> SATURDAY GALLERY STROLL Galleries in Kingston, NY Ulster 30th SEASON Woodstock Chamber Orchestra, Pointe of Praise, 243 Hurley Rd., Kingston, NY (845) 246-7045 8pm charge www.wco-online.com Ulster

ALAN BLAGDEN: Paintings Tremaine Gallery, Hotchkiss School, 11 Interlaken Rd.. Lakeville, CT (860) 435-3663 Reception 4-6pm (thru Jun 14) www.hotchkiss.org/AboutHotchkiss/TremainGallery.asp Litchfield, CT

**ALEXANDER ABAYEV, Violinist and COMPOSERS OF THE FUTURE** Westchester Chamber Orchestra, Iona College, Christopher J. Murphy Auditorium, cor of Summit and North Aves, New Rochelle, NY (914) 654-4926 8pm charge www.westchesterchamberorchestra.org **Westchester** 

**ANNUAL SPRING OPEN HOUSE** The Shirt Factory, cor of Lawrence and Cooper Sts., Glens Falls, NY 10-5pm **Warren** 

**ART & CRAFT SHOW & SALE** Rosehill Music Center, Rosehill Shopping center, Columbus Avenue, Thornwood (914) 747- 2585 4pm- 9pm Sunday May 3rd 11am- 4pm www.rosehillmusic.net **Westchester** 

BARRY DeBAUN / PHILIP LEKKI / BARBARA DE BAUN: Grand Opening Seven 21 Gallery, seven 21 media center, B'way, Kinston, NY (845) 331-1435 Opening Reception 5-8 pm Ulster

**BI-ANNUAL MEMBERS' SHOW** North Country Arts Center, City Hall Gallery, 2nd fl. City Hall Ridge Street, Glens Falls (thru May 30) **Albany** 

**CHRIS SMITHER** Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2079 charge www.woodstockguild.org **Ulster** 

CONSTANCE HORTON Landscapes Columbia Greene Community College, Arts Center Kaaterskill Gallery, 4400 Rte. 23, Hudson (518) 634-2286 (thru Jun 30) Columbia

**DAVE CHANNON: Food For Thought- Art Installation** Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture 630 Bedford Rd., Tarrytown, NY 914-366-6200 1 pm **Westchester eba'S 36th ANNIVERSARY SPRING SALON CONCERT** Maude Baum and Company Dance Theatre, 351 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 518-465-9916 7pm charge www. **Albany** 

**GAGA ARTS FESTIVAL 2009** GAGA Arts Center, 55 West Railroad Ave., Garnerville, NY (845) 947-7108 11am-6pm Open Studios, film, dance, music, food www.gagaartscenter.org **Rockland** 

**GREG MARTIN: Solo Show / HUDSON RIVER Group Show** Tivoli Artists' Co-op, 60 Broadway, Tivoli, NY, (845) 757-2667 (thru May 24) `**Dutchess** 

**INSPIRIT: a dance company** Kaatsbaan International Dance Ctr., 120 Broadway, Tivoli, NY (845) 757-5107 7:30 pm www.kaatsbaan.org **Dutchess** 

**JOYCE KANYUK Exhibition** Piermont Fine Arts Gallery, 218 Ash St., Piermont Landing, Piermont, NY (845) 398-1907 Opening Reception 2-5pm (thru May 17) www. joycekanyuk.com **Rockland** 

KATHY RUTTENBERG: Tonight, Tomorrow & Forever Clay Art Center, 40 Beech St., Port Chester (914) 937-2047 Opening Reception 6-8pm (thru May 23) Westchester KEIRA BOERTZEL-SMITH Exhibit Studio Montclair Block Gallery, Clark House, Montclair State University, 108 Orange Rd., Montclair, NJ (973) 744-1818 Opening Reception: 4-7pm (thru May 31) NJ

**MARGUERITE BRIDE: Seasons of the Berkshires watercolors** Gallery at the Goldsmith, 152 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230 (413) 528- 0013 Artist's Reception May 16 6-8pm (thru May 31) Berkshire, **MA** 

MARLIN ART STUDIOS Gala Art Exhibit & Auction St. John's Church, 365 Strawtown Rd, New City, NY (845) 634-3601 6pm Preview; 7pm Auction charge Rockland NEW JERSEY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW: Exhibit Guild of Creative Art, 620 Broad St., Shrewsbury, NJ (732) 741-1441 Opening Reception May 3 3-5 pm (thru May 27) www.guildofcreativeart.org NJ

**OVER HILL AND DALE: Exhibit** Maplebrook School, Rte 22, Amenia, NY (845) 373-8557 x 246/256 Opening Reception 5-8pm (thru Jun 7) **Dutchess** 

**RIVER VIEWS OF THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL** Thomas Cole National Historic Site, Temple Israel, 218 Spring St., Catskill, NY (518) 943-7465 Opening Reception with speaker John K. Howat at 2pm (thru Oct) **Greene** 

STANLEY BIELEN & CAEY GOLDBERG: Still Lifes The Harrison Gallery, 39 Spring St., Williamstown, MA (413) 458-1700 Opening Reception 5-7pm (thru May 27) MA THE GREAT TULIP SCANDAL Art Society of Kingston (ASK), 97 Broadway, Kingston, NY (845) 338-0331 Opening Reception 5-8pm (thru May 10) Ulster THE TAGHKANIC CHORALE'S SPRING CONCERT Valhalla United Methodist Church, 200 Columbus Ave., Valhalla, NY (914) 962) 4344 8pm charge http://taghkanicchorale.ontimeonline.com Westchester

**TODD SAMARA: Oils** Duck Pond Gallery, Esopus Library, 128 Canal St., Port Ewen, NJ ()338-5580 Opening Reception: 5-8pm (thru May 30) **Ulster** 

**UPPER HUDSON RIVER WATERCOLOR SOCIETY: Color of Spring** bjsartworks Framing Gallery Studio, 71 Lawrence St., Suite 208, The Shirt Factory, Glens Falls, NY (518) 793-9350 Opening Reception 4-6pm (thru Jun 12) www.bjsartworks.com **Warren** 

### Sunday, May 3

**30th SEASON** Woodstock Chamber Orchestra, Bearsville Theatre Rte 212, Bearsville, NY (845) 246-7045 3pm charge www.wco-online.com **Ulster** 

**BLOOMS: Group Show** Rockefeller State Park Preserve Visitor Center, Rt. 117, 1 mile east of Rt. 9, Sleepy Hollow, NY (914) 631-1470 x 11 Opening Reception 1-3:30 pm (thru May 31) Westchester

**"BYE BYE BIRDIE"** Lycian Centre for Performing Arts, Kings Hwy., Sugar Loaf, NY (845) 469-2287 5pm charge kingstheatrecompany.org **Rockland** 

BYRDSONG COMMUNITY CHORUS Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2079 4 PM www.woodstockguild.org Ulster

**CORINNE BARTON & Others: Group Show** Cedarwood Center for the Arts, 4 Fowler St., Port Jervis, NY (845) 856-2307 Opening Reception 2-5pm (thru Jun 2) www. cedarwoodcenter.com **Orange** 

GAGA ARTS FESTIVAL 2009 GAGA Arts Center, 55 West Railroad Ave., Garnerville, NY (845) 947-7108 11am-6pm Open Studios, film, dance, music, food www.gagaartscenter.org Rockland

**GRADUATE ART SHOW AT ESTHER MASSRY GALLERY** Massry Center for the Arts, College of Saint Rose, 1002 Madison Ave., Albany NY (518) 454-5102 Opening Reception 2-5 PM (thru May 8) **Albany** 

**HAITI MARYCARE** The Bean Runner Gallery, 201 S. Division St., Peekskill, NY (914) 737-1701 Opening Reception 2-6pm **Westchester** 

**HELEN SHALFI Exhibit** Finkelstein Memorial Lib., Fielding Room, 24 Chestnut St. & Rte. 59, Spring Valley, NY (845) 352-5700 x 244 Opening Reception 2-4pm (thru May) **Rockland** 

**INSPIRIT: a dance company** Kaatsbaan International Dance Ctr., 120 Broadway, Tivoli, NY (845) 757-5107 2:30 pm www.kaatsbaan.org **Dutchess** 

**JAROMIR FUNKE AND THE AMATEUR AVANT-GARDE: Exhibit** National Gallery of Art, East Bldg, 4th St. at Constitution. Ave. NW, Wash., DC (202) 842-6353 (thru Aug 9) **WDC** 

**JOYCE KANYUK Exhibition** Piermont Fine Arts Gallery, 218 Ash St., Piermont Landing, Piermont, NY (845) 398-1907 Opening Reception 2-5pm (thru May 17) www. joycekanyuk.com **Rockland** 

**JUDITH CHENG, TRACY JACKNOW, JUNE LANIGAN, AND JUDY THUSS** Mural Gallery, Frank W. Cyr Center, West Main St., Stamford, NY Opening Reception 2-4 PM (thru June 30) **Delaware** 

**KAREN J.F, COOPER watercolors** The Oakroom Artist's Gallery, First Unitarian Church, 1221 Wendell Ave., Schenectady, NY Opening Reception: 12-3:pm (thru May 31) **Schenectady** 

MARY SABBATINO: WORKING WITH ARTISTS USING ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIALS / EXHIBITIONS: ORIGINS (thru Jul 26) and KAREN SARGSYAN (thru May 24) Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA), 1701 Main Street, Peekskill, NY (914) 788-0100 4-6pm www.hvcca.org www.hvcca.org Westchester

STUDIO TOUR OF WINTER RESIDENTS Islip Art Museum, Carriage House, 50 Irish Lane, East Islip, NY (631) 224-5402 2-4pm Suffolk THE TACHKANIC CHORALE'S SPRING CONCERT Trinity Episonel Church 7

**THE TAGHKANIC CHORALE'S SPRING CONCERT** Trinity Episcopal Church, 7 South Highland Ave., Ossining, NY (914) 962) 4344 4pm charge http://taghkanicchorale.ontimeonline.com **Westchester** 

WERNER CITTERIO: FINALMENTE- Oils and Watercolors Exhibit Valley Cottage Library, 110 Route 303, Valley Cottage, NY (845) 268-7700 Opening Reception: 1-3pm (thru May 31) Rockland

Continued on Page 12



# **Speak Out**

## is your forum!

ART TIMES seeks your opinions, viewpoints, ideas and complaints on any aspects of the arts. If you have a point to make—no matter how controversial—all we ask is that it be well reasoned and professionally presented. (No advertorials, please). Limit yourself to three (3) double-spaced typewritten pages and send with a SASE to: "Speak Out," ART TIMES, PO Box 730, Mt. Marion, NY 12456-0730. A by-line and tag-line identifying the writer accompanies all "Speak Out" articles.





Friday, May 8 at 7:30 SECOND FRIDAY CAFÉ Slapering Hol Press welcomes poets

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Sunday, May 31 at 4:30 LOCAL JOURNALS & WRITERS Reading featuring local writers appearing in the latest editions of INKWELL and THE WESTCHESTER REVIEW \$5

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# Film What Does Film Tell Us?

# By HENRY P. RALEIGH

IT IS OFTEN said, generally in a casual manner and as if everyone knows this as well as their own names, that societies express themselves through the arts. An American poet once put this another way saying a culture gets from its arts exactly what it deserves, although it's true he didn't like what was going at the time. Of course, we don't believe a culture's art is anything like a newsreel record of itself. After all, a society naturally wants to put the best face on its expression-a little high-minded idealism, something flattering, dress it up as art and there it is for the future to study and admire. We don't imagine for one moment the ancient Greeks really looked like their sculptures nor that Italian ladies of the Renaissance were built along pyramidal lines. You see, all this art was nicely made and certainly told you something about a society that would take the trouble to knock out things that weren't designed to kill you and had no practical use. Well, that's what made them expressive.

Thinking about this a German Philosopher once figured that each stage in social evolution found a medium that best suited its expressive needs — sculpture had its heyday, painting had a good run, next up was architecture, but I think he missed the boat on that one. Film wasn't around in his time; if it had been I'm sure he would have added it to the progression despite claims film wasn't a genuine art. You see, for a long time film was considered little more than a cheap trick. A few in the beginning thought it might be an art if anyone could make the sound and the pictures match up and avoid unnerving tendency of early film to explode into flame. Still, there pioneers were largely laughed at and nothing really got done until in 1927 when the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was founded. It was clear then that anything with the words 'arts' and 'sciences' (note the plurals) in its title was serious stuff, all right, and when the Academy began awarding Oscars for the best picture, films became officially an art bearing all the responsibility for cultural expression that bestows. Later, in 1965, another bunch of learned film lovers formed the American Film Institute which took on the task of rummaging through a hundred years of American films, over 40,000 mind you, to identify those that are the greatest of all the film arts. You can bet there's a lot of cultural expression lurking there.

I'm sure you're asking at this point, "OK, so what's being expressed, wise guy?" For that answer, rather a clue to the answer (look, any discussion about 'expression' can be pretty hairy, even for the best of us). So with nothing else to do I decided it would be worth a shot to look over what Oscar and AFI have been up to. Surely we can come to some insights into how the newest of the arts is handling our thirst for expression.

The first problem we run into is that best picture Oscars and the top twenty-five of AFI's picks rarely agree. I don't know if the people in both camps argue a good deal when the selections are made or just ignore each other in a pet. It does seem strange though so let's stick with the handful of films they do agree on, namely: "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest", "All About Eve", "Bridge on the River Kwai", "Casablanca", "Gone With the Wind", and "Schindler's List". Now where does this leave us? — five war films, a film about a nut house, one on nasty business in the theater, another on even nastier business in labor unions, and one on organized crime. Is this random spread of subjects what we are all about; what does this mean you ask? Well, you just have to find what is in common to these films, deconstruct a bit, I always say, and see what comes up. And, I'm sorry to say it isn't very comforting as anyone can quickly tell. Perhaps a different approach to the expression issue would be more helpful. Isn't it possible that the expressive function of film is to reveal how we grow as a society, expressing us not in the topics but in the natural evolution towards newer states of being?

Let us limit ourselves in this engaging study to just one segment of

film has traced out the changes that have taken place over a period of time right up to the present. As a father who has survived five teenage years, and my own was none too pretty. I can tell you, there is a slice of our society I do know something about. Up until the 1930's there actually weren't any films bout teenagers.

out culture and follow how

Either they hadn't been invented yet or nobody noticed they were around. Towards the end of the decade they quite suddenly appeared in film. They were, for the most part, small adults who sang and danced and said 'Golly' and 'Gee Whiz' and we could be proud of them. The Dead End Kids were an exception but they were isolated social cases and, in any event, they never cursed. A startling change occurred in the filmic expression of teens with "Blackboard Jungle" and "Rebel Without a Cause" both in 1995. Annette Funicello and Sandra Dee and a swarm of Beach films tried hard to thwart this direction and failed. Film expressions of the teen evolution was unstoppable and has wound up in our time with such seminal works as "Porky's", "Superbad", Juno", "Pineapple Express" culminating in my estimation, with the recent 2008 avant-garde "The Nottie and the Hottie" starring the iconic Paris Hilton, a film that Oscar and AFI will pay serious consideration. Here is expressed the full maturity of the teenage culture, its influence and shaping of our society. The difference be-



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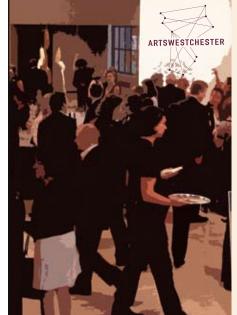
tween teens and adults is indistinguishable; we see in this film that the two have melded splendidly and points the way, I venture to say, to the next phase of our social development — a uniform level of mentality that no twelve year old need feel inferior to. And this, you see, is the expressive role of the artistic avantgarde, to show us what our future is to be.

Well, I think we've learned something about the subtle ways that film art gives expression to what we are. That may be disappointing, I know, but to support our conclusions let me leave you with this quote in EW from a major film distributor commenting on the box office hits of this past year: "America is still depressed, which is why comedies and superhero movies do so well." And you can see why, too. As the poet said, we get what we deserve.



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# By RAYMOND J. STEINER

AS IS TRUE with all serious artists, Betsy Jacaruso never had a choice. All humans, of course, have a creative spark — some believe, in fact, that to be human, to be *homo* sapient, is also to be homo aestheticus, since the evidence of stone markings and carvings appear to be concurrent with the earliest traces of humankind. But it is equally obvious that not all of us develop that spark. Indeed, some even go so far as to flatly deny possessing such a thing — "I can't even draw a straight line!" is a common-enough plaint. Well, none of us can, though it was claimed that Giotto could draw a perfect circle. Be that as it may, the salient point here is that, although we may all possess that spark of creativity, not all of us acknowledge it or develop it - and some, perhaps the majority, even resist or deny it.

In my thirty-plus years of profiling visual artists — and, Betsy Jacaruso is no exception — a recurrent theme seemed to be that "something set them off" in answer to my question as to "why" one pursues an artistic career when, by most accounts, it is universally given such short shrift in a materialistic world. It was almost always stated that some thing, some person, some event, "flipped the switch", so to speak, and it was this that put them on the path of pursuing a career in art. The beginning is often couched in terms of its being some kind of 'epiphany', a kind of 'aha!' that opened the door to inner urgings and secrets that lurked beneath the surface of day-to-day existence. For most, it was a pleasing discovery, one that they fondly recalled and often found excitement in repeating — though not so for Betsy Jacaruso.

Also for most, the initial impetus comes early in life — but, again, not always. My Roman friend, Pier Augusto Breccia, for example,



stumbled upon his propensity for creating images very late in life. For years Rome's eminent heart surgeon, Pier did not discover his artistic side until well after his one-thousandth heart operation, an epiphany precipitated by strange images appearing on his notepad as he idly doodled while sitting in his office at the Catholic University Hospital. Today, no longer working as a surgeon, he is world-renowned as an artist. I attended an opening of his at the Palazzo Venezia last year to which over 3,000 people came from around the world. Conversely, Heinrich J. Jarczyk, although he came to art early in life during his youth in Silesia, had his career as an etcher/painter held up for many years by World War II. He worked as a research scientist until his retirement — at which time he turned his attention to his early



love of art. Today, he also is known both in Europe and America as a master draftsman and painter. Unlike either Breccia or Jarczyk, the American artist Paul Cadmus was an early and steady evolver into full artistic maturity (calling his adolescent forays into artistic expression his "DeKooning Period"), but expe-

riencing no significant hiatus in his artistic flow throughout his career.

For Betsy Jacaruso, the 'awakening' came early; however, unlike so many who have found pleasure in the memory, for her the beginning was shrouded in darkness. Like many early experiences in our lives, those days have been buried in the intervening years of living and growing — and this, perhaps, is as it should be. But, for Jacaruso, they could not be entirely sublimated until she could rid herself of the lingering memories of those early



Betsy Jacaruso Outside Her Studio / Gallery

years. What is important is what Betsy Jacaruso has done with those childhood experiences — and this, as we might expect in an artist,

has been accomplished through her painting. Even the most cursory comparison, for example, between "Trapped", a forbidding image of a glowing, angelic little blonde girl held on the lap and 'embraced' in the arms of a shadowy and sinister man with barely discernible features and many of her color-drenched florals and nature-study paintings of today, loudly proclaim the dramatic shift in her aesthetic focus. Being driven inward in the face of negative cir-

cumstances might have permanently destroyed the psyche of a lesser person — but in the case of Betsy Jacaruso, the experience turned a frightened little girl into the inner magic of another, a more creative and beautiful world — a world that transformed her into a world-class painter.

Still, tapping into that inner spring of creativity is only the first step - a giant one, granted, but only the beginning of realizing one's artistic potential. Once the desire/ need to bring up those hidden treasures grows into necessity, the task of finding proper imagery in which to share it with the world is immanent — and here it is that the true artist is separated from the rest of us for it is the expression (*i.e.* drawing the "straight line") that provides both direction and urgency. The non-artist simply ignores or shouts down the urge to create — the true artist becomes committed. Betsy Jacaruso was absolutely committed.

And she has indeed come a long way — not only from that time I first saw her work in the student show that her teacher, noted watercolorist Linda Novick, held at Company Hill Gallery in Kingston, New York, over a dozen years ago, but from a past that threatened to devour her. The coerced inward journey into herself proved to be not only an escape from being 'trapped', but a clear path beneath the surfaces of things, a slowly-widening avenue into that bright, spiritual core that comprises our creative fount. If Betsy Jacaruso discovered her aesthetic resources, she also discovered a world where the hidden essence of

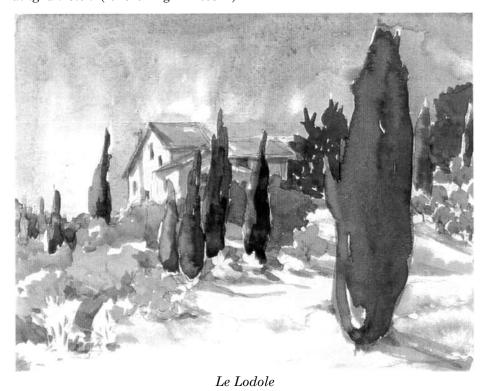


In the Cove



nature was revealed to her. If such beauty could reside in the darkest of places, what might she not find in the world around her? She discovered that it was not merely what we saw — or even what we might experience — but the underlying nature of the phenomenal world - what German aestheticians called das ding an sich ("the thing in itself") sought-after artist and teacher. As passionate in her teaching as she is in her painting, I asked her how she passed along her secrets of finding one's way into the elusive inner self to her students. "I see myself only as a 'facilitator'," she replied. "They must find their own inner sources."

'They' obviously do, since her popularity as a teacher continues to grow. I experienced some of this at first hand — both her relationship with her students and her standing in the arts community — at an opening of her Annual Students Show in April. To begin with, I have attended a great many art receptions in New York State's Hudson Valley and few that I can recall were so well-attended as was her student show. The easy give-and-take — along with the real affection that freely flowed from student to teacher in the face of a public event, showed the genuine solidarity that exists between Betsy Jacaruso and her students, a fact borne out on the walls of her studio (The Betsy Jacaruso Studio & Gallery, an airy, light-filled space in a building called 'The Chocolate Factory' located in Red Hook, New York), since one could easily trace just how influential a teacher she is. Many of her students indeed seemed to be discovering their own inner resources. Where she — and her art — comes from, makes her a seriously determined artist/teacher:



is *here* that the wonder and beauty cess, transforms her into a buoyant, of our world begins.

Once her foot was placed firmly on the path of aesthetic discovery ---and this took years of perfecting her inner and outer - today allows for draftsmanship while closely observing nature both here and abroad — she could now turn to passing on that gift to others. Once she saw what her painting was doing for her, she opened her first workshop in — what could be more appropriate? — a garden center in Rhinebeck, New York, called the "Phantom Gardener". From this tentative leap into the public arena, Betsy Jacaruso has blossomed (a word perhaps also appropriate here) into both a

- that we ought to uncover - for it what she has discovered in the propositive, and caring human being that invites genuine emulation.

Betsy Jacaruso's space -both little evidence of 'phantoms', but rather a world exposed to full light light that is both natural and spiritual — for there is no more fitting description than 'spiritual' for many of her paintings. This is especially evident in her current series of glowing anemones ("Anemones in Yellow", "Anemones III", to name but a couple) though there is as much light and magic in such landscapes as "In the Cove" or "Olana" (among a great many others you



## After the Storm

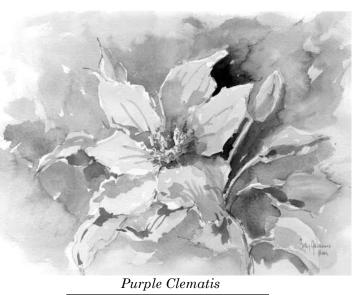
might choose as exemplars) - and even in an untitled, tonal black and white watercolor! Tucked away in a back room of her studio where she took me to browse through a sketchbook or two, we uncovered a few more such drawings and paintings as "Trapped" — and, though bubbly and pert by nature, it is obvious that the pain is still revealed

in her eyes as she is confronted by memories of those early years — but the glorious profusion of colorful florals and landscapes in the *front* room bespeak just how far Betsy Jacaruso has come in her artistic journey.

Today, her paintings garawards, ner honors, exhibi-

tions and patrons across the United States — a reputation that will surely soon extend abroad as her painting excursions to such places as Tuscany and Burgundy expand and continue. Souvenirs of her travels such as "Villa Toscana", a large

watercolor sketch of a sun-filled garden outside a home surrounded by purple hills in the Italian landscape, will deepen in intensity and complexity as she delves under the surface in foreign climes — as she has done here in the landscapes of her home in the Hudson Valley. And, as she continues to uncover the



secrets of a setting sun, a pastoral vista, or a single anemone bloom, so shall she continue to show us all the magic of being.

A full résumé and more of Betsy Jacaruso's work and can be found at www.betsyjacarusostudio.com



Betsy Jacaruso Inside Her Studio / Gallery

Calendar

Continued from Page 8

# Monday, May 4

STUDENT SHOW: Multimedia Academic Arts Bldg., Fine Arts Gallery, Westchester Community College, 75 Grasslands Rd. Valhalla, NY (914) 606-7867 (thru May 9) Westchester

#### Wednesday, May 6

**5th ANNUAL SMALL WORKS SHOW** Mamaroneck Artists Guild, 126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont, NY (914) 834-1117 (thru May 23) **Westchester** 

**FRANZ HEIGEMEIR: Night Visitors** Dutchess Community College, Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery, 53 Pendell Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY (845) 431-8610 Opening Reception 5-6:30pm (thru May 29) **Dutchess** 

**GLASS IN CONTEMPORARY JEWELRY** (thru Sep 20) and THE ART OF INDUS-TRIAL CERAMICS (thru Sep 13) Museum of Arts and Design. 2 Columbus Circle, NYC (212) 299-7713 NYC

**THE MODEL AS MUSE: Embodying Fashion** Metropolitan Museum of Art, 82nd St. & Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 535-7710 charge (thru Aug 9) **NYC** 

### Thursday, May 7

60th ANNUAL ART OF THE NORTHEAST JURIED COMPETITION AND EXHI-BITION Silvermine Galleries, 1037 Silvermine Rd., New Canaan, CT (203) 966-9700 x 20 Reception: 6-8pm (thru Jun 5) www.silvermineart.org Fairfield, CT

**CLAES OLDENBURG: Early Sculpture Drawings** Whitney Museum of American Art, 945 Madison Ave., NYC (212) 570-3633 (thru Aug) **NYC** 

**"PORTRAITS OF THE VALLEY": Open Juried Portrait Photography Show** Farmington Valley Arts Center, 25 Arts Center Lane, Avon, CT 860-678-1867 Opening Reception 4-7 pm (thru May 30) **CT** 

#### Friday, May 8

**EUROPEAN & AMERICAN WATERCOLORS FROM THE PERMANENT COL-LECTION: "Catching Light"** The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY (845) 437-5632 (thru Jul 26) **Dutchess** 

**POETS AMY LEMMON and STEPHANIE STRICKLAND** Slapering Hol Press 2nd Friday Cafe Hudson Valley Writers' Center, Philipse Manor Railroad Station, 300 Riverside Dr., Sleepy Hollow, NY (914) 332-5953 7:30pm charge **Westchester** 

**REGIONAL JURIED EXHIBITION** Cooperstown Art Association, 22 Main St., Cooperstown, NY (607) 547-9777 (thru Jun 5) **Otsego** 

THE TREBEL CHORALIERS w/LOREN BARRIGER: Spring Concert Catskill Reformed Church, Main St., Catskill NY 8pm Greene

WESTCHESTER CONCERT SINGERS Maryknoll Chapel, 55 Ryder Road, Ossining, NY 914-484-1625 8pm Westchester

#### Saturday, May 9

**2nd SATURDAY CELEBRATION** Beacon Arts Community Association, 30 regional art galleries, stores and restaurants, Beacon, NY (845) 838-4243 12-7pm **Dutchess 47th ANNUAL SPRING SHOW** Denise Morris Presents Meet the Artists and Artisans, Milford Green, Broad St., Milford, CT (203) 874-5672 10-5pm **CT** 

**59 X 59 EXHIBITION** GAGA Arts Center, 55 West Railroad Ave., Garnerville, NY (845) 947-7108 Opening Reception (thru Jun 6) www.gagaartscenter.org **Rockland 5th ANNUAL SMALL WORKS OPEN JURIED SHOW** Mamaroneck Artists Guild,

126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont, NY (914) 834-1117 Reception 4-6pm (thru May 23) www.mamaroneckartistsguild Westchester

ACTIVE MEMBERS SHOW; LARRY LAWRENCE Solo Show; CHRISTINE VAR-GA: "Small Works"; PETER SIS through the Red Box, Towbin Wing. Woodstock Artists Assoc Museum, (WAAM), 28 Tinker St., Woodstock (845) 679-2940 Opening Reception 4-6pm (thru Jun 7) www.woodstockart.org Ulster

ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBITION Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts, Rt 28, Blue Mt. Lake, NY (518) 352-7712 (thru Jun 13) Hamilton

ARRIGO BOITO'S Prologue to Mefistofele & PUCCINI'S Messa Di Gloria: Rockland County Choral Society Rockland Community College's Cultural Arts Theater Courtyard, 145 College Rd., Suffern, NY (845) 574-4471 8pm charge Rockland

**ART OF VISION** Society for Art of Imagination / Seed Gallery, 239 Washington St., Newark, NJ 201-319-1504 Opening Reception 2:30-6 pm (thru Jun 13) www.newark-seed.com NJ

AUTHOR FAIR Warner Library, 121 North Broadway, Tarrytown, NY (914) 631-7734 11 AM - 4:30 PM www.warnerlibrary.org Westchester

CHILD OF ILLUSION Vita's Galeries de la Vie, 12 Old Forge Rd., Woodstock, NY (845) 684-5022 Opening Reception 5-9pm (thru Jun 7) Ulster

**ELLEN GOTTLIEB STEELE: "Antelope Canyon" Photographs** Irvington Public Library, 12 South Astor Street, Irvington, NY (914) 591-7840 Opening Reception 2-4pm (thru May 31) **Westchester** 

FRESH: Group Show Ferrin Gallery, 69 Church St., Lenox, MA (413) 637-4414 Opening Reception 4-6pm (thru Jul 5) MA

LAURA MARTINEZ-BIANCO and DENNIS FANTON and ELLEN TRAYER: Paintings Wallkill River School, 232 Ward St., (17k), Montgomery, NY (845) 457-ARTS Opening Reception 5-7pm (thru May 30) Orange

**STUDENT EXHIBITION** Woodstock School of Art, 2470 Route 212, Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2388 Opening Reception 2-4pm (thru Jun 6) www.woodstockschoolofart.org **Ulster** 

WALTER KIMMEL: CITYSCAPES/INNERSCAPES: Photographs Harrison Public Library, Bruce Ave., Harrison, NY (914) 835-0324 Opening Reception 2 pm (thru May 29) Westchester

### Sunday, May 10

**47th ANNUAL SPRING SHOW** Denise Morris Presents Meet the Artists and Artisans, Milford Green, Broad St., Milford, CT (203) 874-5672 10-5pm www.meettheartistsandartisans.com **CT** 

**THEY CALLED ME MAYER JULY** The Jewish Museum, 1109 Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 423-3271 (thru Oct 1) **NYC** 

#### Monday, May 11

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN ARTISTS 120th Celebration Exhibit Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 255-7740 (thru May 29) www.nawanet.org www.salmagundi.org NYC

Wednesday, May 13

LINDA STEIN, SCULPTURE National Association of Women Artists (NAWA) Gallery, 80 Fifth Avenue (@ 14th St.), Suite 1405, New York, NY (212) 675-1616 (thru Jun 19) www.nawanet.org NYC

### Thursday, May 14

**BARBARA GREEN: Perceptive Portraits** Deborah Davis Fine Art, 510 Warren St., Hudson, NY (518) 822-1890 (thru Jun 22) **Columbia DESIGN FOR A LIVING WORLD** Cooper-Hewitt, 2 East 91 St, NYC (212) 849-8420

charge (thru Jan 2010) www.si.edu NYC NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN ARTISTS 1889-2009: A Parallel Pres-

ence National Association of Women Artists UBS Gallery, 1285 Ave of America, NYC (212) 675-1616 (thru Jul 31) www.nawanet.org NYC

SINATRA AND MORE Bardavon Opera House, 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie, NY (845) 473-5288 2pm charge Dutchess

VIDEO ARTISTS IN DIALOGUE Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVC-CA), 1701 Main Street, Peekskill, NY (914) 788-0100 7-10pm www.hvcca.org www.hvcca.org Westchester

#### Friday, May 15

**2009 ALEXANDER RUTSCH AWARD & EXHIBITION FOR PAINTING** Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave, Pelham, NY (914) 738-2525 Opening Reception 6:30-8pm (thru Jun 27) www.pelhamartcenter.org **Westchester** 

**ARTS BASH & OPEN STUDIOS** Westchester Arts Council, The Arts Exchange, 31 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, NY (914) 428-4220 x223 Opening PREVIEW 6-9pm **Westchester** 

**BETSY JACARUSO: Landscape and Botanical Paintings** The Betsy Jacaruso Studio & Gallery, The Chocolate Factory, 54 Elizabeth St., Red Hook, NY (845) 758-9244 (thru Sep 6) www.betsyjacarusostudio.com **Dutchess** 

**FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT Exhibit** Guggenheim Museum, 1071 Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 423-3500 (thru Aug 23) **NYC** 

**OPEN MIKE** Hudson Valley Writers' Center, Philipse Manor Railroad Station, 300 Riverside Dr., Sleepy Hollow, NY (914) 332-5953 8pm charge **Westchester SHAKESPEARE'S CLOWNS** Bardavon Opera House at UPAC, 601 Broadway The-

atre, Kingston, NY (845) 339-6088 (845) 473-2072 7pm charge Ulster Continued on Page 19



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May 2009 ART TIMES page 13 Thoughts on stage nudity

# By ROBERT W. BETHUNE

IF YOU AREN'T emotionally naked when you perform, you aren't acting. And if you are emotionally naked when you perform, why would you need to take off your clothes? What could it possibly add?

Nudity is the ultimate audience distraction device. The dominant visual fact about the nude performer isn't the character, the situation, the relationship, the emotion, the language, the sound or the fury. It's the skin. Possibly titillating, possibly repulsive, possibly intriguing, possibly boring, possibly arousing, possibly deflating, but absolutely, positively, definitely distracting. You are no longer in the moment; you are outside the moment looking in, placed willynilly in the shoes of the voyeur.

If that's what you came for, hey,

whatever floats your boat. If that's to those who offer the tickets to be the effect you're aiming for, go for it! Perhaps a sufficient expanse of skin is the ultimate verfremdungseffekt? Pity Bertolt isn't around to ask.

I've never heard anybody discuss *Oh, Calcutta!* In terms of the music, characters, story, design, direction or theme. Only the skin. Last Tango in Paris has a lot more to offer than Oh, Calcutta!, but still, it's rare to see anything about it other than supposedly ground-breaking the nudity involved. Marlon Brando's skin takes over the whole collective memory of the film. It's more than distracting. It's obliterating. Daniel Radcliffe does Equus. Does anybody care about the play? Heck, no. It's our great chance to see Harry Potter's skin! In all cases, if that's what sold the tickets, than the more power

sold. At least they know what we'll buy, God help us.

But it really underscores the basic knock on nudity. It's not whether it's "tasteful" or not. That's like Churchill's famous remark to the lady who was willing to make love to him for a million pounds, but not for a fiver-"Madam, we've already established what you are, we're merely dickering over the price." Once you've got skin, you've got skin, and you don't have the play any more. It's just about as simple as that.

Not that it's an H-bomb dropped on the audience. Audiences are pretty resilient; you can throw a lot of distraction at them and they'll still find their way back to the play sooner or later. And after a while, it loses its power. It becomes just another

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convention, just another costume, just another part of what's going on. So what good is it? While it's fresh, all it can do is distract. Once it's tired, it can't even do that. It's just like any other design element-by itself, or even in combination, it's good for a very brief effect at best. The core of the thing is always, always, always the ability of the performer, live and in person, to deliver the authentic truth of the character. If that happens, what happens around it is nice, but not necessary; if it doesn't happen, what happens around it is nice, but useless.

So I come back to where I started. If you aren't emotionally naked when you perform, you aren't acting. And if you are emotionally naked when you perform, why would you need to take off your clothes?



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# Culturally Speaking

# By CORNELIA SECKEL I WENT TO see the New York Theatre Ballet perform at Kaatsbaan International Dance Center in **Tivoli**, **NY** where the company had spent a week in residency. The program was a celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of **Agnes de Mille**. I try to get to Kaatsbaan when I can and the performance I chose just worked well into my schedule and I didn't realize that it was the same company that Dawn Lille had written about that appeared on the front page of the April issue until I got my program. Diana Byer, founder and artistic director, was thrilled as were the dancers when we met at the reception following the absolutely delightful performances of some of the origi-

nal dances from *Brigadoon*, *Carousel* 

year to see the work of these fine painters —there is a painting lesson in each picture. I was able to get to the opening reception this year and was pleased to be able to put faces to so many familiar names. There were over 1000 entries and only 10% were accepted. According to the new Executive Director Janine Le Seur, it is harder and harder for the Jury of Selection and the Jury of Awards to make their decisions. The AWS Gold Medal of Honor went to Pat Holscher of Washington, NC; Silver Medal of Honor went to Mary Carlton of Suquamish, WA; Bronze Medal of Honor to Woon Lam Ng of Singapore and the Mary Bryan Memorial Medal went to Alice Warshaw of Lawrenceville, NJ. There were many more cash awards



After the performance of A. de Mille Celebration at Kaatsbaan International Dance Center, Tivoli, NY, Dancers from New York Theatre Ballet's production of "Judgement of Paris" taking the same pose as appeared on the front page of April's ART TIMES and Dawn Lille's piece about this company. (L to R) Diana Byer, Melissa Sadler and Elena Zahlmann

and Oklahoma as well as a number of de Mille's most popular ballets. I remember meeting Agnes de Mille at the Gold Medal Award Dinner in her honor at the National Arts Club. Her response to the award was "It's about time"— and then she elaborated how she felt Dance was the least supported and acknowledged of the arts.

I gave myself some extra time and stopped to see the exhibit at Tivoli Artists Co-op in Tivoli (www.tivoliartistsco-op.com) where I saw "Works on Paper", a group show curated by Karl Volk. Their next group show is "Henry Hudson/Hudson River" and Greg Martin has a solo show. The Tivoli Artists Co-op is an organization of visual artists and performers who have come together to present their work to the public in group and solo exhibits. During the year, there are prose and poetry readings, art classes & workshops, and performances by local musical talent.

The American Watercolor Society held their 142<sup>nd</sup> International Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club in NYC. What an excellent exhibit. It is no wonder why busloads of artists from the region go each and in all totaled \$40,000. Artists are juried to be part of the traveling show that will go to Texas, Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, Florida and Springfield, MA. Take a look at their website for details on the show and traveling schedule: www.americanwatercolorsociety.com

The Quadricentennial Celebrations have begun up and down the Hudson River and in my area, the kick-off party was a preview of what the rest of 2009 has to offer: Restaurants with specialty dinners for \$16.09, Art shows; Tours, Performances, Festivals and generally all the usual events and more geared to mark the 400 years of Dutch History. Learn more at www.Hudson-River400.org

The opening reception of **Betsy** Jacaruso's Students' Exhibit was quite an event. I would guess several hundred people came to see the work, cheer on exhibiting friends and family, and to support the efforts Betsey makes with her students and studio. See Raymond's profile of Betsy in this issue.

I went to Hudson most specifically (something draws me to an area then I explore as much as I have time for) to see "Sacred Ground", an exhibit



(L to R) Dale Myers (Pres. 1993-2002), , Jim McFadden, current President, Janet Walsh (Pres 2002-2008) at the Opening Reception at the Salmagundi Club, NYC of the American Watercolor Society's 142<sup>nd</sup> International Exhibition

by pastel artist Marlene Wiedenbaum at Carrie Haddad Gallery. I have always admired Marlene's work and these luscious and familiar landscapes were dynamite. It is hard to see how the fine detail she gets is done with pastel — but that's why she is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America. Also on view was work by Thomas Locker and **Jeff Briggs**. Carrie has built a

I crossed the Hudson and headed to Catskill to see the premiere of the "Thomas Cole: Painting the American Landscape", a beautiful film that clearly reminded everyone in the audience why we live in the region. The film explored Cole's approach to landscape painting, focusing on the hikes he took for picturesque views. (One of the programs coming up at the site is hikes to some



Deborah Davis Fine Art, Hudson, NY with John Jackson sculptures in foreground

fine reputation as an art dealer who since 1991 has featured contemporary artists of the Hudson Valley and now, since Thanksgiving, has a 2<sup>nd</sup> gallery (photography) in Hudson. See more at http://www.carriehaddadgallery.com I continued down Warren Street stopping at most of the galleries that were open, including the Hudson Opera House to out in our strategic plan, is designed see work by Myron Polenberg; Deborah Davis Fine Art - who has a very large and deep space with a group showing of landscapes in the front gallery, a solo show (Barbara Green in May) in the middle gallery and miscellaneous work in the back gallery; and on to Albert Shahinian Gallery who has a group of excellent painters showing in his Hudson Gallery. Gary Fifer was featured while I was there and a major show of Yale Epstein's work will be up in May.

of those spots to see not only what Cole did but work by contemporary artists). The audience of the community theater was nearly full and this beautifully done documentary was extremely well received. According to Elizabeth Jacks, Executive Director of the Thomas Cole Historic Site: "The film, which was laid to both introduce Cole to a novice visitor and also bring new insights into Cole's creative process for even the most knowledgeable art history scholar." Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the film was directed by Eric Taylor and Jaime Bernanke. Mr. Taylor has written, produced and directed prime-time television documentary programs for CBS, NBC and PBS. Mr. Bernanke is a writer and producer of documentary films. The film will be shown at the site's visitors center beginning on May 2.

After seeing the film I visited several of the galleries in Catskill, NY. **Union Mills** is a complex of buildings undergoing renovation. In the creek-side warehouse 25 loft apartments are being created and in the Main Street buildings, Andrea **Cunliffe** is inviting artists to show their work and musicians to enjoy the great acoustics and will host Book Signings, Dance, Photography, Theatre, Installations and more. This will continue until the building is sold. While at the gallery I saw fabulous sculptures by Alex Kveton and large colorful paintings by Ruth Edwy. www.unionmillsgallery.com · Patrick Milbourn (critiqued by RJS in the June 2006 issue of ARTTIMES — and still available to view on our website) continues to show

**Calcagno** (1913-1993). He studied with **Mark Rothko** and **Ad Reinhardt** and his abstract watercolors and gouaches are intriguing, the kind of work one can spend a long time exploring. Tom & Di-Anne are undertaking the challenge of getting his work back out into the world and what a labor of love, no matter how well known the artist.

**Roos Arts** is a new contemporary art space located on Main Street in **Rosendale, NY**. The inaugural exhibit is a group show titled, "Meet & Cake". Director **Carrie Schapker** said that they are excited to become a part of this wonderful community of creative artists, and hope to present many more readings, performances, artist talks and exhibitions. For more information www.roosarts. com.

Another new venture is the Ga-



in front of one of Patrick's paintings at M Gallery in Catskill, NY

his work at **M Gallery** and is donating a portion of proceeds from paintings sold during this show to the **Thomas Cole House**. Patrick does powerful, often misty landscapes at **Gallery 42** in **Catskill**: see his work at http://www.mgallery-online. com • At Gallery 42, I met **Tom & Di-Anne Gibson** and they gave me a tour of their lovely historic home which also houses a good collection of work by Tom's uncle **Lawrence**  **zen Gallery** on Montgomery Street in **Rhinebeck**, **NY**. Owner **Joel Weisbrod** told me that their goal is to provide an opportunity for every home, business, and institution to begin or add to a collection of art that includes photography, painting, sculpture, and other art mediums; their focus is on contemporary - modern - and abstract art, featuring Rhinebeck and Hudson Valley artists. They hope "that the gallery environment will stimulate visitors to think outside the status quo - develop new ideas while motivating the expression of the individual artist or art lover." www.gazengallery.com

Some news to pass along: The Top 10 places for artists, as named by www. businessweek.com had Los Angeles, CA at the top of the list followed by Santa Fe, NM; Carson City, NV; New York City, NY; Kingston, NY; Oxnard-Thousand Oaks, Ventura, CA; Nashville, TN; Boulder, CO;



Andrea Cunliffe, gallery director and Alex Kveton, sculptor at Union Mills Gallery in Catskill, NY

San Francisco, CA and lastly Nassau-Suffolk Counties, NY. Looks like *ART TIMES* is certainly in 3 out of the 10 places.

ArtsWAVE (Arts in Wawarsing and the Village of Ellenville, NY) is one community's answer to the reduced funds and support for arts. This group has created exhibition space, a community events calendar, an artists' resource directory and has a large building available for rent for art related activities. A good idea for other communities to note. Learn more at www.ellenvilleny.org (click ArtsWave).

Raymond went to see the Silverman Family Show - Elijah Silverman (father), Ruth Silverman (Mother) and **Susan** (daughter) — at the Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum in Newburgh, NY. He was happy to revisit the work of this talented family of artists since he had met and included them all in his book, The Art Students League of New York: A History over ten years ago. He was especially pleased to see a large body of work by Ruth, the 'romantic' in the family, a wall of self- and family portraits by Elijah, the 'serious' artist, and a rather modest (five works) of Susan's, who has inherited a bit of both, showing that she was obviously giving center stage to her parents, the source of her own inspiration. On the way back from Newburgh, Raymond then stopped in at the Mark Gruber Gallery in New Paltz, NY, to see "Telling Tales", a group show that featured Carolou Kristofik, Marie-Louise McHugh and Karen O'Neil. Mark Gruber has shown consistent good-taste in the choice of his exhibited artists and this time was no exception. Kristofik — featured in our pages in April 1999 — is always commanding, her still lifes simply arresting. O'Neil, with her warm view of nature, has once again proven why she is a perennial favorite throughout the Hudson Valley. McHugh was new for him, her work of corn and clowns (the images that hung in his mind) a bit wistful and shivery with an underlying energy that hovered beneath the paint.

That's it for this month. We will have 1 more single month issue (marking the end of our 25<sup>th</sup> year) and will begin publishing every other month with the Jul/Aug issue. Our website continues to grow and surely will have additional essays, calendar and opportunity listings.

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# **Opportunities**

Artists: Oil, Watermedia, Pastel, Graphics, Sculpture: Allied Artists of America. Seeks entries for 96th Annual National Exhibition Nov 13-Dec 1, 2009 at National Arts Club, NYC. SASE to Rhoda Yanow, 19 Springtown Rd., White House Station, NJ 08889 or website for prospectus. www.alliedartistsofamerica. org. Deadline: Sept 14.

Artists: American Artists Professional League, 47 Fifth Ave, NYC 10003. Call for Entries for the 81st Grand National Exhibition, Nov 3 — Nov 13. Send #10 SASE to AAPL. www.americamartistsprofessionalleague.org Slide deadline Aug 8.

**Long Island Artists:** Art League of Long Island, (631) 462-5400 Seeks entries for 53rd Long Island Artists Exhibition Jun 7-Jul 6 Call for or download prospectus. www.artleagueli.net Deadline May 27.

Artists, All Media: Art Omi International Arts Center, 55 Fifth Ave., 15th Fl., New York, NY 10003 (212) 206-6060. Seeks proposals for projects, open to all arts organizations, museums, galleries, collectors, etc. Call, email archtecture@ artomi.com, or go to website for application. artomi55@aol.com www.artomi.org. Ongoing.

**Playwrights:** Arts Society of Kingston Gallery, Kingston, NY 12402 (845) 338-0331 Has opportunities for playwrights to hear and get feedback on work. Phone for info. www.askforarts.org Deadline May 15

Artists, All Media: Artshow, 4388 Wickershire Way, Norcross, GA 30092. Seeks entries for 2009 Art Kudos Int'l Juried Art Competition. Entry form and information online. info@artshow.com. www. artshow.com/artkudos. Deadline Jun 30. Artists: Audubon Artists Art Society Entries for 67th Annual Juried Exhibit, Sept 14-Oct 2, 2009 at the Salmagundi Club, NYC. SASE to Raymond Olivere, 1435 Lexington Ave., #11D, New York, NY 10128 or go to website. www.audubonartists.org Deadline: Digital Entries July 18.

Women Artists: Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, Inc., Seeks entries for the 113th Annual Open Juried Exhibition at the National Arts Club, Oct 1-Oct 23, 2008. SASE: Okki Wang, 431 Woodbury Rd., Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724 or download from website. www.clwac. org. Deadline: Slides or CD by Jul 2.

Artists, Craftspeople: City of Port Jervis, NY (914) 443-6889 (evenings: 570-491-2393 / Tri-State Chamber of Commerce 845-856-2307 and Cedarwood 845-856-2307 Seeks participants for 11th Annual Arts Walk July 18 2009. Call 845-856-2307 for info fees.

Artists, All Media: Cooperstown Art Association, 22 Main Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326. 74th NATIONAL JURIED EXHIBITION July 18-Aug 28. JUROR: Albert Handell. All media. Possible \$3500 in prizes. Catalog. Prospectus: available online or send #10 SASE ATTN: National Exhibition. www.cooperstownart.com Slide and CD deadline: May 15, 2009

**Craftspeople:** Dutchess Community College Foundation Seeking crafters for 38th Annual Holiday Craft Fair, Nov. 28 & Nov 29. For more information call Diane Pollard (845) 431-8403 or visit website. www.sunydutchess.edu/Alumni/ foundationevents/annualCraftFair

Artists: G.A.S. Visual Art & Performance Space, 196 Main St., Poughkeepsie, NY (845) 486-4592 Seeks UFO related work for Jul-Aug exhibition. Contact Joanne Klein at info@joanneklien.org www.galleryandstudio.org

**Photographers:** Glastonbury Abbey, U.K. Seeks photographers that will present the "Spirit of Glastonbury Abbey" Applications may be downloaded from web site. www.glastonburyabbey.com Deadline 9 Sep.

Artists: Harrison Council for the Arts, Harrison Pubic Library, Bruce Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528 (914) 835-0324. Seeks 2-D entries for Juried Art competition sponsored by the Harrison Council for the Arts. Call or write for complete details. Deadline May 15.

Artists: Islip Art Museum, 50 Irish Lane, East Islip, NY (631) 224-5402. Seeks entries for "My Long Island" exhibit Jun 24-Sep 6. Visit website for details. www. islipartmuseum.org. Deadline Jun 3

Artists: Kay Money (973) 663-1558 Seeks Artists, galleries, clubs, art related businesses and Patrons of the arts to be part of a new North Jersey co-op program Details at website. Kay@Swan-Lake-Gallery.com www.Swan-Lake-Gallery.com

Artists: Kent Art Assn., Rt. 7, Kent, CT (860) 927-3989. Seeks entries for KAA President's Show Jul 12-Aug 16. Download prospectus. www.kentart.org. Hand Del: Jul 10, 1-4; Jul 11 10-1pm.

Artists: Kent Art Assn., Rt. 7, Kent, CT (860) 927-3989. Seeks entries for Summer Member Show. Download prospectus at website. www.kentart.org. Hand deliver Sat May 30, 10-2pm.

Artists, All Media: Lark Street Business Improvement District, 245 Lark St., Albany, NY (518)434-3861x2. Seeks applications for "Art on Lark" Albany's Arts Festival Sat Jun 6, 10-5pm Visit website for apps and details. bid@larkstreet.org www.larkstreet.org

Artists: Long Island Museum, 1200 Route 25a, Stony Brook, NY 11790 (631) 751-0066 x214. Seeks participants for 2009 Juried Competition "Works on Paper". Call or email Lisa Unander for submission guidelines. art@longislandmuseum.org www.longislandmuseum.org. Deadline Jul 10

Artists, All Media: Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council (LARAC), 7 Lapham Pl., Glens Falls, NY 12801 (518) 798-1144. Seeks entries for Themed Juried Exhibit "In the Spirit of Degas: Art Inspired by Music' Aug 14-Oct 4. Guidelines, instructions, and applications at website. gallery@larac.org www.laracarts.org. Deadline Aug 1.

Artists: Manhattan Arts. Manhattan Arts International "Celebrate HerStory 2009" Online exhibition. Jun 10 - Sept 10. 2009. 40+ winners, cash awards, several service awards. Jurors: Renee Phillips and Janice Sands. All artists, men and women, all styles. Seeking a broad range of interpretations of "HerStory" theme. All media including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, prints, work on paper, mixed media and fine crafts. No video. Contact Renee Phillips, Director at Herstory@ManhattanArts.com or 212.472.1660. Submissions on CDs or electronic files. \$35 for up to 3 entries, \$5 each additional entry. www.manhattanarts.com/Gallery/HerStory2009/ AboutHerStory.htm Postmark deadline: May 17, 2009.

Artists: Mt. St Mary College, 330 Powell Ave., Newburgh, NY 12550 (845) 569 3337. Seeks entries for 34th Annual Artists on the Campus Show & Sale June 7 (rain date Jun 14). Website for registration form. artistsoncampus@msmc.edu. www.artistsoncampus.org.

Artists: National Association of Women Artists, 80 Fifth Ave., Ste. 1405, New York, NY 10011 (212)675-1616. Seeks fall membership applications. For details send SASE to NAWA or download from website. www.nawanet.org. Deadline Sep 15.

Artists: New Britain Museum of American Art (NBMAA), 860-229-0257 x 222 Seeks unique tree installations. Call or email for full details. fippingerm@nbmaa.org Deadline May 29.

Artists Ceramics, Jewelry, Glass, Fiber: New York Artists Online Seeks artists who have a high quality website for Free website listings through June 2009. Send email gloriarabinowitz@newyorkartists.net newyorkartists.net

**Plein Air Artists:** Northport Arts Coalition, PO Box 508, Northport, NY 11768. Seeks participants for juried event, June 26-28, 2009. Website for application and prospectus. www.northportarts.org. Deadline Jun 6

**Soft Pastel Artists:** Pastel Society of America. Seeks entries for 37th Annual Open Juried Exhibition at National Arts Club, Sept 8-27, 2009. Send SASE (#10) PSA, 15 Gramercy Park South, New York, NY 10003 for prospectus. Info: 212 533 6931 or download from website. pastelny@juno.com. www.pastelsocietyofamerica.org. Deadline for Slides: Jul 1.

Artists, Craftspeople: Pawling Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 19, Pawling, NY 12564 (845) 855-0500 Seeks entries for 18th Annual (Juried) Pawling Arts & Crafts Festival on September 19, 10-4pm. Send SASE to Chamber of Commerce or email Vanessa Muro, Event Chair: noonieme@mac.com; cell: 914-906-7666 Deadline: Aug 3; Early Bird Jun 1.

Women Artists: Pen and Brush, Inc., 16 E. 10th St., NYC 10003 (212) 475-3669. Fall Brush Exhibit: Works on Canvas, Works on Paper, Mixed Media; Upstairs/ Downstairs: Fine Craft Exhibition and boutique Send SASE or Download form from website. www.penandbrush.com

Artists, All Media: Phoenix Gallery, 210 Eleventh Ave. @ 25th St., 902, New York, NY 10001 (212) 226-8711. The Phoenix Gallery, celebrating its 51st year, will sponsor a 2009-10 Fellowship Program. The Fellowship Benefits: Sponsored membership in Phoenix Gallery in 2009-10 for 18 months, a solo exhibition in the gallery, Participation in member group shows, Access to the gallery space and resources during membership. Please go to http://phoenix-gallery.com/opportunities.html and see "Fellowship Prospectus" for further information.

Video Artists: Soho20 Chelsea Gallery, 511 W. 25th St. #606, NY, NY 212-367-8994 Seeks entries for "Boxing Gloves and Bustiers" exhibition Jul 21-Aug 15. Download entry forms from website. www.soho20gallery.com/New/Juried09. html Deadline May 15.

Artists, All Media: The Art Center of Northern New Jersey, 250 Center St., New Milford 07646. Seeking entries for 18th National Juried Show. SASE Attn: "ACNNJ=NJS '09" or download from web site. www.artcenter-nnj.org. Dead-

# Poets' Niche

# almost there

as i watch the cars hurling by from the backseat in the last stretch before the tunnel that for them has just ended it strikes me that life isn't much more than this — a series of flashing lights as we wait to go under.

> —Chris Michalski Norwood, OH

line Jul 31.

Artists: The Blue Door Art Association, 169 Shonnard Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10701 (914) 965-3397. Seeks entries for exhibition commemorating discovery of Hudson River. Call or email for details. contact@bluedoorart.org.

**Photographers:** The Camera Club of New York (CCNY), 336 W 37 St. Studio 206, NY, NY 10018 (212) 260-9927 Seeks entries for Annual Nat'l Photography Competition. Call or visit website for details. www.cameraclubny.org Deadline May 29.

Artists: The Soleyne Gallery Seeks applications from professional artists (Hobbyists need not apply) for consideration for online gallery Application at website susan@soleyne.com

Artists: The Upper Union Street, Schenectady, NY BID (518) 522-7445. Seeks artists for Annual Strawberry Fest & Art Show Saturday Jun 20, 10-3pm. Contact Jane Rothfield, (518) 522-7445 for registration forms. janerothfield@nycap. rr.com www.upperunionbid.org

Artists, Photographers: Tudor City Greens Annual Art Show, 5 Tudor City Place, #1-E, New York, NY 10017 (917) 327-4659. Seeks work of artists and photographers for Outdoor Art Show on June 18, 19, 20, 2009. For prospectus send SASE or call. Deadline: June 15.

**Poets:** Upper Delaware Writers Collective (UDWC), 1258 Crystal Lake Rd., Narrowsburg, NY 12764 570-685-8774 Seeks poems up to 25 lines long for The Green Heron Poetry Project. Call for full details. Deadline Jun 1

Artists, All Media: Washington Square Outdoor Art Exhibit, Inc., PO Box 1045 New York, NY 10276 (212) 982-6255. Seeks participants for outdoor exhibit, May 23-31 Go online for registration form and info. www.washingtonsquareoutdoorartexhibit.org.

**Filmmakers:** Woodstock Film Festival, (845) 69-4265. Seeks entries for Woodstock Film Festival, Sept 30, 2009. Call or website for information. www.woodstockfilmfestival.com. Early Deadline: May 25.

Artists: Woodstock School of Art, PO Box 338, Woodstock, NY 12498 (845) 679-2388. Seeks entries for Nat'l Juried Exhibition Celebrating NY Hudson Quadricentennial, Aug 8-Sep 5. Juror, M. Stephen Doherty, Editor American Artist. #10 SASE for prospectus to "Banks of the Hudson". www.woodstockschoolofart.com. Deadline Jun 1.

Artists: Wurtsboro Art Alliance, PO Box 477, Wurtsboro, NY 12790. (845) 733-1848 Seeks entries for exhibit w/theme "Humble Nature" Jul 4 thru Aug 9. Request prospectus by phone or downloaded from website. info@waagallery.org www. waagallery.org Deadline May 14

If you have an opportunity to list, email: info@arttimesjournal.com or write: ART TIMES PO Box 730, Mt. Marion, NY 12456. Please follow above format and include deadline and contact phone number.

# AFTERTHOUGHT

In latethought, maybe it's so: We were first made of clay. Nobody goes through seventy years without thinking this way when mud squeezes up from the garden between the dear toes.

# Fiction

# Parallel Universe, pro tem A three act Alaskan Greek tragi-comic fable

# **By GENE MCCORMICK**

### Act I

IT SEEMS ONLY through the fiction of movies that strangers can meet romantically in art galleries, the event usually occurring within the first five minutes, utilized as a writer or director's mechanism to help set a tony plot or establish mood development. In real life people don't meetdo they?--for the first time and stand side by side, eyes straight ahead, voices hushed much as they would be in the research department of a university library-and god knows what do you do with your hands?--discussing colors and images and emotions nailed to a wall while subterranean passion begins to gurgle and roil. There can be exceptions.

Standing ramrod straight, he sensed her presence to his right, looking at the same series of paintings, and he remained motionless moving only his eyes to her direction as he introduced himself. "I find myself assessing the visual arts as I do high fashion, or even personal style, which of course also has both a visual and sensual appeal to the eye."

(She replied "Ummm.") "For example"—he intuited her interest and continued—"you see to the left the fresh, vibrant essentially primal abstract watercolors of Pierre Glatone which remind me of nothing less than the taunt and audacity of an attractive young lady wearing a mid-thigh skirt going up a steep flight of stairs followed by a roving pack of bulging-eyed Eastern European mongrel midget gypsies, er, little people. By contrast, the early muted figurative oils of Domenico Dante, to your right, bring to mind a horizontal vision of a black silk teddy and muted, partially exposed black silk lace underwear." He paused to let her absorb the observations. "And yet-now you can see this, can't you?— Dante's later work is to me as coarse as a fire engine-red thong. To my eye, the abstractions that work best, that bludgeon you with the heaviest emotional wallop, are those that play upon our most

base emotions. And think about it; is the image of a painting to be categorized as fact or as fiction? If the art of writing is so categorized, why not painting?"

She winced inwardly but accepted the yak with grace while also remaining ramrod straight and moving only her eyes in his direction while nodding her head imperceptibly once in accord, and then she said "Your point is as graphic as any painting on the wall, and as astute as cubism."

So sometimes magic among strangers does happen, quite evidently to this man and woman who uncovered in one another hidden and private personal restoratives of mutual interests and beliefs of such intensity that she gave him her phone number, just as in the movies, as he walked her to her car in midevening when the gallery closed, holding the door for her just as he would have done before he had forgotten or given up on a lot of things including god knows any semblance of manners. Several days later they met by chance-unplanned, but then can anything be random?; it's said there are no accidents-again in a public place and were able to communicate as though through a telepathic extension of their initial meeting, words entering one another's awareness as forcefully as if ingested through a blacksmith's bellows, thoughts concurrently and harmoniously playing the same notes. One would explain, the other would agree and heighten and underscore the thought as though with a mystical yellow highlighter. They had become a rare thing: a merger without fear, a seamless meld. Fulfillment loomed and the next day when a phone call suggesting dinner was transacted they stamped an imprimatur on the relationship. It was nearly unworldly.

But there was an unresolved mistake lurking with the same purposeful sinister consequence as the razor poised at Van Gogh's ear, a flawed judgment made by one of them a

lifetime ago and maybe further beyond that and isn't it just ironic how things start out one way and wind up another? It's funny, but not *funny* funny. This bump was the fault of neither he nor she but it caused impact; with a great degree of melancholy they could by all means agree on that too and could only nod in unison that the greatest loss is that of the unwritten blank page, the virtual Great American Novel that could have been played out, the loss of what could never be actually being a tantalizingly greater devastation than the erasure of what already has been. The irony denied them everything even though they agreed that to successfully cope in a continuum chances must naturally be taken, but hey, understanding is neither an obligation nor a given. So worldly.

## Act II.

"I feel like Tom," he said. "You know, the cat in the Tom and Jerry cartoons. I feel like I have been chasing this Jerry creature full bore and just got whammed in the face with a cast-iron frying pan. My brain is flattened, my body is reverberating. I am flat on my back."

"I'm cold," she said.

He moved to put an arm around her.

"No," she said. "Inside. I'm cold inside."

The movie rolled on and the plot continued to develop, interpretatively as unreal and moot as the purpose of the art gallery at which they met, temporarily in the forefront of consciousness with visions that are nothing more than...visions. It would soon reach a surprising crescendo.

# Act III.

New Jersey couple bound in chicken

wire survives harrowing descent down glacier incline

*Bethel, AK.--*A New Jersey couple was discovered early Saturday morning bound together and wrapped in chicken wire on the outskirts of the village of Scammon Bay along the shore of the Bering Sea. Unharmed except for minor scrapes, they had apparently wrapped themselves together in a facing position and then somehow rolled down the Tuluksak Slide, a precipitous natural glacier incline approximately ten stories high and the length of a soccer field. They came within five feet of rolling into the sea. According to Scammon Bay deputy ranger James Tallpole, the couple, identified as Jack McGregor and Jill Arnberg of Wainwright, New Jersey, would have drowned had the tide been in.

Neither Mr. McGregor nor Ms. Arnberg were seriously injured, although both seemed disoriented by the stunt. McGregor, a performance artist who recently appeared in Anchorage performing his signature "Where Is Diogenes When You Are Finally Ready For The Truth?" role, suffered bruises to his face and a broken nose while Ms. Arnberg was unhurt.

"I don't know how they were able to wrap themselves so tightly into a chicken wire coil," said Tallpole, "but they were fortunate that things didn't end much worse. One or two more rolls and it could have been infinity."

McGregor, who initially tried to prevent paramedics from removing the chicken wire, would only say that they had traveled a long, steep and bumpy road but were at a destination where they belonged, while Ms. Arnberg declined comment, claiming client-patient privilege.

The couple, which gave no reason for their actions, were cited by Scammon Bay police for trespassing and disorderly conduct. They were released on their own recognizance from Bethel Memorial Hospital following ER treatment.

--Jonny Moonson, Staff Writer Bethel Times-Herald

(Gene McCormick resides in Wayne, IL).

X

# AUTUMN, LET ME HOLD YOU

Autumn, let me hold you -ruddy, greenish brown, or almost gold close in the palm of my hand. For a brief moment, maybe two, let me stand tall, bold, until a breeze, flying low from behind newly undressed trees, finds me. alternately teasing, then smoothing my hair, the way it used to do. Fill my lungs with the fragrance of wood fires burning away, twig by twig, the sad loveliness of accumulated summers, too old for desire, and let me remember with a faithful heart how it was in your own month, November, that the one I most lovingly admired was both born and did depart.

—Laura Scribner Goshen, NY

# HIDDEN INTENTION

Oh, now it's just about that word CLOUT. Ouchthe secret is out on a circuitous route along an inner dimension of hidden intention to divert attention from the inescapable tension over the too frequent mention of the marathon ascension of a quirky intervention that grabs and yanks by their revolutionary pants those in doubt. wow-yes, about the cost-effective stock-piling of CLOUT.

—Lorraine Tolliver Richmond, IN

# METAPHORS AT WORK

If poetry has any work to do, may it be through plainspoken metaphors...metaphors, the images which weave our backyard conversations into comfy quilts, flavor our morning coffee and transport us across the gaps and ruts of our daily trails. We need connections to the lasting truths, to symbols and rituals standing in for what we inherently know without knowing how we know it, to basic forces which shape the human spirit and guide the quest. Nothing exotic or ethereal here, nothing hard to grasp. Just recognition, an old friend giving my journey the portage without which I could not reach the open sea.

Margaret H. Brooks —Memphis, TN *etters* Continued from Page 2

#### To the Editor:

I viewed a core of the Hammer Galleries Timothy J. Clark paintings when his retrospective was hanging in the Pasadena Museum in January 2008. I have to say, your review very much captures the spirit of his work. Thank you for the insightful article [March 2009]; it once again takes me back to the Pasadena exhibit.

> Daniel Guspan Chino Hills, CA

#### To the Editor:

So many articles in the March [2009] issue of ART TIMES spoke to me that I really must comment. The humorous, yet thoughtful and pointed discussions of W.E. Reinka ("Pre-Published), Henry P. Raleigh ("My Million Dollar Plan"), Robert W. Bethune ("The sickness of the standing O"), and Frank Behren's ("Super Star=Super Troubles") were delightful. Ray Steiner's review of Timothy J. Clark's work had me wishing I lived closer to the edge of the continent, so that I could enjoy the exhibition in person. Bernard Quarterman, Jr's poem, "My Roses", reminds me of my own personal garden. Still largely brown and crusty from winter, though hints of green are beginning to peek through. And finally, Tara Marvel's essay, "Art and God", is what has prompted this letter. Marvel's essay describes the intermingling of spirituality and artistic expression, and the artist's

search for deep meaning and understanding. I would offer to Tara that she might enjoy connecting with Unitarian Universalists in her area. Here in the Mid-West, I find that UU congregations welcome this very sort of questing and wrestling with the nature of reality and the divine, and encourage and incorporate artistic expression, of many sorts, into their programming, via exhibitions, per-

formances, classes, and speakers. With joy and best wishes from the Mid-West.

> Lisa Wersal Saint Paul, MN

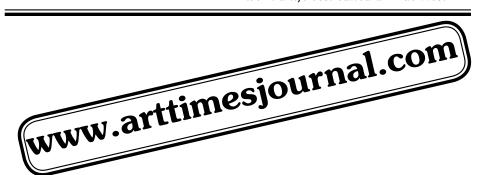
### To the Editor:

I enjoyed reading the article by Henry P. Raleigh ["If Darwin Went to the Movies", April 2009]. Having raised a daughter whose college minor was "Women's Studies", I am fully "trained" to be aware of the changes concerning women. The big thing missing from the article, in my opinion, was the absence of mentioning Mae West in early 1930's. Indeed, she was one that was "put out of business" by the 1930 Production Code, in good part since she "pushed the envelope",

For your information, I picked up the copy [of ART TIMES] at the Chenango County Council of the Arts in Norwich, NY.

### **Dick Granville** Norwich, NY

(H.P. Raleigh responds: Thank you for the note. You are right...I slipped up on Mae West...and to think I had once worn a life vest called a "Mae West"



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Saturday, May 16, 1-5 pm; **Exhibit continues:** 

Sun., May 17, 1-5 pm; Wed., May 20, 7-9 pm; Sat. - Mon. May 23-25, 1-5 pm.

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For performance schedule, visit: www.artsonthelake.org

Lake Carmel Cultural Center, 640 Rte 52, Kent Lakes, NY 10512 (845) 228-2685



# Calendar

Saturday, May 16 3rd Saturday CATSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE, RHINEBECK Arts throughout town Greene

ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBIT Wet Paints Studio Group, BAFFA Art Gallery 47 Gillette Ave., Sayville (631) 589-7343 10-4pm Suffolk

ART IN THE LOFT SPRING 2009 Millbrook Winery, 26 Wing Rd., Millbrook, NY (845) 677-8383 Opening Reception: 4:30-6:30 (thru Jun 28) Dutchess

ART SHOW AND POETRY: Fundraiser for the Land Trust of Danbury & The Richter Association for the Arts Richter Assoc. for the Arts, 100 Aunt Hack Rd., Danbury, CT (203) 730-8479 1-5pm: open mic sign-up 2:45; reading 3-5pm Fairfield, CT

ARTIST ON LOCATION Garrison Art Center Gallery, 23 Garrison's Landing, NY (845) 424-3960 Preview at 3pm; Live auction at 5pm Silent auction will continue until May 24 **Putnam** 

CLAYTON BUCHANAN AND MARY MUGELE SEALFON: Capture the Light Orange County Art Federation, Kurt Seligmann studio, 23 White Oak Drive, Sugarloaf (845) 987- 8748 Opening Reception 5-7 pm (thru Jun 6) Orange

ELISA PRITZKER "Project Fresh Green" Exhibit The Mill Street Loft, 455 Maple St., Poughkeepsie, NY (845) 471-7477 Opening Reception 6-8pm www.millstreetloft. org Dutchess

GRACE BAKST WAPNER at work Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2079 Opening Reception 5-7pm (thru Jun 21) **Ulster** 

MARCEL & BEYOND THE SUN: Jazz Concert Eastern Greenwich Civic Ctr., 90 Harding Rd., Old Greenwich, CT (203) 912-8293 7:30pm (doors open 6) charge CT

SPRING ART EXHIBIT Arts on the Lake, Lake Carmel Cultural Center, 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY (845) 228-2685 Opening Reception 1-5pm (thru May 25) www.artsonthelake.org www.artsonthelake.org Putnam

SPRING GROUP EXHIBIT Carrie Haddad Gallery, 622 Warren St., Hudson, NY (518) 828-1915 Opening Reception 6-8pm (thru Jun 21) www.carriehaddadgallery.com Columbia

TOM SOBOLIK PHOTOGRAPHS Cabane Studios Fine Art Gallery & Photographic Studio, 38 Main St., Phoenicia 845-688-5490 Opening Reception 6-9pm (thru Jun 22) Ulster

WARM & FURRY FRIENDS Westchester Photographic Society, Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center, Northern Westchester Hospital, 400 E. Main St., Mt. Kisco, NY (914) 837-2361 Opening Reception 3-5pm www.wpsphoto.org Westchester

### Sunday, May 17

ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBIT Wet Paints Studio Group, BAFFA Art Gallery 47 Gillette Ave., Sayville (631) 589-7343 10-4pm Suffolk

ART SHOW AND POETRY: Fundraiser for the Land Trust of Danbury & The Richter Association for the Arts Richter Assoc. for the Arts, 100 Aunt Hack Rd., Danbury, CT (203) 730-8479 1-5pm: open mic sign-up 2:45; reading 3-5pm Fairfield, CT

CHARLES MOKOTOFF, Classical Guitar The Grand Montgomery Chamber & Theatre Series, New Senior Center, 36 Bridge St., Montgomery, NY 3pm Orange

HELEN SHALFI: Mural Installation/discussion Tomkins Cove Public Library, 419 N Liberty Dr., Tomkins Cove, NY 845-786-3060 2:30-4pm Rockland

JAZZ CONCERT W/ANDY LAVERNE & JOHN ABERCROMBIE Warner Library, 121 North Broadway, Tarrytown, NY (914) 631-7734 2 PM www.warnerlibrary.org Westchester

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN ARTISTS 120th ANNUAL EXHIBIT Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 255-7740 Opening Reception 1-4; Awards 2:30 (thru May 29) www.nawanet.org www.salmagundi.org NYC

PINKSTER FESTIVAL Philipsburg Manor. 381 North Broadway (Route 9), Sleepy Hollow, NY (914) 631-3992 10-5pm charge Westchester

PORT CHESTER BILINGUAL LITERARY EVENT Hudson Valley Writers' Center, Copacabana, 29 N. Main St., Port Chester (914) 332-5953 4-7pm Westchester

PORTFOLIO DAY II Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA), 1701 Main Street, Peekskill, NY (914) 788-0100 12-5pm Artists are invited to bring their work for review. Reservations required www.hvcca.org www.hvcca.org Westchester ROCKLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Rockland Community College's Cultural Arts Theater Courtyard, 145 College Rd., Suffern, NY (845) 574-4471 3pm charge

## Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, Inc.

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SPRING ART EXHIBIT Arts on the Lake, Lake Carmel Cultural Center, 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY (845) 228-2685 1-5pm (thru May 25) www.artsonthelake.org www. artsonthelake.org **Putnam** THE CHAPPAQUA ORCHESTRA Horace Greeley High School, 70 Roaring Brook

Rd., Chappaqua, NY 914-921-4642 3pm charge Westchester WCO CHAMBER SPECIALS: Nine Player Ensemble Woodstock Chamber Orchestra, Holy Cross Church, 30 Pine Grove Ave., Kingston, NY (845) 246-7045 3pm charge www.wco-online.com Ulster

#### Monday, May 18

BEAUX ARTS SHOW Women's Civic Club of Katonah, Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd., Katonah, NY (914) 232-4482 (thru May 23) Westchester

### Tuesday, May 19

KATHARINE COSENZA BUTLER: Coastal Reflections Prince Street Gallery, 530 West 25th St., NYC (646) 230-0246 (thru Jun 13) www.kbwatercolors.com NYC

Wednesday, May 20

9TH ANNUAL STUDENT EXHIBIT: Northern Valley Regional HS Demarest Belskie Museum of Art & Science, 280 High St., Closter, NJ (201) 768-0286 (thru May 31) NJ

LINDA STEIN, SCULPTURE National Association of Women Artists (NAWA) Gallery, 80 Fifth Avenue(@ 14th St.), Suite 1405, New York, NY (212) 675-1616 Artist's Reception 4-7pm (thru Jun 19) www.nawanet.org NYC

SPRING ART EXHIBIT Arts on the Lake, Lake Carmel Cultural Center, 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY (845) 228-2685 7-9pm (thru May 25) www.artsonthelake.org www. artsonthelake.org Putnam

#### Thursday, May 21

BI-ANNUAL MEMBERS' SHOW North Country Arts Center, City Hall Gallery, 2nd fl. City Hall Ridge Street, Glens Falls Opening Reception 5-7 (thru May 30) Albany FINE ART AUCTION Preview Benefit for Arts in Education Program at Woodstock Day School, Fletcher Gallery, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2079 Preview 10-6pm www.fletchergallery.com Ulster

KATHARINE COSENZA BUTLER: Coastal Reflections Prince Street Gallery, 530 West 25th St., NYC (646) 230-0246 Reception 5-8pm (thru Jun 13) www.kbwatercolors. com NYC

THE FIRST ANNUAL SPRING PEONY CELEBRATION Rockefeller State Park Preserve Visitor Center, Rt. 117, 1 mile east of Rt. 9, Sleepy Hollow, NY (914) 631-1470 x 11 5:30-8:30 Westchester

#### Friday, May 22

FINE ART AUCTION Preview Benefit for Arts in Education Program at Woodstock Day School, Fletcher Gallery, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2079 Preview 10-6pm www.fletchergallery.com Ulster

HIP HOP THEATRE Bardavon Opera House at UPAC, 601 Broadway Theatre, Kingston, NY (845) 339-6088 (845) 473-2072 7pm charge Ulster

# Saturday, May 23

ANDREW DEVRIES: Exhibit DeVries Fine Art Int'l, 62 Church St., Lenox, MA Reception 1-4pm. www.andrewdevries.com MA

ART SPECTACLE in Greenwich Village Washington Square Outdoor Art Exhibit, Wash. sq. E. & Univ. Pl. (212) 982-6255 noon - sundown www.wsoae.org NYC

BEAUX ARTS SHOW Women's Civic Club of Katonah, Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd., Katonah, NY (914) 232-4482 Closing Reception 2-4pm (thru May 23) Westchester

FINE ART AUCTION Preview Benefit for Arts in Education Program at Woodstock Day School, Fletcher Gallery, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845) 679-2079 Preview 10-6pm www.fletchergallery.com Ulster

LARA ST. JOHN, Violin / MARTIN KENNEDY, Piano Windham Performing Arts Center, Main & Church Sts., Windham, NY (518) 678-9309 8 pm charge Albany MARC DALESSIO Solo Show Grenning Gallery, 90 Main St., Sag Harbor, NY 631-

725-8469 Opening Reception 6-8pm (thru Jun 21) Suffolk MARY ANNE ERICKSON: Paintings, collages & scrolls of the Buddha Cafe Mezzaluna, 626 Route 212, Saugerties, NY (845) 246-5306 Opening Reception 4-6pm (thru July 5) Ulster

SIGMUND ABLES: Passionate Lives/ Passionate Lines Park Row Gallery, 2 Park Row, Chatham, NY (518) 392-4800 and Joyce Goldstein Gallery, 16 Main Street, Chatham NY (518) 392-2250 Reception 4-6pm (thru June 27) Albany

SOUTH BY SOUTHEAST: Group Show Ferrin Gallery, 69 Church St., Lenox, MA (413) 637-4414 Opening Reception 4-6pm (thru Jun 13) MA

SPRING ART EXHIBIT Arts on the Lake, Lake Carmel Cultural Center, 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY (845) 228-2685 1-5pm (thru May 25) www.artsonthelake.org www. Continued on Page 20 artsonthelake.org Putnam

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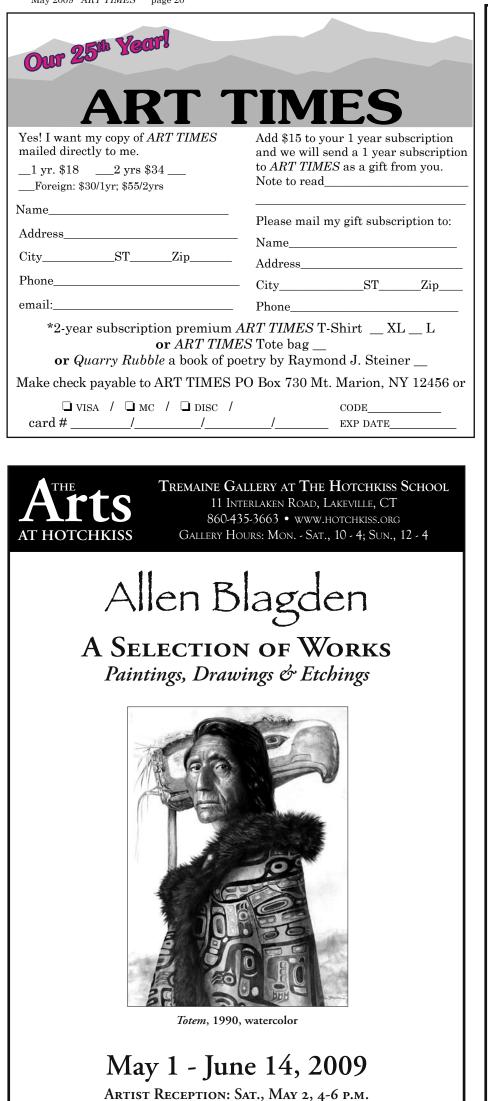
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Postmarked Digital Entry Deadline July 18th



Katherine Criss' solo exhibition on view July 1-26, 2009 A show of prints and her book One Day - A New Reality, One New Yorker's Journey Through Shock and Grief Surviving 9-11-01 at b.j.spoke gallery 299 Main St., Huntington, NY 11743 (631) 549-5106



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# Calendar

artsonthelake.org **Putnam** 

**Sunday, May 24 ART SPECTACLE** Greenwich Village Washington Square Outdoor Art Exhibit, Wash.

sq. E. & Univ. Pl. (212) 982-6255 noon - sundown www.wsoae.org NYC FINE ART AUCTION Benefit for Arts in Education Program at Woodstock Day School, Fletcher Gallery, Kleinert/James Art Ctr., 34 Tinker St., Woodstock, NY (845)

679-2079 2pm www.fletchergallery.com **Ulster SPRING ART EXHIBIT** Arts on the Lake, Lake Carmel Cultural Center, 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY (845) 228-2685 1-5pm (thru May 25) www.artsonthelake.org www.

### Monday, May 25

**ART SPECTACLE** Greenwich Village Washington Square Outdoor Art Exhibit, Wash. Sq. E. & Univ. Pl. (212) 982-6255 noon - sundown www.wsoae.org **NYC** 

**SPRING ART EXHIBIT** Arts on the Lake, Lake Carmel Cultural Center, 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY (845) 228-2685 1-5pm (thru May 25) www.artsonthelake.org www.artsonthelake.org **Putnam** 

# Tuesday, May 26

**OLGA BEDOYA, Jewelry and ARLES BUCHMAN, Mixed Media** Mamaroneck Artists Guild, 126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont, NY (914) 834-1117 (thru Jun 13) www. mamaroneckartistsguild **Westchester** 

# Thursday, May 28

63rd ANNUAL SCULPTURE EXHIBITION and CONTEMPORARY EXPRES-SIONS: International Photography Exhibit The Pen and Brush, 16 E. 10th St., NYC (212) 475-3669 (thru Jun 28) www.penandbrush.org NYC

**FUTURE VOICES IV EXHIBIT** Muroff Kotler Gallery, Stone Ridge Campus, SUNY Ulster (845) 687-5113 (thru Jun 12) **Ulster** 

GORD PETERAN: FURNITURE MEETS IT MAKER Museum of Arts and Design. 2 Columbus Circle, NYC (212) 299-7713 (thru Jul) NYC VIDEO ARTISTS IN DI-ALOGUE Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA), 1701 Main Street, Peekskill, NY (914) 788-0100 7-10pm www.hvcca.org www.hvcca.org Westchester

Friday, May 29 "GIORDANO BRUNO" Art Society of Kingston (ASK), 97 Broadway, Kingston, NY (845) 338-0331 8pm charge Ulster

INVITATIONAL: Group Sculpture Exhibit/CURRENT: Summer Sculpture Tour (one day only) Garrison Art Center Gallery, 23 Garrison's Landing, NY (845) 424-3960 Opening Reception 6-8pm (thru Jun 21) Putnam

STICKY SIUATIONS: Group Exhibition Midland Gallery, 13 Midland Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042 (973) 746- 4884 Opening Reception 7-9 pm (thru Jul 31) Essex Saturday, May 30

**42nd ANNUAL ART IN THE PARK** Art League of Long Island, Heckscher Museum Park, 2 Prime Ave Huntington (631) 462-5400 www.artleagueli.net **Suffolk** 

**47th ANNUAL WHITE PLAINS OUTDOOR JURIED ARTS FESTIVAL** White Plains Outdoor Arts Festival Committee, Tibbits Park, One North Broadway at Main St., White Plains, NY (914) 993-8271 or (914) 949-7909 10am-5pm www.whiteplainsoutdoorartsfestival.com **Westchester** 

**ART SPECTACLE** Greenwich Village Washington Square Outdoor Art Exhibit, Wash. sq. E. & Univ. Pl. (212) 982-6255 noon - sundown www.wsoae.org **NYC** 

**CELEBRATING MENDELSSOHN AND DISCOVERING EDUARD FRANCK Close Encounters with Music**, Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, Great Barrington, MA (800) 843-0778 6pm charge Berkshire, **MA** 

**FRANCIS BACON: A Centenary Retrospective (thru Aug 16) and AMERICAN ART ABOUT 1900 (thru Sep 20)** Metropolitan Museum of Art, 82nd St. & Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 535-7710 NYC

"GIORDANO BRUNO" Art Society of Kingston (ASK), 97 Broadway, Kingston, NY (845) 338-0331 8pm charge Ulster

**HOME GROWN: Botanicals, Florals and Edibles: Group Show** Mark Gruber Gallery, New Paltz Plaza, New Paltz, NY (845) 255-1241 (thru Jul 15) www.markgruber-gallery.com **Ulster** 

PATRICIA SMITH: Book Reading Warner Library, 121 North Broadway, Tarrytown, NY (914) 631-7734 2:30 pm www.warnerlibrary.org Westchester

PERROTE, MORING, ANESHANSLEY Group Show Tivoli Artists' Co-op, 60 Broadway, Tivoli, NY, (845) 757-2667 (thru Jun 21) Dutchess

**SETH NADEL: CITYSCAPES** Arlington Art Gallery, 32 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY (845) 473-2787 (thru Jul 13) **Dutchess** 

THE ADVENTURES OF ALADDIN NYCA Theatre Company at UPAC, 601 Broadway, Kingston, NY 845\_339-6088 7:30pm www.NYCA.org Ulster

Sunday, May 31

19TH ANNUAL ART SHOW Kristy's Kreative Kids Frank D. Greco Senior Center, Robinson & Market St., Saugerties, NY 845-246-8835 Opening Reception 5:30 pm Ulster 42nd ANNUAL ART IN THE PARK Art League of Long Island, Heckscher Museum Park, 2 Prime Ave Huntington (631) 462-5400 www.artleagueli.net Suffolk

**47th ANNUAL WHITE PLAINS OUTDOOR JURIED ARTS FESTIVAL** White Plains Outdoor Arts Festival Committee, Tibbits Park, One North Broadway at Main St., White Plains (914) 993-8271 or (914) 949-7909 12am-5pm www.whiteplainsoutdoor-artsfestival.com **Westchester** 

ALLEN M. HART / SUSAN STEEG EXHIBITION Upstream Gallery, 26B Main St., Dobbs Ferry, NY (914) 674-8548 Opening Reception 2-5pm (thru Jun 21) Westchester ART SPECTACLE Greenwich Village Washington Square Outdoor Art Exhibit, Wash. sq. E. & Univ. Pl. (212) 982-6255 noon - sundown www.wsoae.org NYC

**GAY PRIDE: a juried art exhibit** Rockland Center for the Arts, 27 South Greenbush Rd., West Nyack, NY (845) 358-0877 x17 (thru Jun 14) www.rocklandartcenter.org **Rockland** 

LUIS MELÉNDEZ: Master of the Spanish Still Life (thru Aug 23) and STANLEY WILLIAM HAYTER: From Surrealism to Abstraction (thru Aug 30) National Gallery of Art, East Bldg, 4th St. at Constit. Ave. NW, Wash., DC (202) 842-6353 WDC SUMMER MEMBERS SHOW The Gallery at the Kent Art Association, 21 South St.

(RT 7), Kent, CT (860) 927-3989 (thru Jul 5) Litchfield, CT THE ADVENTURES OF ALADDIN NYCA Theatre Company at UPAC, 601 Broad-

way, Kingston, NY 845\_339-6088 2pm www.NYCA.org **Ulster WRITERS READ THEIR WORK** Hudson Valley Writers' Center, Philipse Manor Railroad Station, 300 Riverside Dr., Sleepy Hollow, NY (914) 332-5953 4:30 **Westchester** 

Monday, June 1

**PRIDE GROUP SHOW** Romaine Brooks Gallery, 332 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 12210 (518) 462-6138 x 15 (thru Jun 30) www.romainebrooksgallery.30art.com **Albany** 

#### Tuesday, June 2

AMERICAN ART ABOUT 1900 (Sep 20) and MASTERPIECES OF AFRICAN & OCEANIC ART from Barbier-Mueller Museum (Sep 27) Metropolitan Museum of Art, 82nd St. & Fifth Ave., NYC (212) 535-7710 charge NYC