



ART MATTERS

Vol 7 2014, Issue 3

A publication
of Grants Pass
Museum of Art

GPMA Mission: *To enrich lives by offering art experiences that stimulate the senses, intrigue the intellect and bring joy to the spirit.*

2014 Art in the Garden Reflections

by Chris Pondelick



It couldn't have been a better year for this year's Art in the Garden Tour. The weather was perfect, and visitors to the garden enjoyed each of

the nine gardens on display. I would like to thank the generous property owners, the hard working committee members, the many volunteers, all the artists, Chet's Garden Center, and Edith Decker and Kathleen Alaks at the Grants Pass Daily Courier. They all helped make this most important fund raiser a success for the Museum.

Because of Lola Daugherty's vision and the loyalty of Museum volunteers from the beginning in 1996, over 170 properties throughout Grants Pass and Josephine County have been highlighted on the annual tour. Planning for the tour doesn't take a respite after the tour is over in June. Now is actually the time we seek out gardens for the following year's

tour. So we are looking for gardens in Grants Pass and North of Grants Pass (including Hugo, Merlin and North of Highway 199) for the 2015 tour. If you are willing to share your garden or know anyone whose garden should be considered for next year's tour, please call the Museum.

We will be sad to see Roxanne and Cliff Bennett of Chet's Garden Center leave our community. They have sponsored the tour for many years. In case you have not yet heard, they are heading for Brookings and have already located a home for their new garden center which will be called Chet's on the Chetco. We wish them the very best in their new endeavor. ♦

2014 Golf for Art Tournament Reflections

Our 10th Annual Golf for Art Tournament held at the Grants Pass Golf Club on May 16th was one of our best.

- Weather: Sunny and mild
- Temperature: 78-82
- Course: Perfect condition
- Participants: 104 players
- Quality of golf: (Don't ask!)

Club pro Matt Reams and his crew had the behind-the-scenes course management expertly handled, and the Museum's volunteers smoothly processed the player registration. At 12:30 the horn blew, and away we went. No one managed to make a

hole-in-one on any of the four prize holes, unfortunately. We were all hoping someone would take home the 2014 Toyota Camry offered by Wheeler Toyota for an ace on #17, but no luck. Cliff Wheeler has sponsored a new car every year since 2011, but this year was a bit different. Our normal field is around 80 players, and Cliff, through Toyota, planned for 88 golfers. When we saw that the count was going to be 104, adjustments were needed. Cliff authorized the increase from his vacation hotel in Hawaii, and within a day we had confirmation of the coverage. Thanks to all involved.



the sponsors, players, and volunteers who made it happen. Due to all your support, the Museum netted about \$7,500 on this exciting event. We thank all of you for your backing for the Museum's exceptional exhibits and educational programs.

We look forward to another great tournament in 2015, tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 8th. ♦

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Director's Reflections

by Chris Pondelick



Our community is amazing. I've been proud to live here since 1976. We have come such a long way from a logging industry to tourism with an emphasis on the arts. Barnstormers Theatre offers community theatre with an opportunity for you to act in a play if you have the desire. Rogue Valley Symphony brings us the classics with the most talented musicians and conductor. Concerts in the

Park throughout the summer has a line-up of music for the enjoyment of all. Art Along the Rogue brings in hundreds of people offering music and an opportunity for artists of all ages to create. Lots of organizations have fund raisers to help their endeavors. The Museum starts in February with Black, White and the Blues Art Auction and Dance Party, followed by Golf for Art in May and Art in the Garden Tour in June. Winterfest is in December with decorated Christmas trees to be auctioned to support services for

children. Let's not forget First Friday Art Walk, Hellgate Jetboat trips, the Bear Hotel, horseracing at Grants Pass Downs, the Saturday Growers' Market and Artisan Market, Boatnik, Rooster Crow, Fourth of July fireworks, Back to the Fifties, the Josephine County Fair, in addition to beer and wine strolls downtown and wine tours in the valley. The community rallies for fund raisers for the Josephine Community Library, for Wildlife Images, the Boys and Girls Club, for women and for health. Is it a wonder that so many people enjoy living in and visiting our wonderful community? This past year alone the Museum brought in over 12,100 people through its doors for stellar exhibits, education and its own Gallery One. The unique shops of our downtown merchants provide a fun environment for shopping, antiquing, dining, and gallery hopping. Who wouldn't stop in our downtown while traveling through Southern Oregon? Bears and flower baskets line the sidewalks in summer with nutcrackers, giant Christmas cards, and twinkling lights downtown in winter. Just cross the bridge and take another look at the river running through our town and remember why you are here. I think the folks who make our community interesting, support the arts and local businesses are very special too. ♦

Gallery One Featured Artists

September -

E' Bender-Webb: Mixed media, and



Shadow of Death



Marie Neder: Photography

October -

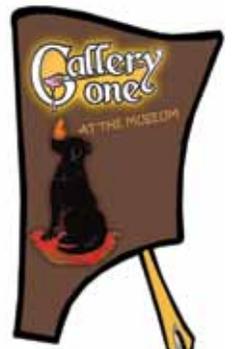
Daniel Desmond: Landscape and seascape paintings



November -

Janet Higgins: Ceramics & Steel

Gallery One, located below the Museum, provides a venue for artists in our community to exhibit and sell their exquisite art.



Alive and gorgeous The Sound of Symphony



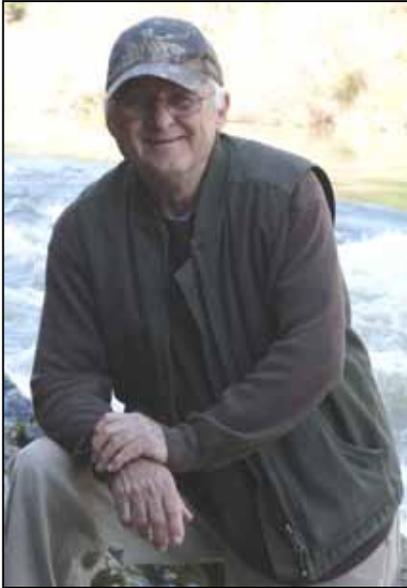
ROGUE VALLEY
Symphony

Martin Majkut
(say my-koot)
Music Director

TICKETS **541-552-6398**
www.rvsymphony.org
Students \$5 All Concerts, All Season

Wood You Like to Know

By Margaret D. Horn



When you enter Robert Raikes' studio, you can't help but notice the rainbow colors of all the different woods. He sculpts in metal and stone as well, but mostly in wood - black, red, blonde, and umpteen shades of browns, tans and umbers. As he walks around his studio, he names them: Eucalyptus, Mulberry, Mesquite, Palos Verdes from Arizona, Bloodwood

from Africa, Black Walnut from Colorado, Madrone, Pine and even some simple hunks of firewood. He's been sculpting for over forty years beginning when he met two elderly Mexicans in Southern California who carved for Weatherby Guns and who took him under their wing. Later he was mentored by Rudy Vargas and the California Carvers Guild in Morro Bay.

He says there are two ways he approaches sculpting. The first is with a specific image that is set in his mind. He may even make a clay mock-up before he starts to carve.

The second is more free flow, where he has the seed of an idea and lets it come forth naturally, usually resulting in an abstract. He says, "Wood is so emotionally demanding because it's subtractive; you have to see it ahead of time, and you can't make mistakes."

His father had done some art, and after Raikes got out



of the service in the seventies he decided to be a sculptor, making a scant living, but at least getting by. His parents had an antique shop where he sold a few pieces, and he began to get commissions, like carved wooden signs and carousel horses, and he started to do a little better. He got an important commission for a wooden doll that resulted in a successful business selling to doll collectors. The business grew into hiring twelve women to sew for him, and he was traveling to at least three shows a month all over the country. At his peak he landed a ten-year contract with the Applause Company that handled licensing for Disney. Remember the California Raisins and Smurfs? In the days when Cabbage Patch Dolls were the number one product, Raikes' carved dolls and wood-faced teddy bears were number two, selling to a narrow but extremely loyal population of fans. In fact you can still find some of those collector sets on e-Bay selling for their original retail price.

After his major success, and following a collapse in the market, he moved from Tucson to Southern Oregon three years ago for the weather, the water and the people.

And he asked himself, "What's really important?" His answer is that his artistic process is a form of meditation or prayer. So he's less interested in the commercial aspects now and more interested in just doing his art without caring if it sells, or sometimes even if it's seen by others. He'd also like to teach again. He's always looking for new students and believes that they can learn how to become good sculptors with instruction in some basic techniques.



His current project involves the combination of writing children's stories illustrated with photographs of his sculptures of fantasy figures. He views this as a legacy for his children and five grandchildren - an artistic statement that says something about how beautiful the world is. ♦

THANKS TO OUR RETIRING 'ART MATTERS' EDITOR

We are grateful to Margaret (Peggy) Horn for having served as Editor of the Museum's quarterly newsletter for the past three years. She has devoted a lot of time to accumulating interesting features as well as writing articles for each

issue and editing what others have submitted. We're happy that she is willing to continue contributing articles for our Museum newsletter. ♦

London Art

By Mark Simonds

Everyone has heard of London's National Gallery. It is the home of the nation's collection of Western European art from all schools from the late 13th Century to the early 20th Century, and a wonder to behold. If British art is your cup of tea, the Tate Britain would be your destination. Though I did spend a morning at the National Gallery during my recent trip to London, I really enjoyed chasing down some notable smaller museums in the area.

1. The Courtauld Gallery

The Courtauld Gallery is located on the strand in the Somerset House on the banks of the Thames. It displays



Edgar Degas: *Two Dancers on the Stage* c. 1874

a modest collection of paintings including some exquisite pieces by Monet, Degas, Gauguin, Van Gogh, and Cézanne. I was most drawn to this impressionist collection. Other displays range from the Renaissance with works by Cranach, Rubens and Modigliani. The gallery is part of The Courtauld Institute of Art, one of the world's leading centers for the study of art history and conservation. The Courtauld is a must-see exhibition.

2. The Wallace Collection

The Wallace Collection is a small museum in Marylebone, London. The artwork was amassed by the five generations of Marquess of Hartford until it was donated to the nation in 1897 when the family ran out of heirs to their wealth.

There is a variety of artwork in the 25 galleries which include French 18th Century painting, furniture and porcelain with superb Old Master paintings and a world class armory. If your interests are receptive to any or all of these areas, you will be delighted. Some of their best paintings include those by Poussin, Van Dyck, Velázquez, Domenichino and Frans Hals. The Laughing Cavalier is one of their treasures.



Frans Hals: *The Laughing Cavalier* c. 1624

3. Apsley House (Wellington Museum)

When the Duke of Wellington vanquished Napoleon at Waterloo in June of 1815, he immediately became the hero of the United Kingdom and of Europe. Both were now permanently free from Napoleon's unbridled ambition. Two years later, Wellington purchased Apsley House. Then, over the next 35 years, he filled it with trophies, paintings and portraits illustrating his achievements.

Much of the museum (Apsley House) is now filled with the duke's war memorabilia and with gifts from



Diego Velázquez: *The Waterseller of Seville* c. 1642

grateful nations when they were freed from Napoleon's threat. Though Wellington tried to return some stolen artwork to Spain, captured from Napoleon's carriage, the Spanish refused it, preferring that these spoils remain with the winner. In fact, King Ferdinand VII also gave him a part of the Spanish Royal Collection in appreciation. The walls include some masterpieces by Jan Steen, Diego Velázquez and Correggio.

4. Dulwich Picture Gallery

This small art gallery is in Dulwich, London, south of the Thames. You can get there from London proper by tube and bus or by train and a 10-minute walk. You just have to plan on your route. You will not stumble upon it. Dulwich Picture Gallery is the world's first purpose-built public art gallery. It was founded in 1811 when Sir Francis Bourgeois RA bequeathed his collection of old masters



Jan Both: *A Mountain Path* c. 1645-1650

“for the inspection of the public”. The galleries have a Permanent Collection of Baroque masterpieces including Jan Both, Nicolaes Berchem, and José Antolínez among many others. ♦

A Flower of a Volunteer

Talent and skill describe Museum Volunteer, Marple. Her design ability with flower arranging has been going on since she was five years old. At 12 she did all the flower arrangements except the bridal bouquet for her sister's wedding. It is no surprise that as an adult she continued her love of flowers and plants as owner of a flower shop and greenhouse nursery in Worland, Wyoming.

Besides the talent she was given naturally, she has studied and developed skills through the years. Marple

Volunteers Are Welcome

Grants Pass Museum of Art loves its volunteers. You too can be part of the GPMA family by volunteering your time and talents. Call the Museum at 541-479-3290 or come visit during open hours. You will always be welcome.

Our volunteers keep us alive and healthy.

has been an instructor and flower show judge for the National Council of Garden Clubs. She earned a five-year certificate for Sogetsu which is a modern style of Ikebana. The aim of Sogetsu is to be traditional but vital and to introduce visual and spiritual pleasure into daily life. Marple has won various awards in competitions and is well respected by her peers. The Museum

is so honored to have her creations each month for First Friday Art Walk. Every Tuesday you can find Marple either donating a new creation or refreshing the present one. ♦



Newsletter Changes

Some of you may have noticed that this year we have made a few changes to Art Matters in the name of economy. For the summer newsletter the paper stock was changed to a lower weight, without the high gloss of recent newsletters. Such paper is less expensive and is easier for our volunteers to fold and seal for mailing. Besides using less expensive paper, the mailing cost was lower.

Are we obsessed with cost? Yes, with good reason. The Museum has been facing higher expenses over the last several years, not just for paper and printing, but in all aspects of running this business, the business of art. By instigating cost-saving measures and being wiser in our efforts, we are still getting our job done. We continue to look for ways to increase our revenues and decrease our costs with little or no degradation in our providing excellent art and art education to our extended community. We would welcome anyone willing to step up to help underwrite the expenses of a printed and mailed quarterly newsletter or the postcards announcing our exhibits. In terms of our newsletter we are considering several changes.

In today's electronic world an internet-based

newsletter is becoming more and more a standard. For years the Museum's website has included the most recent newsletter issue, as well as the seven previous issues. Even if you misplace your copy, you can still find it on the web at www.gpmuseum.com. For this quarter we are publishing a web-only newsletter. In the future another possibility would be an emailed, PDF version of the newsletter (the same kind that is now on our website). **We would like to ask each member to provide us with a current email address in case we decide to go this way. You can email your address to office@gpmuseum.com.** Members' email addresses are for the use of the Museum only, and a member would have the choice of opting out of any email communications from the Museum.

We believe that a printed copy mailed to each member should be a privilege of membership. So in December we hope to publish an eight-page, full-color edition of the newsletter. It will include the schedule of exciting exhibits for 2015 as well as many photographs of this year's Museum activities. ♦

BON VOYAGE AND MERCI BEAUCOUP TO BILL AND CHERYL LOWE

There's about to be a huge void in the Museum's family as Bill and Cheryl Lowe move from Grants Pass to the San Diego area to be closer to their family. Each has given so much time in support of the activities of the Museum and Gallery One at the Museum. Cheryl has volunteered regularly at Gallery One, the Museum, and *Art in the Garden*. Bill is renowned for having been coordinator of the *Golf for Art Tournament*, as well as a member of

the Exhibition Committee and President of the Board of Directors. He regularly has greeted visitors to the Museum during *First Friday Art Walk* evenings and has hosted art-related movies at the Museum. Knowing the Lowes, they're likely to get involved in volunteer activities as soon as they get settled in their new home. We wish them well and hope they'll find exciting art venues to visit in Southern California. ♦



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Grants Pass Museum of Art Mission Statement:

To enrich lives by offering art experiences that stimulate the senses, intrigue the intellect and bring joy to the spirit.

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
7/29 Exhibit: <i>Tamar Assaf: "Manimal Kingdom" thru 9/26</i>	10/2 Volunteers meet: 10:30 am	11/6 Volunteers meet: 10:30 am
9/4 Volunteers meet: 10:30 am	10/3 First Friday 5 pm	11/7 First Friday 5 pm
9/5 First Friday 5 pm	10/4 Volunteers Luncheon	11/12 Life Sketching 7 pm
9/10 Life Sketching 7 pm	10/8 Life Sketching 7 pm	11/14 Poetry Sharing 7 pm
9/12 Poetry Sharing 7 pm	10/10 Poetry Sharing 7 pm	11/19 Exhibit: <i>Annual Membership Show thru 12/18</i>
9/18 Board Meeting 5:30 pm	10/16 Board Meeting 5:30 pm	11/20 Board Meeting 5:30 pm
9/30 Exhibit: <i>"Winston Unleashed" – Photography of David Lorenz Winston thru 11/14</i>	<i>Gallery One Artist: Daniel Desmond: Landscape and seascape paintings</i>	<i>Gallery One Artist: Janet Higgins: Ceramic and steel</i>
<i>Gallery One Artists: Marie Neder: Photography and E' Bender-Webb: Mixed media</i>		

- Special Thanks To:**
- Jennifer Murphy Trust
 - Wal-Mart
 - Ed Morey: Redwood Nursery
 - Ford Family Foundation
 - Cliff Bennett: Chet's Garden Center
 - Len & Lee Remedios
 - Four Way Community Foundation
 - Carpenter Foundation
 - Josephine County Cultural Coalition
 - Don & Carolyn Rice
 - Oregon Arts Commission

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