



Susan Hogan
Rainbow Queen 2005 48"x38"
Painting, Mixed Media, Ceramics



Joan B. Needham
Fasciation Lippy 2005 48"x15"x10"
Welded Rods and Handmade Paper



Jen Murphy Signell
Night Birds 2002 11"x17" Acrylic, paper, and photo collage on paper

Leaving the Canvas

Fall group exhibit

by Cie Stroud

Susan Hogan Painting, Mixed Media, Ceramics

Susan will exhibit 12 paintings she calls her "Queens," the subjects being divas, goddesses, ancestors, grandmothers, sisters and guardians. Seven of these works are mixed media on wood; the remainder are oil paint and found materials on copper wire cloth. "I have a great time fashioning their gowns, crowns, cloaks, collars and cuffs out of all kinds of materials collected from Nature's abundant supply," she says. Susan will also exhibit 11 ceramics she describes as "earthy fashion - ceramic torsos awakening from centuries of slumber. The fluid clay becomes feminine presences that reach up, stretch, curve and swell into their bodies. Red-hot heat transforms each unique earthen vessel into a hollow stone."

Joan B. Needham Sculpture, Handmade Paper

Joan studied papermaking with Laurence Barker in Barcelona, Spain and received a New Jersey State Council on the Arts fellowship in Sculpture. She says that the sculptures in her exhibit, which she titled *Chance Occurrences*, are "born from the many thoughts and experiences that come together while working on the piece. I have a very basic idea of what it is going to be. Then, as I am building it, it happens. What interests me is the challenge of achieving the idea in my mind as I make the piece."

Jen Murphy Signell Paintings, Collage

Jen says of her work "there is a kind of poem that I've been working out with each of my pictures. The story they tell is serial, and filled with recurring images, or 'obsessions'. Each of these recurring images has at least two jobs in the story. Like words, they have an aesthetic as well as a definition. I'm attracted to them...for their design elements (shape, line, color and position in the composition) and...for the emotional associations they each carry as recognizable objects."

September 17 - November 6

Opening Reception Saturday, September 24, 6-9 pm

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

THE ELLARSLIE MUSE
is a publication of the
Trenton Museum Society
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Mission of the Trenton Museum Society

The Trenton Museum Society is a volunteer, non-profit organization which supports Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum. This museum was established to collect, conserve and display tangible items that represent the culture and traditions of all Trentonians. Collections, changing exhibitions and public programs are supported by the museum to advance the historical and cultural significance of Trenton, its people and its industries. The Trenton Museum Society supports the acquisition and conservation of the permanent collection and originates programs to sustain and nurture the cultural life of Trenton and its artists and to foster aesthetic awareness in fine and decorative arts.

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Welcome to a new season of the arts at Ellarslie Mansion. It is my privilege to serve as the president of the Trenton Museum Society for the 2005-2006 season. It has been my honor to serve as a trustee of this organization for the past three years and I look forward to leading this very dedicated group of volunteers into the future.

Our goal is to provide the members of the Trenton Museum Society and the community with diverse professional art exhibitions, special musical, culinary and arts events, structure educational programs and workshops for children including an exhibition in January 2006 of artwork by the children of the Trenton Public Schools and present a wide and ever-changing assortment of lovely gifts for purchase in Molly's the Shop at Ellarslie.

Of course, it's also the responsibility of the society to protect, preserve and present the rich history of Trenton through our permanent collection of porcelains, paintings and publications. This year will be a busy one for our Collections Management committee as they work to professionally catalog each of the hundreds of pieces in this collection. With proposed renovations planned for the mansion this year, the job of relocating and properly storing all of Trenton's treasures will be particularly daunting and fast-paced. I'm sure if anyone is interested in helping with this vast undertaking, the wonderful, hardworking members of that committee would welcome willing volunteers.

As this new season begins, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the returning trustees for their continued service, welcome the new trustees and wish them happiness and success in their first year, thank Mr. Brian O. Hill, the director of the Trenton City Museum for his perpetual support and most importantly, thank all the members of the Trenton Museum Society for their faithful devotion to preserving the heritage of our community - without your beneficence, we would not survive and flourish.

Looking forward to a great year!



Jennifer Concha
TMS President



Rebecca Rutkowski © 2001



The Trenton City Museum at Ellarslie is owned by the City of Trenton, Douglas H. Palmer, Mayor; maintained and operated by the Department of Recreation, Natural Resources & Culture, Francis E. Blanco, Director; with additional support from the Trenton Museum Society.

A Doubletake on Gem of the Ocean

by Cie Stroud

Prior to August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean* at McCarter Theatre in October, Wilson's ninth installment of plays about the African American experience in the 20th century, Ellarslie will exhibit *Preserving the Past*, portraits and memorabilia of 5 Princeton and 5 Trenton residents who have recorded the African American experience.

Artist Howard Siskowitz and photographer Peter C. Cook for the last three years have been collaborating on *Doubletake*, simultaneously made portrait drawings and photographs. They have been commissioned by McCarter to include in the Ellarslie exhibit portraits of Trenton's Tom Malloy, Edith Savage Jennings, Rev. C.K. Hunter, Dr. Jack Washington and Rev. Willie Smith. The duo's Princeton subjects for the exhibit will include Shirley Satterfield, Hank Pennell, Cecelia Hodges, Jim Floyd and Albert Hines.



Photo by Cie Stroud

Tom Malloy, a Trenton resident since 1923 and its Artist Laureate, sat for Siskowitz and Cook at Ellarslie in early August.

The Doubletake sessions have been with numerous people "from every strata of life," describes Cook. "Howard draws as a photographer photographs," he says. "It happens all at once. Then I go back to my dark room and Howard to his studio and we fine tune."

The Blues Return to Ellarslie with Doris Spears

Doris Spears will bring her inimitable style of singing back to Ellarslie mansion with a free concert Friday, November 11 from 6-9 pm when she will "feed the spirit of America's vets past and present" and celebrate the release of her third CD, *The Duchess: Jazz and Juke Joints*. Her shows are described as "fun, engaging and soulful." Says Spears, "at my performances I am not happy until I see those three things at work: a tapping foot, a soulful sway, and the utter joy in the air that only dynamic music can evoke."

Exhibits

September 17th - November 6th
Leaving the Canvas
Susan Hogan, ceramics, paintings & mixed media
Jen Signell, collage
Joan Needham, sculpture & handmade paper
Reception - Saturday, September 24th, 6 to 9 pm*

October 7th - October 29th
Voices for the Marsh
Friends for the Marsh
Reception - Friday, October 7th, 6 to 8 pm

November 12th - January 8th
Paper, Rock...
Sarah Stengle, collage
Petro Hul, stone sculpture
Reception - Saturday, November 12th, 6 to 9 pm*

January 14th - February 26th
Children's Art from Soup to Nuts
Trenton Public Schools
Reception - Saturday, January 21st TBA

March 4th - April 16th
The Classics Return...Part Deux
Oil paintings by John Ennis, Simon Maue, Steve Smith
George Thompson, Robert Miele
Reception - Saturday, March 11th, 6 to 9 pm*

April 22nd - June 11th
Ellarslie Open XXIV
Juried exhibit
Reception - Saturday, April 29th, 5 to 8 pm*
*The first hour of opening receptions are for members only.
Memberships are available at the door.

Special Programs and Events

September 18th - January 22nd
Preserving Our Past: An Inspiring Exhibit
Honoring Those Who Chronicle Our Heritage
Pottery, photographs, drawings and other "rare gems" from the Trenton and Princeton communities.
In collaboration with McCarter Theatre Center's production of *Gem of the Ocean*, by August Wilson

Friday, November 11th
The Blues Return to Ellarslie
Doris Spears
8 pm - FREE
Please call to reserve your place

Thursday, November 17th
Shopping at Barnes and Noble
Princeton & Hamilton stores
To Benefit the Trenton Museum Society
All day

January 14th - February 26th
Children's Saturday Workshops
FREE - call to pre-register

Coming - Spring of 2006 - Dates TBA
Antiques Appraisal
Puppet Program

See our website for future events

3
45
89
states
cities
works of art

Ellarslie Open XXIII

by Pat Rodeawald

This year's Ellarslie Open ran from April 30 through June 19, 2005 at the Trenton City Museum, with an opening reception and awards ceremony on Saturday, April 30. The first Ellarslie Open was held in 1982 under the direction of museum Director Ben Whitmire, a local artist and activist whose vision helped shape the museum into what it is today. Ever since that first Ellarslie Open, the Trenton Museum Society has collected and held contemporary exhibits of both local and regional artists, and the event has expanded, now encompassing three states and 45 cities.

Mary-Kate O'Hare, Ph.D. was juror of this year's Open. Currently the Assistant Curator of American Art at The Newark Museum, Ms. O'Hare has received numerous awards and honors. She has more than 50 publications to her credit and over 10 years museum experience managing, curating and collecting. Regarding the Open, Ms. O'Hare said, "With over seventy-five works of art, this year's Ellarslie Open reveals the breadth of talent that exists in the greater Trenton area and beyond."

Congratulations to these artists, and all participants in the Ellarslie Open XXIII.

Awards

TAWA Award and Exhibit at Gallery Lafayette
Living Room - House of Manolo • Marge Miccio • Pastel

Best in Show Trenton Artist and Artifacts Gallery Award
Spicey's Kitchen • Eric Fowler • Oil on canvas

Best in Show Photography and Triangle Art Gift
Japanese Maple • Robert Lach • Photography

Best in Show Printmaking and Director's Award
Barn Door • Jameson Moore • Wood Engraving

Best in Show Drawing and Triangle Art Gift
Tattooed • Salomon Kadosche • Pastel

Best in Show Sculpture and President's Award
Fossil Bodice • Susan Hogan • Ceramic

Best in Show Watercolor and Triangle Art Gift
Tree, House • Janice Hansen • Watercolor

Mayor's Award
Above and Below It • Khalilah Sabree • Mixed Media

Best in Show Painting
The Sisters • Gabriela Gonzalez Dellosso • Oil

Best in Show
The Sisters • Gabriela Gonzalez Dellosso • Oil

Museum Society Purchase Award
Vineyard of Chianti Italy • Jay Shin • Photography

Museum Society Purchase Award
Cottage Towel Rack • Tom Chesar • Acrylic

Museum Society President's Award
Fossil Bodice • Susan Hogan • Ceramic

Museum Director's Award
Barn Door • Jameson Moore • Wood Engraving

Ben Whitmire Purchase Award
Seed Pod Teapot • Jeane Nielsen • Ceramic

Honorable Mention
Obumbrata • James Mills • Oil on Panel

Honorable Mention
Meditation • Dolores D'Achille • Oil

Honorable Mention
Rouen • Charles McVicker • Acrylic

Honorable Mention
Parking Garage • Heather Hibbert • Photography

The Classics Return

by Jennifer Concha

Early spring of 2005 saw an Old World charm bathe the walls of the Ellarslie Mansion as the exhibition *The Classics Return* opened to a packed house and rave reviews.

Featuring the brilliant artwork of Dolores D'Achille, Salomon Kadosche, David Rivera and James Gafgen, the show represented a return to the fundamentals of artistic creation with deftly developed drawings, carefully constructed oil paintings and skillfully sculpted bronzes. The various portrait and still life representations virtually glowed with light and life, while the bronzes emanated a gracefulness and strength of form.

Under the thoughtful and loving curatorial guidance of museum director Brian O. Hill, the show design skillfully led viewers through each new world of artistic experience with seamless grace.

In an article for the Good Times section of the *Trenton Times*, Mr. Hill encouraged the public to "come here and be taken away for awhile." Every piece of artwork in the show demonstrated the personal and loving relationship the artists had with their subjects, and generated that same sense of personal involvement for the viewers.

It was impossible not to feel the care and devotion imbued in each work. David Rivera described his experience of artistic creation: "I think that all great artwork comes from genuine emotion. If genuine emotion is applied to a work of art, then it will have a voice and spirit that will speak to the viewer."

Photo by Bob Hill



Stephanie West with *The Entertainer* by D. D'Achille.

Anyone who attended the show would agree that the galleries at Ellarslie virtually sang with the stories of heart-felt inspiration - two shining examples being *Portrait of My Mother* by David Rivera and *The Tenor*, a bronze bust cast by James Gafgen in honor of his son, James Gafgen Jr.

Many thanks go out to the artists who made this show such a success through the sharing of their wonderful work. The Classicist style experienced a wonderful renaissance in the Trenton area with this exhibition; so keep your eyes open for future exhibitions by other local luminaries of the classic artistic expression.

Coming next spring
The Classics Return....Part Deux



Play It Again, Fred

by Carol Hill

A lively encore was in store for those who enjoyed *Lectures in Song: Cole Porter*. Fred Miller sang the songs, played the melodies and told the tales of Porter.

Since his performance in story and song of George Gershwin in 2004, a faithful following of music lovers returned to Ellarslie on April 15 to listen to Fred's delightful interpretation of Cole Porter's songs and learn about his life.

Fred Miller's repertoire and knowledge of the golden age of music is entertaining and informative. He knows his stuff! If you missed George and Cole...stay tuned for his next encore in the spring...play it again, Fred.

Charles Lorimer by Pat Rodeawald

Trenton Museum Society Trustee Chuck Lorimer has a mind for numbers and a heart for the arts. As such, the Society is lucky to have Chuck as Treasurer and Trustee. Chuck's connection to the arts starts with his name - he was named after the artist Charles Russell, a contemporary of Frederic Remington. He is from an established Philadelphia family who appreciated art - his great-great uncle had the foresight to ask a little-known artist named Norman Rockwell to do illustrations for the Saturday Evening Post, and another uncle's bottle collection is in the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Chuck graduated from Penn State at the top of his class with a degree in accounting and computer science and was within three credits of an art degree. While at Penn State he served

"I joined the board because I saw a group of people who really enjoyed what they were doing. It looked like a great club, and I wanted to join."



on the Arts and Architecture committee where he was instrumental in acquiring a Calder for the university's collection. His astute artistic sense came into play again when he began collecting on his own, with his first purchase from the Mann Gallery in Lambertville. He owns

a signed Matisse pencil drawing, as well as paintings by local artists such as Tom Malloy, Tom Kelly and Marge Chavooshian.

For 14 years, Chuck ran a summer theater on the Peddie School campus, where he did everything from sell orange juice in the lobby to acting and directing. Chuck also currently serves as treasurer and board member of the Philadelphia Independent Film Video Association, one of the top five independent filmmaking organizations in the United States.

On the numbers side of things, Chuck was a company controller and worked part-time in a CPA practice. About five years ago he joined Peg Zimmerman as a partner in her accounting firm, now called Zimmerman and Lorimer, CPA. The firm offers business consulting and tax preparation to small and medium size firms as well as individuals. The firm does a broad range of work, though Chuck personally has many entertainment industry clients.

One of those clients, Griff O'Neil, introduced Chuck to a unique endeavor in the arts, and 12 years ago they launched the World Association of Talent, Modeling and Entertainment. The Association holds an annual event, often called "the Olympics of performing arts," with competitions in modeling, dance, voice, acting, instrumental and variety. The annual competition, now in its eighth year, is held in Hollywood, Calif. and attracts over 1,500 acts from around the world. One junior and one senior champion are selected from among the varied performers, and many competitors have gone on to modeling and performing careers thanks to the attention they garnered at the competition. The Association has also presented interesting travel opportunities to Chuck, who visited South Africa two years ago for a World Association junior competition. Chuck's goal is to bring the competition to television. With Chuck's tenacity, keep an eye on your local listings.

Given all of Chuck's activities, I wondered why he would take on the added responsibilities as Treasurer and Trustee of the TMS board. Says Chuck, "I joined the board because I saw a group of people who really enjoyed what they were doing. It looked like a great group, and I wanted to join."

The Trenton Museum Society is very glad that he did.

Holiday Fundraiser at Barnes & Noble for the Trenton Museum Society

by Nancy Nicholson

Do you love books, music and The Trenton City Museum? Patrons of the arts are invited to shop at Barnes & Noble stores in Princeton and Hamilton all day on Thursday, November 17th, 2005 to raise funds for the Trenton Museum Society. Do your holiday shopping at Barnes & Noble and present a copy of the attached voucher when you check out. Twenty percent of your purchase price will be donated back to the Trenton Museum Society.

To make the evening special, Nancy Nicholson, community relations manager at Barnes & Noble Princeton, has invited award-winning photographer Bob Krist to autograph copies of his exquisite coffee table books at 7:30 pm at the Princeton store. Mr. Krist's newest title is *Down The Shore: A Photo Tour of the Jersey Coast*. His other books include *In Tuscany* (in collaboration with Frances Mayes), *Impressions of Bucks County*, *A Photo Tour of New York*, and *Spirit of Place: The Art of the Traveling Photographer*. He works regularly on assignment for *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian* and is the host of the PBS series *Restoration Stories*.

An electronic file of the voucher is available to download on our website - so tell your friends. If you need more information please contact Ms. Nicholson at BNEVENTS@aol.com. You may also ask for a copy of the voucher at the cash register when making your purchases (some exclusions apply so please read the voucher). All purchases must be made on the day of the fundraiser. You may call the store two weeks in advance to special order items, or stop in a week early and put your selections on hold until November 17th. Please stop by, have some coffee with your friends, meet Mr. Krist and support our beautiful museum.

BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKFAIR VOUCHER

*Benefiting the
Trenton Museum Society*

Location: Princeton and Hamilton stores
Time: All Day
Date: Thursday, November 17, 2005

Present this voucher at the cash registers at the time of purchase. A percent of the net sale will be donated to the Trenton Museum Society.

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| \$ | |

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You may purchase books,
gift items, CD's, DVD's and help
the museum at the same time.

Nov.
17th

Trenton Museum Society
PO Box 1034
Trenton, NJ 08606



TRENTON CITY MUSEUM

Ellarslie Mansion
Cadwalader Park
Trenton, NJ

Tu - Sa 11am - 3pm
2nd Fri 11am - 3pm, 5pm - 7pm
Sun 1pm - 4pm
Closed Mondays, major holidays

Phone (609) 989-3632
Fax (609) 989-3624
Website www.Ellarslie.org

Featured at

Molly's

The shop at Ellarslie



Just a few of the pen & ink drawings of
Trenton landmarks by Peggy Peplow Gummere

Trenton Museum Society Annual Membership

| | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior, Student | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor | \$250 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$125 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | \$1000 |

Membership dues are fully tax deductible.

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mail to Trenton Museum Society, PO Box 1034, Trenton, NJ 08606.