



The 3rd Dimension

PHILADELPHIA SCULPTORS

1315 Walnut Street • Suite 802 • Philadelphia PA 19107 • 215.413.9126 • www.philasculptors.org

SPRING 2007 NEWSLETTER

Letter from the President

Al Gore isn't the only one who cares about climate change. We do too! Philadelphia Sculptors is very busy putting the structure into place for our ambitious **Fall 2008 exhibition, "Global Warming at the Icebox."** PS member Cheryl Harper has signed on to help with the whole project and will apply her curatorial expertise in working with the invited artists and serving as one of the jurors for the open competition. (See article on page 2.) Many PS members have expressed interest in submitting work (or proposals) – we will be sending out a prospectus to everyone closer to the date, but it isn't too early to think about what you want to do. This will be your chance to think big, think edgy, and think message! We will also need lots of help – this is by far the biggest project we have ever attempted, and we need you to make it happen. The Steering Committee is working hard – anyone can join and contribute whatever time and resources that work for you. If you are interested in signing on and joining the Steering Committee, just let me know and your name will be added.

We are not just spending time planning – we are also doing! Mark **Sunday, June 3** on your calendar for the annual **Philadelphia Sculptors Spring Meeting at Moore College of Art**. We are thrilled to have as this year's speaker internationally acclaimed artist, **Donald Lipski**, known for his sculpture, installations, and public art. We will also be offering **workshops** in the morning. In conjunction with the meeting, we will have the **reception for the annual five schools show, "5 into 1."** Watch for more information!

Many of you have applied for the **"Now ApPiering"** show at the Atlantic City Art Center from July 1 – August 26, 2007. Whether you are participating in the show or not, spend the day in Atlantic City and join us for the **opening on Sunday, July 1**, from 1:00- 3:00 pm.



Donald Lipski
Work in Progress

Two more shows to start thinking about – we will be having a show of small wall reliefs on an environmental theme related to global warming at the **Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education** during November 2007. Think of it as a practice run for your thoughts for the "big" show – or just see it as another opportunity. More information will be forthcoming. We are also planning a show at **West Chester University** for January – February, 2008. That won't be themed and since it is non-commercial, it will be a great opportunity for people who want to experiment with new ideas.

For Philadelphia residents – as you should know, the arts have been in the news a lot, especially with the recent publication of the RAND report, *Arts and Culture in the Metropolis: Strategies for Sustainability*, which evaluates the arts in Philadelphia. We all know this city should be supporting arts and culture much better than it does now. The elections will soon be upon us – make sure your voice is heard by voting in the Primary Elections on May 15. Find out the candidates' positions on the arts and let them know how important this is to you.

Leslie Kaufman



“Global Warming at the Icebox” - Update

Leslie Kaufman and I have been working with other Philadelphia Sculptors members and Board members to put all the elements in place for a successful project. So far we have secured the dates of the show (October 1 – November 15, 2008) at the Icebox Project Space in the Crane Arts Building. Five artists of international reputation, Michael Alstad (Canada), Conrad Atkinson (English, currently living in California), Yolanda Gutierrez (Mexico), Stacy Levy (Pennsylvania) and Shai Zakai (Israel) have been invited to participate, and their works will be joined by artworks selected in an open competition. You will be receiving more information about that when it becomes available.

We will have related programming at Moore College of Art and Design during the show including a regional college juried show related to the theme, a panel of speakers, and an all night film festival. Several community groups such as Taller Puertorriqueño and the Mexican Cultural Center are interested in having related programming and other galleries may be sponsoring theme-related shows as well.

We met with the Israeli Consul and are hoping for a written commitment soon for support of the invited Israeli artist. The Canadian cultural attaché gave us the information we need for the Canadian artist sponsorship. In addition, we are working with the Mexican Consulate to secure their help with their invited artist.

We still have significant funds to raise. Leslie has successfully procured a number of small grants. My husband's company (Henkel Corporation-think Proctor and Gamble of Europe-not knives) has donated \$5,000. If you have a relationship with a company through a significant other, child, parent, please find out if the company supports cultural activities or has an interest in environmental issues. If so, forward the details to Leslie such as: the contact person, and an application. We promise to make it as painless as possible for you. This show will bring significant attention to Philadelphia Sculptors and the group will reap the benefit of a higher profile.

So, please do what you can to bring this exciting project to fruition. Thanks!

Cheryl Harper
Artist/Curator and PS member



Crane Arts Building

Yahoo Discussion Group

Currently, 74 PS members have joined our Yahoo Discussion Group. Are you one of them? If you aren't, what are you waiting for? Get opportunities and announcements when they appear. Have questions you think a PS member might be able to answer? Having a show or an event? Let us know by posting your information. Join now at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/philasculptors>. Once you have registered with Yahoo, you will receive all our notices and can post your own by e-mailing the whole group at philasculptors@yahoo.com You can now also see the previous postings. Do it now!



Street Talk by Holly Smith

“Hey, Hon! You’ve got a fat ass!” This was said to me by a strange man riding a bicycle on the sidewalk while I was enroute to the grocery store. Now, I have many things, but a fat ass is not among them. Did he mean a phat ass? Well, I really wouldn’t think I was this guy’s type. For starters, I’m fond of washing my hair and brushing my teeth. There would obviously be a clash early in the relationship over our differing philosophies on personal hygiene.

No, it was meant as an insult. And the reason my ass was deemed fat was because it was taking up three-dimensional space on the sidewalk’s curb cut. I was simply in his way. If the phrase “excuse me” ever entered his head it was quickly jettisoned for a much more delicious mouthful of venom.

The rude-man-on-bicycle is either a proliferating phenomenon or else aliens have embedded a homing beacon under my skin. On my way to the mailbox a few days later, I was closing an envelope when another rider offered these words of encouragement; “Lick it baby! Lick it real good!” As jolly as he seemed, I doubt he had any real concern over the welfare of my correspondence.

But letting these incidents infuriate me seems a bit like curmudgeonly nitpicking. As much as I’d like to swat my offenders with Amy Vanderbilt’s Complete Book of Etiquette: 50th Anniversary Edition (hardback), living in the city one has to expect occasional harassment by creepy, slimy, smelly, disgusting, idiot jerks. I realize if I were walking to get groceries in say, Baghdad, I would be extremely lucky to arrive home for dinner with my brains still lodged inside my skull. So, it’s best to keep one’s pedestrian rage in perspective.

It would help, of course, if I could concoct some stunningly clever, ego-annihilating retort – a verbal arrow that would pierce the offender’s psyche and leave him spinning with contrition and conversion. Sort of a Road to Damascus epiphany without the religion or the horse. Usually though, these accosts

just leave me agape in surprised silence. To Mr. Post Office, however, I managed to deliver the Herculean equivalent of... an oatmeal boomerang. “Oh, Grow Up!” I shouted, flinging my right eyebrow as high on my forehead as possible. I could hear the peals of Snidely-Whiplash-like-laughter echo off the canyon of buildings as he pedaled into the distance.

Lauren Hallden-Abberton New PS Membership Chair

Lauren Hallden-Abberton, 2006 Moore graduate and arts administrator extraordinaire, is the new PS Membership Chair. She is graciously contributing her time and skills to keep the lines of communication open with new, current, and past-due members. And, all this is on top of her “real” job working in the Membership Department at the International Sculpture Center. Be alert – if you owe dues, Lauren will find you!

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MEMBER NEWS

Dina Wind's 17th Solo Exhibit

Dina Wind had her 17th solo exhibit last October at Nexus Gallery in Philadelphia (8th solo show at Nexus). "Black Islands" was the title of a room size installation of matte black, flattened, and rolled car fenders, floating on grey pleated rubber sheeting and sprinkled with shiny black liquid rubber.

The work entails layers of formal and narrative references. On a conceptual basis, Wind draws in space using her recycled elements to create a 3-dimensional sculptural installation whose lines flow and move around, yielding a strong composition with a compelling aesthetic effect. The monochromatic composition is lyrical yet ominous. The narrative related the islands with their haunting, receding spirals to the shattered detritus of terrorism.

For the show, Dina also created a body of work on paper, making 3-D collages, recycling some of her old drawings of her sculpture and collaging them in a rolled form onto foam board. Part of the installation [Black Island #3] was purchased by SEI Corporation and is on display for the next 4 months at the entrance to their Conference Center in Oaks, PA.



"Black Islands" - by Dina Wind

PS Sculptor in Burlington County College Sculpture Exhibition

James Fuhrman's sculpture, Suffering Passes, Having Suffered Never Passes, Communion Bench, was included in the 2006-2007 Burlington County College Sculpture exhibition curated by Michael Taylor of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. This work commemorates those who mourn losses in war, genocide, and political terrorism. The piece is conceived from the point of view of the viewer - those who

have suffered the loss. This is one of five pieces originally proposed to honor the "desaparecidos" in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Its meaning has expanded to embrace the more specific contemporary losses from 9/11 and the Iraq war. The installation is both commemorative and unifying. It consists of one complete bench and five sharply cut fragments of benches sited in a 15 foot concentric, yet open, oval extending 15 feet across a field. The contrasting elements - one whole and complete, the others torn and ripped, are a testament to the sudden loss experienced by the survivors. Simultaneously, the bench and fragments have a curving, enveloping form bringing viewers together, recognizing the unspeakable loss of the victims, as well as the hopelessness of joining with others to find resolution. The shapes bring the viewers together facing one another so that they can find strength from one another. They curve inward --to encourage interaction, among the people, to have them 'join' together. Places to sit among them are "missing," "disappeared," to honor those who are not there and to acknowledge their missing voices. In form and shape, the benches are a series of three dimensional, gestural strokes, as if from the ink of a calligraphy brush in the Japanese enso circle form. The strokes enwrap each other like an embrace and hold the viewers within them. The circle form suggests both emptiness and completion.

Edward Carey, a finalist in the 5 into 1 sculpture show at Moore College of Art, a recent graduate of The University of the Arts, and a new member of Philadelphia Sculptors, reports that he is currently working in Southern California for an environmental group in the desert. He has sent examples of some work that he has done while in the desert.



Edward Carey

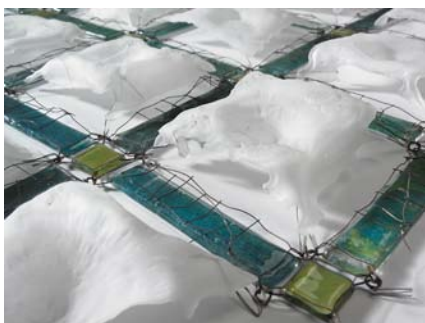


MEMBER NEWS (cont.)

Colette Fu Receives Fulbright Scholarship

PS member Colette Fu received a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship that will allow her to travel to China for a 10-month residency beginning this November. During this residency, she will pursue her interest in bringing to life the cultures of many of the minority tribes of China residing in the Southwest Yunnan Province. Her goal is "to produce a photographic pop-up book of Yunnan's 26 minority nationalities. The text that accompanies the images will be made of folktales, legends, and characteristics of a minorities classification - language, culture - to include arts and crafts and musical instruments, sports and weaponry, clothing, social and living culture and religion."

Karen Reid, a sculptor from Dalton, PA, recently became an exhibition finalist with her glass sculpture *Top of the Hedge Quilt*. Her work was selected for exhibition at the Bullseye Glass "e-merge 2006" exhibition in Portland, OR. Karen was among 40 international artists selected from over 300, with only 20 artists selected from the United States. "e-merge 2006" is the fourth in a series of biennial juried kiln-glass exhibitions directed towards emerging and intermediate level artists. It is intended to bring rising talents in glass to the attention of enthusiasts, collectors and dealers around the world. The opening reception was in October and the show ran through the end of December. An exhibition catalog was printed and is available at www.bullseyeglass.com.



Quilt detail - Karen Reid

Raye M. Cohen reports that her A Case for Art project, "Declaring Independence," bobble-head signers of the Declaration of Independence, is still living in the lobby of the Lights of Liberty.

Marci Selig Smoger reports that she displayed a ceramic sculptural work at the Tyme Gallery in Havertown, Pa.



Marci Selig Smoger

Claire Marcus is conducting Pennsylvania Council on the Arts residency at Pen Argyl Area High School and Old Forge Elementary School this spring. She has just completed an after-school program at Southern Lehigh Middle School and a Celtic Cultural Alliance outreach project at Lehigh University. "Her Nestlings: Chinese Princess Tree" installation is part of the Art in City Hall/ Spring Manifestations exhibit in Philadelphia, on view until June 15, 2007.

Valetta's "Transforming Hate" proposal was accepted by the Horter Museum in Helena Montana and will be part of their national traveling exhibition beginning in April. The title of the work is "Poison Pens and Love Potions" and the hanging quilt is approximately 70" h X 50" w. The accompanying statement reads, "This work is the destruction of "The White Man's Bible" by Ben Klassen, a proponent of white supremacy, and its reconstruction in words and images that heal and enlighten."

Rachel Citrino recently had an image of one of her sculptures published on WOMEN LIVING WITH WAR website. <http://oldroads.org/war/creative/rcitrino.htm>.



From Italy's Best-Kept Secret to a Haven for Artists and Writers:

Luigi Monteferrante's Retreats Help Creative Spirits Relax, Recharge, and Enjoy the View

The first time I visited Abruzzi, I fell in love. Everywhere I went, I found something to make me smile: lovely towns with charming houses; silvery-green olive groves; beautiful beaches; and rugged mountains topped with snow. There were also hospitable people, who couldn't do enough for you; wine as good as any I'd ever tasted; and the kind of rich, hearty food you'd have to stand in line for back in Philly. There was no question about it: this region, situated on Italy's Adriatic coast, would be my little secret. Unlike Tuscany, Abruzzi had not been popularized by mass-marketed books or Merchant-Ivory films. Unlike Umbria or Le Marche, it has remained relatively undiscovered by those who thought they knew all the undiscovered places. Few people I know have ever heard of Abruzzi, much less have any interest in renting a villa there. It belongs to me.

So, I had mixed feelings when I was invited to hear writer Luigi Monteferrante speak at the DaVinci Art Alliance a few weeks ago. Monteferrante, a Canadian native now living in the picturesque Abruzzese town of Vasto, runs a unique service: workshop retreats that give other writers and visual artists the chance to soak up the scenery and recharge their creative batteries. Here he was in South Philadelphia, spilling my secret to everyone. How could he? Then I met him, heard what he had to say, and I thought, how could he not? Abruzzi is fabulous, and his retreats are too wonderful not to share.

Monteferrante's unique get-aways, which he runs with Philadelphia-area artist Rachel Citrino, provide tours, studio space, and as much or as little structure and interaction as each guest might require or desire. It all started when Monteferrante was a child. Growing up in Montreal, he vacationed with his family in Italy. It became a second home, and after graduating from college, he decided to make it his first. In between teaching English to corporate clients and wind-surfing, he wrote, married an Italian woman, and decided to stay. That was twenty-two years ago. The environment proved to be an ideal incubator for his own writing (he has published stories in the Chicago Quarterly Review as well as a novel, "At the Heart of the Devil's Lair"), and now he wants others to bask in this source of inspiration. This is not the typical touristy tour; it is, in Monteferrante's words, "A chance for me to show people the Italy I know." And, he knows it well.

Held twice each year, the retreats consist of up to ten participants, who rendezvous in Rome

for a three-day introductory period. From there, they see an Italy that's not on the usual tourist routes. A bus takes them to the little village of Fontecchio, where they'll view the imposing castle and the lovely Romanesque church of San Francesco. Then it's off to the medieval town of Vasto for the next eight days. While on Monteferrante's home turf, guests have lots of inviting options; Monteferrante and Citrino tailor the activities to the wishes of their guests, and Citrino even distributes a questionnaire to determine their preferences. You might wish to relax on the pristine beaches. You can visit the picturesque historic town, with its distinctive architecture. Or you might choose to spend the morning cycling, and the afternoon exploring the resources of the Rossetti House (the home of Gabriel Rossetti, father of the famous Dante Gabriel), now an archive. You might also hop on the minibus for a visit to a vineyard, a trip to the Trimiti Islands, or a jaunt to Venice for the Biennale.

While play is strongly encouraged, there are plenty of opportunities for work, too. Artists can attend Rachel Citrino's workshops on drawing, painting or photography, or work privately in one of the spacious studios. Writers can enough find peace and quiet to crank out that book or polish that screenplay. And, this is Italy, of course, so in between, there are wine tastings, wonderful dinners, and lots of pleasant surprises. At the end of the stay, all artists are welcome to display their finished pieces or their works-in-progress at a special exhibition and reception. (Last year's drew some nearly 60 visitors!)

The 2007 retreats will be held May 28 through June 10 and from June 18 through July 1. The price is \$2,850 per person, including the accommodations, transportation to and from Rome, all breakfasts, most other meals, and tour guides. The optional excursion to Venice (June 10-13) is an additional \$495.

With the gregarious and gracious Monteferrante and Citrino leading the way, it's hard to imagine that my private Abruzzi will remain a secret much longer. The books and movies are sure to follow, and so are the tourists. But, it's also likely that the visiting artists and writers will also fill the world with works of true beauty inspired by their travels to this magnificent region. And that's not such a bad thing.

For more information, visit www.vm-plus.com or www.villamonteferrante.com. E-mail Luigi Monteferrante at info@luigimonteferrante.com. For information about future Da Vinci Art Alliance events, visit www.davinciartalliance.org.

Ricki Sablove



International Sculpture Center Fall Conference Sculpture in Public:

Part I, Sculpture Parks and Gardens



October 15 – 17, 2007
Seattle, Washington

ISC conferences are rolling again, and the next one is sure to have appeal. Inspired by the opening of the Olympic Sculpture Park, Sculpture in Public, Part I: Sculpture Parks and Gardens, will bring together artists, arts administrators and advisors, curators, patrons, city arts commissioners, architects, city planners, and museum directors for dialogue and networking events. These events will focus on issues relating to sculpture parks and gardens nationally and internationally, while incorporating many of the great art venues offered by Seattle and nearby Tacoma.

Get discounted conference rates as an ISC member. And, get a discounted ISC membership rate by being a PS member (see insert.) For more information, go to: www.sculpture.org.

Registration Info:

Register by August 15, 2007 to save \$100*
*discount limited to first 100 registrants.

- Early bird: \$350 member*
Register by August 15, 2007
- Regular: \$450 member*
Register by September 14, 2007

PS Website - New Feature and Benefit on Members Page

www.philasculptors.org

Check out the new feature on the PS Members page – mouse-over a name and see a sculpture! Great way to quickly see members' works. Have your own web site? Link to it from our page – for free! Haven't yet put your work on the PS site? What are you waiting for? Go to www.philasculptors.org and get the details on the Members page, or fill out the enclosed form.

Membership Renewal

Don't forget to renew your membership! If your mailing label does not have "07" or later on it, you owe dues. You can update your membership now by mailing in the enclosed form. Dues are \$35. You are also still eligible for the International Sculpture Center's \$15 discount. Take advantage of it!





Membership Renewal 2007

Date _____

Please check the appropriate box and return this form with your check.

\$35 (Individual)

\$15 (Student / Hardship)

\$50 (Family)

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

Work/studio phone _____

Cell _____

email _____

Make checks payable to Philadelphia Sculptors –

Mail to: Lauren Hallden-Abberton, Membership Coordinator, Philadelphia Sculptors,
1315 Walnut St., Suite 802, Philadelphia PA 19107

Web Page Application

Check all that you are including.

- New digital submission (\$100 / 4 images) New submission with image scanning (\$150 / 4 images)
 Update (\$30 for each additional image or \$100 / 4 images) Resumé or CV page \$30

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Work/studio phone _____ Fax _____ Cell _____

e-mail _____

Images (check all that apply) Digital Slide Photo

Digital images should be 72 d.p.i., max size 500 H x 700 W pixels or approximately 4" H x 5" W

	Title	Medium	Dimensions
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____

(More images may be included – see fee structure above)

Include artist's statement (approx. 2 paragraphs):

Optional (additional fee of \$30): Resume or information page

Make check payable to "Philadelphia Sculptors." Mail application form, slides or photos, text, and check to:
John Green, 58 E. Greenwood Avenue, Lansdowne, PA 19050.

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Note: You may also submit information and images digitally by using the application form on the PS web site www.philasculptors.org on the "Members" page.



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