

ArtsMatters



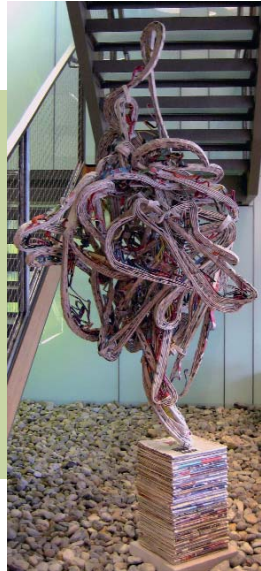
SHOWCASING THE ARTS IN THE MORRIS AREA
SEP OCT NOV DEC

Arts Council *of the* Morris Area

2010



Arts Council of the Morris Area showcases Whimsy in new juried Exhibit



Clockwise from top left: Jim Fuess' *Snake Contemplating its Navel*, David Derr's *Dartfish*, Riccardo Berlingeri's *Brainstorm*, Jim Somers' *Two Heads*, and Betty McGeehan's *Politics*.

On September 10, from 5:30-7:30pm, the Arts Council of the Morris Area held an opening reception for its latest juried exhibition entitled WHIMSY, featuring 33 works by 29 artists who live or work in New Jersey. Curated by Mary-Kate O'Hare, Ph.D., Associate Curator of American Art at the Newark Museum, the exhibit showcases these artists' unique and creative interpretations of the theme WHIMSY in varied media, from painting and photography to sculpture and mixed media. Dr. O'Hare notes, "humor and fantasy can coexist with capriciousness and the unexpected...At times unpredictable or even strange, artistic whimsy presents us with something poetic or unanticipated....The works in this exhibition embody expressions of joy, humor and fancy. Together, they help us see and connect to the inherent whimsy within our world."

Participating artists include Peter Aldrich, Francesca Azzara, Riccardo Berlingeri, Allyson Block, Janis Borbas, Jennifer De Angelis, Jim DelGiudice, Jane Dell, David Derr, Tom Francisco, Jim Fuess, Freya Gervasi, Janice Gewirtz, Kevin Hinkle, Won Ju Seo, Marv Kaminsky, Kathryn Keller, Megan Klim, Liz Kuny, Eric Levin, Maria Lupo, Betty McGeehan, Ariana Mirabile, Don Myles, Leah Olbrich, Ken Ross, Jim Somers, Peter Tilgner, and Katie Truk.

The exhibit is located at the Gallery at 14 Maple, a distinctive space located on the 3rd floor of the LEED certified "green" building at 14 Maple Avenue in Morristown, NJ. The exhibit is open to the public Mondays-Thursdays from 10am to 4pm, Fridays from 10am to 1pm, and by appointment, and will remain on display until February 9, 2011. Visit www.morrisarts.org or call (973) 285-5115 for additional information.

Girls Surviving

GIRLS SURVIVING is a troupe of young women who tell their stories through writing and performance. Under the direction of Arts Council of the Morris area teaching artists Paula Davidoff and Carolyn Hunt, 8-12 teens meet once weekly during the school year at Morristown High School and continue in a six-week intensive summer program. During 2-3 hour workshop sessions, the girls develop, write and stage plays based on their lives. The troupe performs their plays for community audiences and leads post-performance discussions about their work. This summer's play, entitled *What I am... What I am not*, explored duality, looking at ourselves and others through different lenses.

"I don't know who I am / Who should I be? / I am two different people. / A part of me is distracted and ugly; / A part of me is elegant, and confident. / I am lonely and afraid. / I can be that elegant woman, I think- / I have a choice."

—E' yana Lansing.

Since it began in 2005, *Girls Surviving* has directly served more than 50 girls in its summer and school-year programs. It has indirectly reached at least 150 more through outside workshops and community performances.



Girls Surviving, summer 2010

GIRALDA 2010 Music and Arts Festival

Despite the heat, many gathered to start the summer right by attending with the Arts Council of the Morris Area's fabulous Giralda Music and Arts Festival on Sunday, June 27, 2010. Held in Madison, NJ on the gracious lawns of Giralda Farms Corporate Park (the former Geraldine R. Dodge estate), this event featured a spectacular outdoor concert by The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jeffrey Grogan, and featuring soloists from Opera New Jersey (Inna Dukach, Ava Pine, Andrew Garland and Matthew Boehler), in a program of music from opera, Broadway, film and light classical repertoire.

Moss Points North, a distinctive alternative rock/folk band led by singer/songwriter Colin Lee, offered earthy rock and nostalgic folk with a sense of spontaneity and experimental improvisation. Additionally, Giralda featured an art/show and sale, children's activities, various hands-on arts demonstrations (spin art, watercolor painting, drumming/drum building) for adults and for children, a weaving, spinning and lacemaking demonstration, face painting, the annual picnic contest (with prizes of dinners for two, show tickets, concert tickets, etc.) along with an old fashioned ice cream truck, fresh popcorn and other dessert treats and beverages available for purchase (courtesy of Kings and Whole Foods). There was also the fabulous 50/50 raffle (in support of the Arts Council's scholarship program) where a lucky winner pocketed over \$1,300 that very day! All proceeds benefited the many programs and services provided to artists, arts organizations, schools and the community by the Arts Council of the Morris Area.

The Arts Council thanks the following corporations of Giralda Farms, whose contributions and support make this event possible: Open Spaces Management Association; RXR et al; Pfizer; Maersk Inc.; and GRC Management Corp.. This event was also sponsored by BASF – The Chemical Company, Investors Savings Bank and the Morris County Tourism Bureau, with additional support from Kings Supermarkets, Whole Foods Markets, David and Dorothy Clair, and the Daily Record, as well as John Weber of J. Weber Designs, who donated the graphic design for this event.

From top: the crowd enjoying the concert; Jeffrey Grogan conducts the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra; Stephanie Crater, Diane Moore and Jackie Crater of a prizewinning picnic "the Hippy Hut;" alternative rock/folk band, Moss Points North.



Individual Artists Gathering planned for October

The Arts Council of the Morris Area organizes artists' gatherings as a way to promote a strong sense of artistic community, share ideas, and promote upcoming art shows/classes/workshops. These informal gatherings are a great way to get to know other artists in the community and they are always uplifting and interesting evenings. The next gathering is scheduled for October 13th from 5:30-7:30pm at the Hyatt Hotel and will include light snacks and a cash bar. Check our website, www.morrisarts.org for future gatherings.

Freeholder Proclamation marks County and National Arts and Humanities Month



This October marks the first time the Arts Council of the Morris Area has spearheaded a Proclamation from the Board of Chosen Freeholders on behalf of the county's arts and cultural organizations to designate the entire month of October as Arts & Humanities Month in Morris County. The Freeholder's Proclamation coordinates with National "Arts and Humanities Month," a coast-to-coast collective celebration of culture in America. Organized every October by the national organization Americans for the Arts, National Arts and Humanities Month represents the largest annual celebration of the arts and humanities in the nation. From arts center open houses to mayoral proclamations to banners and media coverage, communities across the United States join together to recognize the importance of arts and culture in our daily lives.

On Sept. 22nd, 2010, representatives from Morris County's arts and cultural communities will gather in support of the proclamation and highlight the importance of the arts at their own events and performances during the month. Additionally, during October, the Arts Council will be featuring events of the County's cultural organizations on its website arts calendar and make a "curtain speech" available for arts and cultural organizations to read or post at their events to highlight the month and educate their patrons about the arts in our community.

As prior County proclamations have stated, "The arts and humanities bring people together to share the enjoyment of originality, talent, self-expression, beauty, imagination and to explore what it means to be human..." The proclamation also urges county citizens to "celebrate and participate in the many outstanding cultural opportunities Morris County has to offer and to honor and support those individuals and organizations that make them possible."

Celebrate New Years' Eve in style with FIRST NIGHT® MORRIS COUNTY

As of publication date, programming is underway for another exciting First Night® Morris County – celebrating New Year's Eve 2010 with a giant community-wide festival of the arts. This landmark event brings in nearly 300 performing artists to 20+ venues in and around the center of Morristown. Enjoy the thrill of new acts (and yearly favorites) – such as the giant puppets and pageantry of Arm of the Sea's Turtle Island Medicine Show, bluegrass at its best with the banjo, fiddle and singing wizardry of Straight Drive; and the verbal virtuosity of poetry slam masters, The Mayhem Poets. Dance with joy and abandon to The Spirit Ensemble's irresistible and unique blend of African/ Caribbean/ Latino music; and prepare to be humbled by the jazz magic of world famous "guitar god" Frank Vignola and his remarkable trio. Rizzo's Educational Reptile Presentation will bring some live animals (scales and fur) to the evening and the Harlem Wizards will be back with their basketball magic. A showcase of world cultures (in music and dance), First Night® Morris will also feature magicians, jugglers, face painters and all forms of music – from folk and blues to symphony, chamber music, choral music, not to mention theatre and an African drumming circle. Mix in 2 visual arts exhibits and 2 sets of fireworks and you have an unbeatable way to herald 2011! There's no better bargain – one inexpensive admission button lets you sample everything! Visit www.firstnightmorris.com for latest program updates.

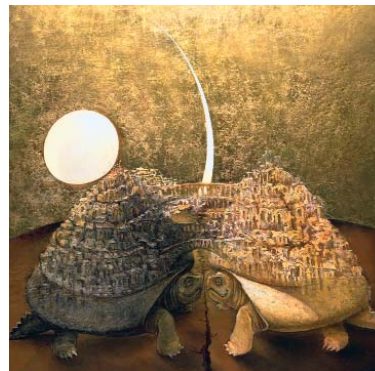


Clockwise from top: Arm of the Sea/Turtle Island Medicine Show; The Mayhem Poets; jazz guitarist extraordinaire, Frank Vignola; bluegrass artists Straight Drive; The Spirit Ensemble.

Fall-Winter 2010 Exhibit at Atrium Gallery

The Arts Council of the Morris Area invited the public to attend the free opening reception on September 30, 2010 for the Fall-Winter 2010 Exhibit at the Atrium Art Gallery, located on Floors 2-5 of the Morris County Administration and Records Building on Court Street in Morristown. A retrospective show featuring painting, sculpture, and drawings by Russian artist Yuri Yurov graces the 5th floor while the fluid lines, creative use of color and non-color and delicate strength of Greg Egan's watercolors are featured on the 4th floor. Variety and skill are evident on the 3rd floor in the works of the Myhelan Artists' Network artists. On the 2nd floor, see the color-filled works by pastel and watercolor artist Pam Gosner along with works by emerging artist Christine Wagner who mixes a touch of Miro and Mondrian into her own artistic language. Enhancing the unique atrium stairwell areas are the intriguing and fascinating mobiles of John Tetz and the stunning silk banners of Phyllis Boudreaux.

Nearly all of the artworks are available for sale, with details and pricing provided in the free catalogue which can be found in the elevator lobby areas on each floor. The Atrium Art Gallery is free and open to the public during business hours, 9am-5pm on Mondays-Fridays. The exhibit remains in place until January 12, 2011.



L-R: Yuri Yurov's oil on canvas, *Turtles*; Christine Wagner's gouache, ink and marker on paper, *Composition IV*; Greg Egan's watercolor, *Botanical*.

SPOTLIGHT

The Arts Council of the Morris Area is delighted to welcome our new Director of Development, **Gina Moran**. A Rutgers graduate with an MA in Art History from the University of Pennsylvania, Gina worked for the past 19 years at Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, most recently serving as its Executive Director of Philanthropy and Community Relations and previously working in the areas of Communications, Media and Public Relations. She brings a substantial knowledge of the area's corporate and nonprofit communities as well as unique perspectives on the world of philanthropy. Her background in directing and monitoring a multimillion dollar corporate giving program and developing creative ways to award support – not to mention her capable handling of 13-year old twin daughters (and a third daughter in college!) – promise to be wonderful assets to the Arts Council. We welcome her with pleasure to our staff!

NOTEWORTHY

Arts Council Honored: For the 13th consecutive time, the Arts Council of the year has received the New Jersey State Council on the Arts' coveted *Citation of Excellence*, "the highest possible assessment" of its Council grant application "by esteemed, independent panels of their peers." Additionally, the Arts Council of the Morris Area was one of only 10 organizations statewide to be designated a *Major Service Organization* in recognition of its "long history of artistic excellence, substantial programming, broad public benefit and a superior review through the panel process."

Thanks

to our very generous recent funders whose support makes our work possible: **New Jersey State Council on the Arts; The Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders.**

TO SUPPORT THE ARTS COUNCIL:

How to Get Involved

- **Watch your mailbox in November for the Arts Council's Annual Appeal.** Your support helps us cultivate a community that offers its children a complete education, engages newcomers and longtime residents in creative experiences, and connects people from all walks of life by inspiring a sense of shared humanity.
- **Celebrate holidays and milestones with a tribute gift to the Arts Council.** A donation to the Arts Council is the perfect gift to for a loved one committed to creativity.
- **Check to see whether your company has a matching gift program.** Some companies will double the donations or value of volunteer time given by their employees.
- **Send us your e-mail address!** We value sustainability and community – help us communicate with you more effectively as we all work to build a greener, more creative world.

All contributions are tax-deductible. For more information contact **Gina Moran**, the Arts Council's Development Director at gmoran@morrisarts.org or (973) 285-5115, ext. 13.

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The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has awarded the *Arts Council of the Morris Area* a "Citation of Excellence" and designation as a "Major Service Organization" in recognition of the quality of its solid history of "service excellence, substantial activity and broad public service".

This newsletter is available in large print. Please call

Large Print

(973) 285-5115, ext. 10.

Be sure to visit our website www.morrisarts.org

Music Without Borders

Initiated in 2010, this series of four free outdoor world music concerts reflects a collaboration between the Arts Council of the Morris Area and The Community Theatre at the Mayo Center for the Performing Arts and is designed to reflect the diversity of our world through music.

Hundreds attended the various programs which, in June, were held at lunchtime on the Morristown Green and, in July, during early evening in front of The Community Theatre. On June 15, the public enjoyed hearing West African music with the **Fula Flute Trio**, performing on *balafon* (African xylophone), *kora* and *tambin* (African flute). On June 29, the festive mood led to limbo dancing, singing and even a conga line in response to the infectious cheerful Caribbean music of **The Conroy Warren Duo**, which showcased Patrick Gomes on steel pan and Antiguan native guitarist, Conroy Warren. On July 13, Latin dancing erupted spontaneously in the lobby of the Community Theatre, thanks to the compelling rhythms of **Los Ciegos Del Barrio**, a multi-genre Latin band featuring keyboard, Latin percussion and voice. "The Blind Boys of the Neighborhood" (the band members are all legally blind) performed *Merengue*, *Bachata*, *Salsa*, *Cumbia*, *Reggaeton* and *Rock* in both English and Spanish. Closing out the series on July 27, the public thrilled to the powerful, athletic *taiko* drumming, the piercing sounds of the *fue* flute and the antics of the mime/dancer of **Taikoza**, a Japanese music ensemble which has performed in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Madison Square Garden, Symphony Space and Lincoln Center as well as sold-out houses in Russia and Europe.



Taikoza artist in taiko drumming performance.



The Fula Flute Trio

Save the Dates:



October 7-10, 2010

Tickets are going fast. Check out the schedule at the new venues in Newark (including NJPAC) for this remarkable "Wordstock" event. Visit www.grdodge.org for more details.



October 30, 2010 – Arts Everywhere! Pumpkin Illumination Event at the Vail Mansion brick areas surrounding Reflecting Pool and Monument. Participants arrive between 5-6pm, viewing 6:30-8:30pm. For more details, contact Kadie Dempsey at kdempsey@morrisarts.org



March 31, 2011 – Great Conversations returns by popular demand! You don't want to miss this amazing event! Be sure to mark your calendars now.