# Arts Matters

SHOW CASING THE ARTS IN THE MORRIS AREA



2021

## 37th Giralda Music & Arts Festival to Return on August 28th











Celebration is in order: Morris Arts' much beloved Giralda Music & Arts Festival is returning – as restrictions continue to ease – on August 28th (raindate August 29th), 2021.

Enjoy the beauty of a performance by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra while relaxing on the lush grounds of the Giralda Farms Corporate Park, (the former Dodge Estate). There will be plenty to see and do, with children's activities and an art show and sale. Morris Arts' traditional creative picnic contest is also expected to return...with prizes awarded to the most inventive picnics that day. This will mark Morris Arts' 37th Giralda Music & Arts Festival — and the return of a much-treasured tradition in the area.

As quoted in Kevin Coughlin's article for MorristownGreen.com (https://tinyurl.com/vrm3k3eb), Morris Arts' Executive Director, Tom Werder, stated: "I'm thrilled to be planning an event that can bring our community together again – to enjoy beautiful music in the great outdoors...It brings me hope that this event and many others that will start to reappear throughout New Jersey are a signal that we are returning to a sense of normalcy," he said. To insure everyone's safety, socially distanced spacing will be marked off on the grass and CDC guidelines will be followed.

Morris Arts wishes to thank our generous sponsors:

**Giralda Property Sponsors:** Open Spaces Management Association Inc., GRC Management Corp., Lincoln Equities LLC, Giralda Farms RE LLC, Linque Management Company, Inc., American Realty Capital, 1 Giralda Farms LLC, Onyx Management Group LLC, Fazio Farms LLC, 7 Giralda Realty L.L.C., Mack-Cali Realty Corp., Atlantic Health System

**Community Sponsors:** Crum & Forster Insurance, MetLife Foundation, County of Morris, Township of Chatham and Morris County Park Commission

All proceeds benefit the many programs and services provided to artists, arts organizations, schools and the community by Morris Arts. So, invite that special someone, friends, family, neighbors, club members or college chums to share a picnic and help support the important work of Morris Arts, which has been building community through the arts for 48 years.







**Time:** Gates open at 3pm, Concert starts

at 5pm

**Date:** Saturday, August 28, 2021 (raindate:

Sunday, August 29, 2021)

Location: Giralda Farms, Dodge Drive and

Madison Ave. (Rt. 124), Madison, NJ 07940

Tickets: (take advantage of lower pricing for

advance tickets!)

In advance: Adults (over 12): \$18;

Children: \$4; under 4, free. (Group sales, 10 or more, \$15 adults) At the gate: Adults (over 12): \$25;

Children: \$5; under 4, free.

Advance Tickets can be purchased online at Morris Arts, at www.morrisarts.org starting in June. Individuals needing special assistance or accommodation should contact Bethany Russo (973) 285-5115, x11 or brusso@morrisarts.org at least 14 days prior to the event to ensure appropriate arrangements.

In the event of uncertain weather, please check the website www.morrisarts.org AFTER 12 pm on the day of the concert for the latest updates.



On this page: Scenes from Giralda 2019



L-R, Top Row: 1) Willie Cole – Contemporary American Sculptor, conceptual and visual artist; 2) Mark Rivera – Longtime saxophonist for Billy Joel; 3) David Burke – Celebrity chef, restaurateur and cookbook author; 4) Mindi Dickstein – award-winning lyricist, librettist and playwright. L-R, Middle Row: 5) Dr. Thomas Zaubler – Morristown Medical Center, Chair & Medical Director of the Department of Psychiatry; 6) Carlos Rodriguez – Community Food Bank of New Jersey, President & CEO. L-R, Bottom Row: 7) John Siegenthaler – former anchor for NBC Nightly News and MSNBC, Partner at Finn Partners; 8) George Philander, PhD – Renowned climate scientist, El Niño expert, Knox Taylor Professor Emeritus of Geosciences at Princeton; 9) Virginia Buckingham – Amazon best-selling author of \*On My Watch: A Memoir.

### Great Conversations from Home — Take 2

On April 29th, twenty-five exceptional and highly accomplished individuals hosted conversations in individual zoom "rooms" filled with lucky guests. As was the case for Great Conversations of prior years, guests and hosts were immersed in memorable and fascinating discussions of such topics as the challenges of writing meaningful lyrics for Broadway songs, the impacts of scapegoating when major disasters happen, and how news, rather than opinion, should matter most to us all in our media. Sharing stage experiences top musical stars, insights into truly creative cooking and dining, and addressing questions like how does one create fine art from shoes, irons and other ordinary objects, how does one feed thousands of food insecure people during a pandemic, what mental health issues need the most attention during periods of national calamity, or what is the role of basic research in addressing the climate crisis – all were among the discussion topics that fascinated, uplifted, and inspired guests at Great Conversations on April 29th. Check out some of the early "reports from the field" such as Kevin Coughlin's account from Virginia Buckingham's "room" at https://tinyurl.com/nts5vh7d (MorristownGreen.com) and Pat Robinson's account from John Siegenthaler's "room" at https://tinyurl.com/2fn69ypm (jerseyhills.com). It was an evening to remember!

Morris Arts gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our corporate sponsors:

**ENCORE:** Crum & Forster; Hackensack Meridian Health; MCM Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley; NJ Advance Media providing services for *NJ.com* & *The Star-Ledger*; NJ PBS; ROI-NJ

**GREEN ROOM:** Delta Dental of New Jersey

**OVATION:** Finn Partners; Mondelez International; Quest Diagnostics

APPLAUSE: BASF; Delta Dental of New Jersey; Morristown Medical Center;

NK Architects; Pfizer; RH (Restoration Hardware)

**STAR:** PwC; Riker Danzig; Senlac Ridge Partners; Sherman Atlas Sylvester & Stamelman

## GALLERYAT14 MAPLE - Vanishing Worlds Exhibit Extended to Mid-December, 2021















1) Bill Westheimer's collodion wet-plate photogram on slate, Anthropocene #10 (Rattlesnake Ribs); 2) Robert Lach's multimedia Nest Colony II; 3) Janet Boltax's oil, Ruby; 4) Diane Savona's wool and thread "tablet," The Library of Louvain; 5) Susan Ahlstrom's mixed media Our Town; 6) Onnie Strother's photograph, Deante, Clinton & Bergan; 7) Philemona Williamson's oil, Pink Party Hat; 8) Lisa G Westheimer's Raku fired stoneware piece with glazed interior, Frilly Lidded Luster "Purse" Jar.

Morris Arts' Gallery at 14 Maple installed Vanishing Worlds, its twenty-third exhibit, just before the Covid shutdown. By extending the exhibition through mid-December 2021, Morris Arts hopes that the public will be able to see this magnificent and meaningful show in person as pandemic restrictions ease. Most of the artwork is also available to see — and purchase — virtually on our website at https://www.morrisarts.org/programs/art-galleries/14-maple/. Several works in the original show have since been replaced with new works, by artists Janet Boltax, Lisa G Westheimer and Philemona Williamson. The show's updated catalogue (including details and pricing), is also available on our website https://www.morrisarts.org/programs/art-galleries/14-maple/.

Guest curator, Yvette Lucas, selected works by nine distinguished New Jersey artists including Susan Ahlstrom, Janet Boltax, Kate Dodd, Robert Lach, Diane Savona,

Onnie Strother, Lisa G Westheimer, Bill Westheimer and Philemona Williamson. Each brings a unique perspective to the theme of Vanishing Worlds, whether confronting species extinction, lost libraries of the ancient world, disappearing professions, obsolete technologies, vanishing childhood or the gradual vanishings associated with aging. All of the artworks are rendered with creative, imaginative and intriguing insights that encourage the viewer to reflect on the fleeting nature of existence and the inexorable march of time.

Please check our website for additional details as they become available.

Morris Arts gratefully acknowledges support for this exhibit from



## INTO THE

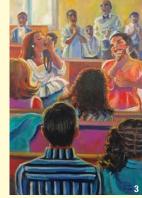


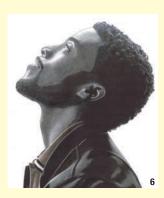


## Art in the Atrium's 29th Annual African American Fine Art Exhibition/Sale: Into the Light, opens virtually Juneteenth (June 19)









Art in The Atrium's 29th annual exhibition and sale of African American art, entitled Into the Light, will spotlight mixedmedia artist Rosalind Nzinga Nichol and the works of 30 other established and emerging African American artists. This virtual group exhibit will open online on Juneteenth (June 19) and run through October 22, 2021.

A non-profit volunteer arts organization, Art in the Atrium (ATA) has championed Black art excellence since its inception nearly three decades ago and has proudly exhibited fine art from the African diaspora at the Atrium Gallery (working with Morris Arts) and at other venues throughout northern New Jersey.

Its annual exhibition, the largest of its kind in the state of New Jersey, has been a successful showcase of art by emerging and established artists. In 2001 and again in 2016, the organization was named "Arts Organization of the Year" by Morris Arts. ATA annually awards a scholarship to a promising visual arts student. In 2020, ATA pivoted to an online art gallery to support ATA's mission and raise funds to support the scholarship program. In the first week of the virtual art show, ATA made an astounding \$20,000 in art sales. The virtual art gallery is viewable at artintheatrium.org.

- 1) Jacqueline Collier's The Arrangement
- 2) Jamil Burton's Cocoa Rhythm
- 3) Cathleen McCoy Bristol's Church Concert
- 4) Alicia Robinson's Soul Explosion
- 5) Rosalind Nzinga Nichol's Golden Time of the Day
- 6) Quientard DeGeneste's Chadwick Bozeman/Wakanda Forever

## The Social Fabric: Black Artistry in Fiber Arts, An Exhibition in Homage to Viki Craig June 4, 2021 — October 24, 2021

This second ATA exhibit – devoted exclusively to Black fabric arts – heralds the exciting, new partnership between Art in the Atrium (ATA) and the Morris Museum, dedicated to showcasing the diversity of Black art. Deeply rooted in guilt-making tradition, today's Black fiber arts incorporate conventional textile skills with contemporary art and design practices. Beyond their visual and tactile allure, these works communicate societal and cultural messages at the intersection of identity and inspiration. This year's theme honors the lifelong work of ATA co-founder and quilter Viki Craig (1947-2018) in elevating Black artistry.

The exhibit features 50 works by 27 outstanding fabric artists including Aminah Robinson, Beverly McCutcheon, Bisa Washington, Carole Robinson, Clara Nartey, Denise Toney, Ellaree Pray, Faith Ringgold, Gladys Barker Grauer, Glendora Simonson, Janet O. Green, Jeanine Bowen, Kathia St. Hilaire, Katie Commodore, Kianga Jinaki, Michael Cummings, Minnie Melvin, Sharela May Bonfield, Sherry Shine, Shervone Neckles, Stephen Towns, Theda Sandiford, Tina Williams Brewer, Toni Thomas, Viki Craig, Wannetta Phillips, and Maureen Kelleher and The Social Justice Collaboration Quilts Project.

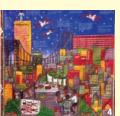
Aside from Viki Craig, Faith Ringgold, Bisa Washington and Michael Cummings are among the showcased artists. Additionally, works by "lifers" at Louisiana's Angola Prison, from the Social Justice Collaboration Quilts Project are included in this striking show. Further background on the exhibit is available in the MorristownGreen.com article at https://tinyurl.com/3ueaprrj.

Curated by ATA's Gwendolyn Barrington Jackson, Nette Forné, Onnie Strother, Wannetta Phillips, and the Morris Museum's Managing Curator, Ronald T. Labaco, the show will be on display in four gallery spaces at the Morris Museum, Wednesdays - Sundays, 11am-5pm, 6 Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, NJ, from June 4-October 24, 2021. Visit www.morrismuseum.org and www.artintheatrium.org for additional details.

1) Kathia St. Hilaire's A Spirit Watches Over You; 2) Michael Cummings' Mecklenburg County, N.C.; 3) Gladys Barker Grauer's Sweet Thing; 4) Faith Ringgold's Tar Beach 2; 5) Viki Craig's Gee's Bend Sampler (shown horizontally); 6) Bisa Washington's War Dress Moremi Leads The Battle; 7) Stephen Towns' Crucifixion; 8) Katie Commodore's Greg in Blue.















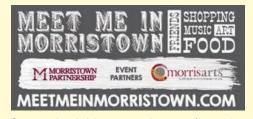




The Morris Arts Teaching Artist Relief Grant program was made possible through the New Jersey Arts & Culture Recovery Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation, helping to ensure the survival of New Jersey's cultural sector during this period of economic devastation from the COVID-19 pandemic. Open to practicing NJ Teaching artists who are professional artists with dual careers at educators, in all artistic disciplines, who work in schools, museums, social service and community settings and who met the financial criteria, these grants offered financial assistance to those artists experiencing financial hardship due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Grant awards were based upon demonstrated financial need, available funding, and an equitable distribution of funds relating to racial/ethnic diversity, geography (South, Central, North New Jersey) and arts disciplines. With grants ranging from \$500-\$2,000, a total of \$42,600 has been awarded to 29 artists.

## Local Arts Organizations — **Grant Applications Are Coming Soon**

Information and application forms for our 2022 Local Arts Grants will go "live" on our website in June at https://www.morrisarts.org/arts-organizations/localarts-grants/. Local arts organizations should keep an eye out and be sure to apply.



Stay tuned and visit www.morrisarts.org for updates about Meet Me In Morristown which may take place later in the summer, pending CDC guidelines.



Music Beyond Borders, our summer series of live performances of world music and dance, will not be held on the Green this summer.

## To support Morris Arts: How to get involved...

- Consider an in-kind gift. Now is a great time to share your technical or professional expertise or items that you think might be useful to Morris Arts.
- · Celebrate holidays and milestones with a tribute gift **to Morris Arts.** A donation to Morris Arts 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 match 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. To sign up, visit www.morrisarts.org.

All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. For more information contact Gina Moran, Morris Arts' Director of Development, at gmoran@morrisarts.org or (973) 285-5115, ext. 13.

Thanks to our very generous recent funders whose support makes our work possible: Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation; F.M. Kirby Foundation; Merrill G. & Emita Hastings Foundation; Morris County Dept. of Human Services; New Jersey State Council of the Arts; and the Su Pau Fund.

### **Morris Arts**

14 Maple Avenue, Suite 301 Morristown, NJ 07960 (973) 285-5115 Editor: Dr. Lynn L. Siebert







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The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has awarded Morris Arts 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 by calling (973) 285-5115, ext. 10.



For a calendar listing of arts events in Morris County and for more information on Morris Arts' many programs and services, visit us at www.morrisarts.org,

like us on 🛍 and follow us on



## 2020-2021 Young Artist Mentoring Program/Updates

This year's program included seven students from Morristown High School attending weekly Zoom sessions taught by artists Susan Faiola and Dan Fenelon. The students this year were extremely talented. thoughtful, and hard working. Ariel Papas has recently completed a Winter Session with the very prestigious Iowa Writer's Workshop, Maeye Grennan has been taking classes at FIT on weekends, Daniela Cappy has received a scholarship to SCAD, where she will attend in the fall. Maria Paguay has been accepted to FDU, William Patterson, St. Elizabeth's, Stockton University, and Seton Hall. Students have been exposed to works by different arts and have been sharing their own works, digital or analog, with the class. Sessions have included studies in light and shadow, exploring line/ contour drawings, experimenting with different mediums, and portraiture (of self and of others). Additionally, students have been studying logos and typography, designing their own.

YAMP Summer project: In collaboration with Stefan Armington, the Morristown Partnership and property owner Doug Greenberg, the mentoring students will create a mural for an empty storefront window at 32 Speedwell Avenue (formerly the Design with Tile storefront). The canvas mural, to be backlit at night, will match the window size, 79" by 66," and will be easily movable in case there is the option for it to travel to other vacant storefronts this summer. Its theme is "Morristown Strong," and the mural will represent what community means to the students.

Teddy Smarz, a Mentoring Student alumnus, currently a student at the Rhode Island School of Design, inspired Great Conversations guests by sharing his own experiences in our Mentoring Program and how greatly that program advanced his opportunities.





L-R: The Wise Mystic, artwork by Teddy Smarz; Teddy Smarz.