



Bringing Artists Together with the Community

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Broadway Mall Community Center
 96th Street & Broadway (center isle)
 Hours: Wed 6 - 8 pm
 Sat & Sun 12 - 6 pm

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ARE YOU MOVING? Please advise us immediately of any changes in address, phone number, etc. Send this information via mail to the attention of "Membership Chair" or via email to wsacnyc@gmail.com.

February 8 - 26, 2012

Black Renaissance 2012

By Anne Rudder
 Curated by Sonia Barnett & Robert Scott
 Photos © Herb Fogelson



It is my pleasure to make some comments about the wonderful show, "Black Renaissance 2012."

Each year, this special celebration of People of Color does not disappoint. Certainly, this was the case again as the artists focused on portraiture and history.

(Continued on Page 2)

POETRY CORNER

Come bring your poetry, read it and get some positive input from poets of the Riverside Poets.

We have weekly workshops at **NYPL Muhlenberg Branch**, 209 West 23rd Street (near 7th Avenue) from **5-7 pm (please note the new time)**. The March 2012 schedule is listed below. You can call 212- 924-1585.

There are also free monthly readings with an open mike at **NYPL Riverside Branch** at 127 Amsterdam Avenue (between 65th and 66th Streets) from 3-5 pm on the first Saturday of each month. For more information, you can call 212-870-1810.

For reservations and more information, please contact us at riversidepoets@live.com.

March Weekly Workshops:

- Thursday, March 1
- Tuesday, March 6
- Tuesday, March 13
- Thursday, March 22
- Thursday, March 29

Monthly Open Mike Readings:

Saturday, March 3

****PLEASE NOTE THAT RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED****
 To RSVP, please email riversidepoets@live.com

New Members

We are happy to extend a warm welcome to the newest members of the WSAC!

- Lester Blum**
- Joyce Bolden**
- Marvin Gettleman**
- Daniel James**
- Lula Ladson**
- Cornelius Mead**
- Todd Miguel Merchant**



Debra Holland

The exhibit began with pieces by **Debra Holland**, one of which was a wonderful pastel of a Masai tribeswoman, entitled "Karibu!" Ms. Holland explained the significance of this word as the Swahili response to the question by the visitor to the house door who asks, "Hodi, hodi" or may I come in? These words are greeted with the hospitable response, "Karibu!" a warm welcome of "please come in." The artist showed two other pieces, one of figures painted in acrylic on a mirror and a charming oil of a girl named "Malaika" which in Swahili means angel. The artist's depiction of this young woman truly was so.

Nate Ladson gave us two somber and sobering paintings. "Martin" was a portrait of Martin Luther King, Jr. sitting in a Birmingham jail after his arrest, not knowing what fate would await him. Ladson also showed "Door of No Return," referring to the place in Africa, Goree Island, where African men and women were brutally housed awaiting the ships to come take them overseas to slavery in the Americas. Although in the painting, the building's dark interior had an aperture looking out on the ocean's horizon, Ladson's picture is certainly not idyllic. Here, the ocean and sun on the water portend great suffering to come.



Nate Ladson

Ida Marx, a new member of the WSAC, showed joyous, accomplished works. Her painting of "Mary" was a beautiful depiction of a teenager with aspirations of becoming an artist. Marx, in a very legible hand, surrounded her beautiful subject with an essay that could have been written by the young girl, herself, telling her story to the viewer. We see Marx's physical portrait of Mary and we also feel we are part of the painting through words written around her on the canvas. We are in and outside the painting. Marx also includes an oil of New York City showing subtle manipulation of color in the small jewel, "Rooftops."

In **Sonia Barnett's** work, great feeling always shines through. I particularly liked "Caring Glance" a pencil drawing of President Obama holding a young child up to his heart for a hug. He caresses and protects his young charge and Barnett in her elegant line rendering conveys to the viewer through superlative technique and emotional content, how much our President cares about people.



Ida Marx

Gloria Shepherd treated us to four professionally executed paintings of subjects who seemed to manifest themselves subtly in color and dark and light from the painted surfaces. Ms. Shepherd is a Life Member of The Arts Students League and a Resident Artist Member of the Salmagundi Club. It is an honor for us to show her very accomplished work. The painter seemed to not only depict her subjects on a visual level but also conveyed their emotional aspects that breathed life into the painted images.

Gail Comes gave us two mysterious and very strong pieces, the oil, "Impossible Love I" and the graphite drawing, "The Visitor." Somehow for me, these works spoke of the collective unconscious with antediluvian primitive images. Nimrod came to mind when looking at Comes' somewhat inscrutable art.



Sonia Barnett

Joyce Bolden provided light, elegant touches to the show in her simple pen and ink rendering of the "Madonna" and her exuberant line work in "Jazz Guys" and "Snoopy Abstract." The artist conveyed the joy of the only intrinsic American musical art form in a composition demonstrating the musicians' energy amid all the instruments used to make this music. Her pen and ink colorful abstract of Snoopy made me feel I was right in the comic strip as Snoopy jumped up in the air above his dog house in response to some mischief by the Peanuts gang.

The unique **William Hunt** gave us two pieces, one romantic, fitting for Valentine's Day, and one profound. "Our First Date" combined his beautiful line work depicting a young woman thinking about the joy of receiving roses upon her first meeting with her love. This piece contrasted with the most emotionally intense work in the show, "When Heroes Cry" – a dramatic tribute to the firemen who were First Responders on 9/11 and sacrificed their lives to save so many. Hunt drew three views of a fireman, No. 119, crying red, white and blue tears in front of the burning World Trade Center. 343 men were lost in the towers. Could this man, No. 119, stand for all of them? There was no way to forget this piece and its emotional force brought me right back to that day.



Gloria Shepherd

Dariel James, an expert crafts artist gave us the quilt, "15 Variations of the Drunkard's Path." In James' own words, "It is a piece of art inspired by a quilt code symbol used in the Underground Railroad. Two pieces, one shaped as a half pie and the other in the form of a letter L, are recombined with different symmetry and shading to create an unlimited number of patterns..." When I looked at this work, I thought of Harriet Tubman who brought to freedom over 700 slaves. Tubman confused her pursuers and was never caught as she shepherded people safely and was always on the move. I thought the title referred to Tubman's ability to confuse those who wanted to capture her and her charges denying them their human rights and viciously treating them as recovered property.

I really liked **Robert N. Scott's** two energetic, evocative pieces. The dark colors of "Louisiana Swamps" brought an image of swaying rich purple plant life covered in humid dark mud. The plants seemed to move with the wind across the page. In "Tropic Study," Scott created upward gestural strokes in this monotype, the palms bursting up out of the rain forest in a thicket of green movement.



Gail Comes

Sandra A. Brannon presented two delightful, subtle collages. In "Creation at Snow Farm," I envisioned myself sitting before a warm fire, reading about photography in the Sunday Times Arts Section while the snow swirled outside my window in the countryside. The companion piece in both color and material, "Sam My Father," communicated to me the story of her father's life. Perhaps his ancestry was Nigerian, South African and Caribbean. Maybe he was a descendant from the Civil War's slavery and a man of musical talent. These were my reactions to Brannon's wonderful collaged hints.



Joyce Bolden

The curators placed **Alberto Bassat's** acrylic painting, "Green Calm," next to Nate Ladson's "Door of No Return," showing the contrast between a canvas with an idyllic depiction of the sea, sun and horizon, evoking the eternal and hopeful, juxtaposed with Ladson's desperate intimations of people waiting to be hurled into a nightmare diaspora. "Thoughtful Patches" appeared to be an image of a Madonna of the Earth, a woman who may have worked as a quilter on a southern plantation. As I looked at it, I thought the artist made the woman a universal healing image. "The Ceremony" in its narrative, depicted a Candomble or Macomba celebration with its ritual drumming and dancing conjuring African deities and as exuberant as whirling dervishes. With these three pieces, Bassat truly displayed his versatility.

Herbert Evans' three abstractions provided a broad frame of reference in his impasto application of color and dynamic brushstrokes. "Southern Folk" was a celebration of black people getting together, having a good time perhaps at a picnic on a summer Sunday afternoon. The artist's manipulation of line communicated mirth and joy at being together. "Pieces of a Dream" came from Evans' unconscious, and for me, evoked Messianic images of Ethiopian priests protecting the sacred Seal. The artist described "Rings Around Saturn" as being a painting where two different actions occur simultaneously. The horizontal, multi-colored lines suggest the planet's rings and the more organic, vertical applications of paint in front of the lines signify people of the primeval Earth. All three works are open to the viewer's interpretation.

I did not want to leave the gallery after seeing this show and felt I had been fed emotionally and spiritually with a truly satisfying, sumptuous meal.



William Hunt



Dariel James



Robert N. Scott



Sandra A. Brannon



Alberto Bassat



Herbert Evans

Black Renaissance 2012
 (Continued from Page 1)

By Nora Glikman

NUDE OVER HUDSON

Mountainous grayness
 strained breathing
 sprawled figure
 across the river shores

Steam is rising
 as river re-awakens
 from deep motionless sleep

Impenetrable tarpaulin over river
 dense wall of joined drops
 breeze intervenes carries away
 dusty-grey vapors of previous night

Statuesque nude of a mountain appears
 her heavy stony body
 slowly reveals its changing shape

What giant tools
 has the sculptor been using
 to chisel forms
 so humanly alive

She forever rests
 on the shores of Hudson
 pretending to be a mountain
 not blinking an eye



Home: A Photography Show
January 18 - February 5, 2012
 Photos © Jean Prytskacz

(Pictured Left to Right, Top to Bottom) Curators Carolyn Reus and Jack Cesareo; Jean Prytskacz*; Lester Blum; Dr. Barry Pinchefskey & Guest; David Ruskin (guest); Jonathan Morrison; Harold Serban (guest) & Guest; Cal Eagle, Guest & Jane Hoffer (guest)

*Photo taken by Dr. Barry Pinchefskey



Thank you!

WSAC would like to thank

- Aldith Clarke
- Herbert Evans
- Daniel Gelb
- Marvin Gettleman
- Kehinde Peter Schulz

for their generous contributions!

Attention WSAC Members!

If you would like to submit "Member News", Short Poems (20 lines or less) or art related quotes to be shared with our community in future Newsletters, please send **PLAIN TEXT ONLY** (no images or flyers) in an email to wsacnews@gmail.com.

Please note that newsletters are sent out at the beginning of each month, so **make sure to submit your news by the 13th of the month** for the following month's newsletter.

We will try to be as inclusive as possible, but please keep in mind that there are space and time limitations.

By Shikoh Shiraiwa

Vanity

Seeking the reason of life,
 Leaving me exhausted...
 Sitting under an old tree,
 With the wind shaking the tree's branches -
 Revealing the sky..
 Even in the arbor of the tree, eternity shows itself..
 sowing vanity inside of me...

MEMBER NEWS

Khuumba Ama's work was part of the National Conference of Artist New York (NCA) from February 23-26, 2012. www.NCANewYork.com She will be curating and featuring in a Woman's History Month exhibition ('*Honoring Femininity III*'), with Virgin Island artist Jahweh David, to be on display March 2nd - April 3, 2012, at the New York Public Library, 224 East 125th Street Branch. Reception date: March 29th, 5-7 pm. Refreshments, music & spoken words will be served.

TallHill Gallery presents Khuumba Ama, a Solo Salon Show. April 1st - April 30, 2012. Bloomfield, New Jersey. For more information call: (646) 245-2075

Adam Brostow is ready for a new exhibit and his most recent work, "Havran in Tatra Mountains," can be viewed online at: <http://www.mountainelm.com/rp2>. Other new works include Cosmic Mandala (<http://www.mountainelm.com/mandala2>), Monte Carlo (<http://www.mountainelm.com/mc2>), and Shetland Pony (<http://www.mountainelm.com/horse2>). For more information about Adam, please visit his website at: <http://www.mountainelm.com/>.

2011-2012 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

(F) = Fine Arts
(P) = Photography
(M) = Craft / MultiMedia

September 10 - October 2, 2011 (F)
Fall: Rising Above 9/11
Carson Ferri-Grant

October 5 - 23, 2011 (F)
Abstractions 2011 (Moving Currents)
Anne Rudder

October 26 - November 13, 2011 (P)
Open 2011
Jonathan Morrison

November 16 - December 4, 2011 (F)
Free Expression
Sonia Barnett

December 7 - 27, 2011 (F)
A Gift of Art 2011
Ava Schonberg & Carole Barlowe

December 28, 2011 - January 15, 2012 (F)
New Art for a New Year
Margo Mead

January 18 - February 5, 2012 (P)
Home
Carolyn Reus & Jack Cesareo (Assisting)

February 8 - 26, 2012 (F)
Black Renaissance 2012
Sonia Barnett & Robert Scott

February 29 - March 18, 2012 (F)
Seasons of the Mind
Linda Lessner
Reception: March 3, 2:30 - 5:30 pm

ARTISTS:

Richard Carlson
Arlene Finger
Marvin Gettleman
Barbara Hughes
Linda Lessner
Pilar Malley
Marianne McNamara
Lucinda Prince
Emily Rich
Marie Robison
Amy Rosenfeld
Deborah Yaffe

Please join us for a
delightful music
and poetry
afternoon!

Sunday, March 18
3:00 - 4:00pm

Music for two Viols
by Judith Davidoff
and Lesley Retzer

Poetry by
Riverside Poets

March 21 - April 8, 2012 (P)
Desserts
Jack Cesareo & Jonathan Morrison
Reception: March 24, 2:30 - 5:30 pm

April 11 - 29, 2012 (F)
Spring Gems
Robert Schultheis & Robert Scott

May 2 - 20, 2012 (P)
Ten Years After
Jean Prytyskacz

2011-2012 OUTSIDE SHOWS

Spring to Art: A Fine Arts Exhibit
West Park Presbyterian Church
165 West 86 Street (NE Corner of
Amsterdam Avenue)

March 19 - April 13, 2012
M-F: 12-5 pm; Sun: 2-5 pm

Delivery: Sunday, March 18, 1:30-2:30 pm
Reception: Thursday, March 22, 5-8 pm
There will be a performance of
Baroque cellos by Judith Davidoff
and Lesley Retzer during the
Reception from 5:30 - 6 pm.
Removal: Sunday, April 15, 2-5 pm

Curator:

Margo Mead
212.663.1355
Email: meadart@verizon.net

Artists:

Jeanne Allen	Marie Robison
Carole Barlowe	Gloria Rosenberg
Zelda Goldberg	Anne Rudder
Robin Goodstein	Ava Schonberg
Barbara Hughes	Monique Serres
Linda Lessner	Elisa Van Rhyn
Margo Mead	

Art Waves:

 A Fine Arts Exhibit

Manhattan Borough President's Office
Municipal Building
1 Centre Street, South Tower, 19th Floor

April 30 - June 1, 2012
M-F: 9 am - 5 pm

Hanging: Saturday, April 28, 10 am - 12 pm
Reception: Thursday, May 3, 6-8:30 pm
Removal: Saturday, June 2, 10 am - 12 pm

Fee: \$40

Curator:

Margo Mead
41 West 96 Street, #13C
New York, NY 10025
212.663.1355
Email: meadart@verizon.net

EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES

To participate in these shows, please
submit the enclosed Exhibit Entry
form to the appropriate Curator.

The Entry Fee for each show is \$60,
unless otherwise noted.

March 21 - April 8, 2012

Desserts: A Photography Exhibit
Hanging: March 18, 6:30 pm
Reception: March 24, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Curator:

Jonathan Morrison
235 West 102nd Street, #14G
New York, NY 10025
212.222.6345
Email: ppdiva@hotmail.com

April 11 - 29, 2012

Spring Gems: A Fine Arts Exhibit
Hanging: April 8, 6:30 pm
Reception: April 14, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Curator:

Robert Schultheis
35 Sutton Place, #14A
New York, NY 10022
212.644.3051
Email: rschulth@aol.com

May 2 - 20, 2012

Ten Years After: A Photography Exhibit
Hanging: April 29, 6:30 pm
Reception: May 5, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Curator:

Jean Prytyskacz
P.O. Box 1575
Valley Stream, NY 11582
516.256.9140
Email: jeanlynn5@hotmail.com

FRIENDS OF THE
WSAC



These "Friends of the WSAC" extend
discounts to WSAC members.
We hope you will patronize these
gracious merchants.

West Side Arts Coalition gives a big shout
out to **Fairway** (above, right) for its
continued support of our Artists' Receptions.

Artique Framing	2580 Broadway
Bob's Frame Shop	2713 Broadway
Gelabert Studios	255 W 86th St
Global Copy	2578 Broadway
Ivy League Stationers	2955 Broadway
Ivy League Stationers	1201 Amsterdam
Lee's Art Shop	220 W 57th St
Grand Metro Hardware	2554 Broadway
Sam Flax	3 W 20th St
Stationery & Toy	125 W 72nd St
Quad Right	242 W 36th St