MARCH 2016

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.

Crossroad
A Photography Show
Curated by Xavier Figueroa
Photos © Caroyn Reus
January 13 - 24, 2016
Organized by Calder Zwicky
Photos © Herb Fogelson

Secret(er) by Keith Mendak
A Fine Arts Solo Show
By Anne Rudder
January 27 - February 14, 2016
Curated by Calder Zwicky
Photos © Caroyn Reus

In contrast to the bleak snowstorm temporarily closing and darkening the building, Keith Mendak’s exhibit inside brought colorful, emotional sculpture to our walls for an exciting brief time and I was lucky enough to see it. (Continued on Page 2)

Thank you and Welcome!
We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

Jia Chen
Xenia Garamvolgyi

Stephen & Yali Lewis
Gloriana Roig

And a huge thank you to:

George Cavalletto
Jia Chen
Xenia Garamvolgyi
Elton Tucker

for their generous contributions!

(Continued on Page 3)
Organized by Calder Zwicky, the work was shown in January at The West Side Arts Coalition which, many years ago, was a public restroom for the subway. Transformed in the 1970s by artists and the local community into a dynamic space for groups to meet and artists to show their work, sculptor Mendak incorporated the history of the building in a site-specific installation, mysteriously entitled, “Secret(er)” where the pieces reflected the “duende” of earthbound human realities.

Besides being a sculptor, Mr. Mendak creates in glass and teaches art in the New York City public high school system working with adolescents. His sculptures in “Secret(er) are composed of teenagers’ clothing – hoodies and sweatshirts along with the plastic and paper bag detritus of New York City. Not classical with ideal proportions, the subjects have the feeling of mundane street life, providing the viewer with the sense of an upfront, personal tactileness through the use of everyday materials.

The show’s title reflects the sculptor’s need to express the underbelly of New York street life where subway public restrooms were places for sometimes clandestine, anonymous sexual activity and nefarious drug and alcohol use. Adolescence is a time of sexual awakening, primarily expressed secretly. Mr. Mendak has kept this in mind in these pieces where he shows the psychological and physical drama entailed in growing up in forms that agitatedly move across the walls with almost palpable desperation, evoking teenagers’ struggles with new urgent bodily needs, sometimes satisfied in unsavory, secreted public places.

Among the mundane materials, the sculptor uses paper grocery bags, reconfigured as masks depicting anonymous faces. He explained that young people oftentimes feel alienated, alone and unappreciated, unable to make warm, human connections with others in the city’s overwhelming maelstrom, and here the use of these receptacles as masks underscores this.

The sense of isolation is particularly strong in the large piece on one side of the gallery. There is great gesture and movement in the colorful work where the hooded human-like forms provide an overall sense of agitated, groping and grasping as they trip and fall into each other, perhaps running from something, desperately trying to communicate and connect.

Mr. Mendak’s compositional decisions, based upon a painterly vision of forceful brushstrokes as the foundations contributing to the realization of these pieces, influence the works’ drama. He strives to create a sense of power where the disenfranchised youngsters’ feelings are acknowledged and given real meaning. The sculpted clothing forms reach out for connection and, at the same time, express fear of doing so, indicative of adolescent confusion. In this show, Keith Mendak demonstrates faith in young people, saying that he really cares and they are not alone, bringing the secret life to daylight where emotions can be clearly realized.
Stale Rains, Sweet Loves

Coltrane, drifts through the emptiness of my room I am all alone. Sweet loves, whisper low, of yesterday and more while nothing changes anyhow you know.

Now everyone needs to know, that love don’t really go away, banging at other folks’ doors until each hurt mellows into tears. But, some how it doesn’t matter. Who knows if love could hang around a little more.

So, I wish it would stop raining outside long enough to remember our last good bye.

When you went away like you said you would, and I don’t know what I should do if you really said somehow, we can’t share this love and I know, it’s going to stop raining outside.

But until it does I think I’ll just go on crying, anyhow, cause it’s still going to be stale rains.

Sweet loves casting their eyes every sort of way. Darken from yesterday hurts, while we mellow a while dreaming up things that ain’t real.

So Coltrane drifts through my bleeding soul, heaving sweet nothings...

I know, but whos cares, anyhow, cause ain’t I the world object of your sighs, for the day anyway...

Cause love ain’t going now ways, as long as it’s raining outside. Stale Rains...Sweet Love...Whisper Me a Lullaby.

By Herbert Evans

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**EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES**

**SOLO SHOW OPPORTUNITY**
For information about a possible two week solo or dual exhibition of your work at the Broadway Mall Gallery, please contact Anne Rudder: rudderanne@gmail.com.

- **September 12 - 27, 2015 (F)**
  - **Fall for Art**
    - Linda Lessner & Carole Barlowe

- **September 30 - October 18, 2015 (F)**
  - **Artists & Poetry**
    - Women in the Arts, Sponsored by the WSAC
  - **Autumn Thoughts**
    - Anne Rudder

- **October 21 - November 1, 2015 (F)**
  - **Open 2015**
    - Carolyn Reus

- **November 4 - 22, 2015 (P)**
  - **Free Expression 2015**
    - Sonia Barnett

- **November 25 - December 13, 2015 (F)**
  - **November 25 - December 13, 2015 (F)**
  - **Free Expression 2015**
    - Sonia Barnett

- **December 16, 2015 - January 9, 2016 (F)**
  - **A Gift of Art 2015**
    - Linda Lessner

- **January 13 - 24, 2016 (F - Solo)**
  - **Keith Mendak’s Art**

- **January 27 - February 14, 2016 (P)**
  - **Crossroad**
    - Xavier Figueroa

- **February 17 - March 6, 2016 (F)**
  - **Black Renaissance 2016**
    - Sonia Barnett

**ARTISTS:**

- **March 9 - 27, 2016 (P)**
  - **Flora**
    - Carolyn Reus

- **March 30 - April 17, 2016 (F)**
  - **Dreams & Reflections 2016**
    - A Fine Arts Exhibit
    - Hanging: March 27, 6:45 pm
    - Reception: April 2, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
    - Removal: April 17, 6 pm
    - **Curators:**
      - Daniel & Silvia Soares Boyer
      - 137 Thompson St., Apt. 13
      - New York, NY 10012-3174
      - 646.767.0331
      - danielboyer@yahoo.com

- **April 20 - May 8, 2016**
  - **Broadway Regards**
    - A Photography Exhibit
    - Hanging: April 17, 6:45 pm
    - Opening Reception: April 23, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
    - Closing Reception: May 8, 2:30 - 5:30pm
    - **Removal:** May 8, 6 pm
    - **Curator:**
      - Jean Prytyskacz
      - PO Box 1575
      - Valley Stream, NY 11582
      - jeanlynn5@hotmail.com

**Theme:** Any photos of Broadway the street, from Manhattan to Westchester, NY (including the theater district). Photography in any style or format (color, B&W, analog, digital).

- **June 1 - 19, 2016**
  - **Inspirations**
    - A Fine Arts Exhibit
    - Hanging: Tuesday, May 31, 6:00 pm
    - Reception: June 4, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
    - Removal: June 19, 6 pm
    - **Curator:**
      - Clare Stokolosa
      - 2 Bay Club Dr., Apt. 14v
      - Bayside, NY 11360
      - 516.532.4624
      - clares@aol.com

- **June 22 - July 10, 2016**
  - **Salon Show 2016**
    - A Fine Arts, Photography, & Crafts Exhibit
    - Hanging: June 19, 6:45 pm
    - Reception: June 25, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
    - Removal: July 10, 6 pm
    - **Fee:** $40
    - **Curators:**
      - Linda Lessner & Margo Mead
      - Margo Mead
      - 41 West 96 Street, #13C
      - New York, NY 10025
      - 212.663.1355
      - meadart@gmail.com

**OUTSIDE SHOW OPPORTUNITIES**

- **December 1, 2015 - January 1, 2016**
  - **Hostelling International**
    - 891 Amsterdam Ave (103-104 St)
    - Theme: Photography & Poetry
    - Reception: December 5, 2015
    - Curated by: Jean Prytyskacz

- **April 5 - 25, 2016**
  - **La Galeria at Boricua College**
    - 3755 Broadway (155-156 St), 4th Fl.
    - Art Bloom: A Fine Arts Exhibit
    - Delivery: April 4, 11am - 12 pm
    - Hanging: April 4, 1-5 pm
    - Reception: April 8, 6-8 pm
    - Removal: April 26, 4-5:30 pm
    - **Fee:** $40
    - **Curators:**
      - Linda Lessner & Margo Mead
      - Margo Mead
      - 41 West 96 Street, #13C
      - New York, NY 10025
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**MEMBERS’ MARKETPLACE**

**Do you have a special art related skill, product, or service that you would like to advertise?**

We have launched a new page on the WSAC Website called “Members’ Marketplace.” For more information, please email meadart@gmail.com with the subject: Members’ Marketplace.

**FRIENDS OF THE WSAC**

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

**EXHIBIT SCHEDULE**

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

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Keith Mendak’s Art

January 27 - February 14, 2016 (P)
Crossroad
Xavier Figueroa

February 17 - March 6, 2016 (F)
Black Renaissance 2016
Sonia Barnett

ARTISTS:

- Sonia Barnett
- JW Ford
- Georgianna Grantham
- Nate Ladson
- Ba djibril Ngawa

- Gregory Mobley
- Amy Rosenfeld
- Dorethea Scott
- Robert Scott
- Ilton Tucker

March 9 - 27, 2016 (P)
Flora
Carolyn Reus

March 30 - April 17, 2016 (F)
Dreams & Reflections 2016
Daniel & Silvia Soares Boyer

April 20 - May 8, 2016
Broadway Regards
Jean Prytyskacz

May 11 - 15, 2016 (F - Solo)
Joseph Paul Fox’s Art

June 1 - 19, 2016 (F)
Inspirations

Clare Stokolosa

June 22 - July 10, 2016 (F / P / M)
Salon Show 2016
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

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Dreams & Reflections 2016
A Fine Arts Exhibit

Hanging: March 27, 6:45 pm
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PO Box 1575
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jeanlynn5@hotmail.com

**If you have any questions or would like to participate in these shows, please submit the emailed Exhibit Entry Form, Image Samples, and a $60 check (unless otherwise noted) to the appropriate Curator.**