



*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.

October 22 - 26, 2014

**The Voice of the Eternal Steppe
A Fine Arts Exhibit**

By Anne Rudder
Curated by Berik Kulmamirov
Photos © Herb Fogelson



Pictured Above: Artists with Representatives of Kazakhstan and WSAC.

In October, fourteen Kazakh and American artists graced the West Side Arts Coalition with their finely executed, accomplished paintings, ceramics and sculptures. Curated by Berik Kulmamirov and Leila Elias, the exhibit whetted my appetite to learn more about Kazakhstan. The Kazakh and American artists exhibiting at the WSAC, provided viewers with rich narratives about Kazakhstan. The paintings, which were mostly oils, and all work primarily realistic, rather than non-objective abstracts, informed viewers about the rich Kazakh culture and history.

(Continued on Page 2)

By Marie Moser

Cranberry Coffee Mug

Last week I needed to buy groceries,
But wanted a cup for instant coffee.
I bought a solid-colored mug,
Which the store receipt called cranberry.
Another shade of red, bright and cheerful
Makes me happy, where food cannot.
It is a small cost for an essential tool I need.
I saved the mug for several days and did not
Use it, awaiting the day when I could taste the
Joy of it, the special savor of a thing I wanted.
That gave me a colorful spot of essential luxury.
My cranberry coffee mug is for my coffee.
One day I will buy its twin in teal green for tea.

*Thank You
& Welcome!*

We would like to extend a warm
welcome to the newest member of
the WSAC:

Peter Schepper

And a huge thank you to **George Cavalletto** for his generous contribution!

MEMBERS' MARKET PLACE

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' Market Place." For more information, please email meadart@gmail.com with the subject: **Members' Market Place.**

Free Promotional Opportunity for WSAC Members on Our Website!



The WSAC Website has an Artists' Gallery Page where each member may have their own page showcasing four images (Jpegs) with titles, medium, size of work, and an Artist Statement of 100-150 words.

Please visit the Artists' Gallery Page on the WSAC Website (www.wsacny.org/artists-gallery.html) for the complete Artists' Gallery Guidelines and submission information.

MEMBER NEWS

Raul Manzano, arts mentor and coordinator of Empire State College's Livingston Gallery, Brooklyn, has an article in the latest issue of Atrium, a biannual, peer-reviewed, cross-disciplinary journal published by the English department at the Gary Campus of Ivy Tech Community College, one of the largest community college systems in the United States. Manzano's essay delves into the history of memoir from its use by historical figures like Julius Caesar, to present-day writers and other artists who use it to illumine an area or era in their lives. To read the essay, go to: <http://nwi.ivytech.edu/atrium/> and click "Current Issues." Manzano's personal website is at www.raul-manzano.com.

Raul curated the multimedia exhibition "Immigrants: Reinventing América," showcasing the work of students and alumni sharing their views, contributions and experiences in the making of a new América. Livingston Gallery, 6th Fl, 177 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, on view through December 18th, 12-5pm, Monday -Thursday. Admission is free.

Meg Boe Birns has three paintings in the exhibit "Now! Is the Future" at the Theatre for the New City gallery, juried by Art Loisada Foundation, November 6, 2014 - January 2, 2015.

Joseph Boss will be in an show at the 1978 Art Center, 1978 Springfield Avenue, Maplewood, NJ. Bang 9 Art Show, Opening Reception December 5th, 7-9pm. Viewing dates: December 6, 7, 10, 13, and 14, 2-5pm.

Janice Wood Wetzel is in Professional Women Photographers' exhibition at the Atlantic Gallery, 547/548 West 28, Suite 540, December 9-28. Reception: Thursday, December 11th, 5-8pm.

Janice also has two new companion photo books published with My Publisher: "On Broadway in Manhattan - The People" and "On Broadway in Manhattan - The Places."

Margo Mead will be exhibiting at Carter Burden Gallery, 548 West 28th Street, #534 (10th & 11th Avenues) in "Five Year Anniversary Show," December 18, 2014 - January 9, 2015, Reception: Thursday, December 18th, 6-8pm, Tuesday-Friday 11am-5pm, Saturday 11am-6pm.

Daniel C. & Silvia Soares Boyer had work in "Small Works All Mediums Show" at The Greenpoint Gallery in Brooklyn (November 14-15); and will have work in the "24th Annual Members Exhibition" at the Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Rochester, NY (December 4-January 18, 2015) and "II BIG" at the Ateliê Colectivo 308, Guarulhos, SP, Brazil (December 8-February 8, 2015).

Daniel also had work in the "Computer Space" 26th International Computer Art Forum, The Red House, Sofia, Bulgaria (October 31-November 2); the "Presión" (Pressure) Festival of Contemporary Graphics, Azul un Ala, La Plata, Argentina (November 7-9); has work in "Graham Greene: the Man Within," The English Language Center, Department of International Relations and Literature in Foreign Languages, Novosibirsk State Regional Scientific Library in Novosibirsk, Siberia; will have work in "I Dream Of..." Incline Gallery, San Francisco, CA (December 5-12); "Snap to Grid," Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, Los Angeles, CA (December 11-January 3, 2015) and "Utopian Worlds," Free Oakland Utopian Projects Gallery, Oakland, CA, January 2015; and had a drawing published in the 2nd issue of *Hydrolith* magazine.



Talgat Tleuzhanov



Askar Nartov

The Voice of the Eternal Steppe

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Bahytur Burdeshekov



Michael Prettyman

Talgat Tleuzhanov, a rising star in the art world of his country, exhibited three paintings at the WSAC. He received extensive classical training in St. Petersburg, Russia and his work, the most well-known, the monumental, historical "Battle of Ortrar," can be found in the Kazakh National Museum. In our gallery he showed, "Queen Tamiris," "Summer Taste," and "Moon Night." His painting, "Queen Tamiris," depicted the ancient Scythian queen who took revenge on the Persian emperor, Cyrus II, who had defeated the Scythians in battle. Tleuzhanov depicted Queen Tamiris with incisive, energetic brushstrokes and a masterful palette. He showed the Queen triumphant on horseback through highly dramatic, gestural rendering.

The master ceramicist and sculptor, **Askar Nartov**, exhibited numerous ceramic bone china plates using the time honored DECOL technique along with two bronze and one epoxy sculpture. All were representative of the nomadic Kazakh culture. The plate, "The Koumiss," depicted a young Kazakh woman offering Koumiss, a drink of fermented mare's milk, to perhaps a traveler appearing at her family yurt. The yurt is the nomadic home that can be assembled on the steppe in hours and is folded up to be transported to different locations as the Kazakh herders follow their flocks. Among the plates, Nartov also showed, "The Kobyz," the traditional stringed instrument played by the Kazak people that is bowed like a violin and has a sound similar to a viola or cello. Nartov told me the DECOL technique has a long history and is characterized by the transfer of a drawing in mineral paints from silk or paper onto the bone china surface and then fired to a beautiful luster.

Bahytur Burdeshekov displayed two oil paintings. His semi-abstract work charged the painting surfaces with an almost cubist sensibility. One piece, "Evening Melodie," showed a woman in sepia tones, playing a kobyz and sitting by the roadside on the endless steppe, resting in the evening heat, after arduously traveling long distances between far flung villages on the plain. She plays for a bit of water or money; she plays for survival. This was the most abstract piece in the show and the faceted brushstrokes swirl around a suggested figure in motion, causing the viewer to almost hear the sounds of the notes bursting forth from the instrument.

Michael Prettyman exhibited two finely executed oils both depicting birds. The artist told me one painting, of a white falcon, was his fantasy, as this bird does not exist. Its mythological purity stands in contrast to the golden eagle, shown in his other oil. They were opposite images, the falcon, one of peace and the eagle, the predator, a warlike symbol. Prettyman had visited Kazakhstan and was impressed by the elegance and equanimity of the Kazakh people. He loved his time there and wants to return.

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Share Your News with the WSAC Community!

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 a future WSAC Newsletter, please send **PLAIN TEXT ONLY** (no images or flyers), including your name, 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**. News should be current; please **DO NOT** send news about exhibitions that took place more than 1 month prior (not current) or more than 2 months in advance, as it is difficult to keep track of the future news for each of our many members.

We will try to be as inclusive as possible, but please keep in mind that you **MUST BE A CURRENT WSAC MEMBER** to take advantage of this benefit, and there are space and time limitations, so submissions may be edited for clarity, brevity, and space.



Pete Diedrich



Dosbol Kassymov

The Voice of the Eternal Steppe

(Continued from Page 2)



Adam Cross



Berik Kulmamirov

Pete Diedrich painted an owl in flight. Done in oil on board, the bird showed its marvelous wingspan as it swept down, perhaps trying to score a kill. We don't know where the bird will land; we can only see it winging its way above the prairie.

Dosbol Kassymov delighted the viewer with his paintings, "Alma-Ata," and "Meeting." In "Alma-Ata," the artist depicted a huge, delicious Almaty Apport apple. Kassymov wanted to evoke a happy memory of his father in the painting. The piece shows an elderly man in traditional dress, bringing a huge apple on a sled to the city. It is winter; snow is falling and the man arduously pulls the apple along. Historically, the Almaty Apport apple was large with a very sweet flavor. In the 21st century, these apples are a memory.

Adam Cross gave us his version of a Kazakh courtship ritual in "The Kissing Game," an oil on canvas. The players on horseback were depicted intersecting at high speeds with the woman's arm raised about to strike her suitor with the whip if the man was unable to "catch" her. The figures and horses, portrayed with tremendous movement, showed the man pretending to evade the strokes of the woman's lash.

Many artists in the show used the geographical steppe as the most important backdrop for their work.

This was clearly shown in **Berik Kulmamirov's** paintings, "Aral, Dance without Melody," and "Last Breath." To me, Kulmamirov gave underlying messages in his pieces. "Aral, Dance without Melody," was somewhat surrealistic with a ballerina, grand piano and penguin superimposed on a background of dry steppe with camels. At first the subject matter seemed out of place, but, I think Kulmamirov was commenting on the imposition of Russian culture on the people of the steppe and also, the ecological damage Soviet collectivization caused to the Aral Sea. In "Last Breath," the painter depicted an eagle with his Kazakh handler in the background, about to swoop down to kill his prey, a wolf running from this majestic bird. The wolf terrorizes wildlife and flocks on the steppe and the herdsman are happy to keep this predator at bay.

Erbol Khamirov painted an idyllic scene, "Morning on the Steppe," along with an intriguing oil, "Conversation." In the former, it is dawn and the people are just awakening near their yurts. A light stream of smoke, almost tangible, rises from a cooking fire in the distance as people slowly come to life. The palette's colors are beautifully muted and the artist subtly depicts the dawn sunlight as it breaks through the clouds. The painting, "Conversation," shows two Kazakh horsemen, near the Tien Shen Mountains, in deep discussion. The traditional nomads were known to go out separately from everyone if they were having a disagreement. Away from the settlement, they could sit on horseback,

talk, and resolve any problems peacefully amid the calming influence of nature.

Meyrzhhan Nurgozhin presented two very contrasting works. One, entitled, "Nostalgie," showed two boys on a fence with one child playing a shepherd's flute, in a stance as if on horseback, atop a traditional textile draped over the fence, conjuring up the nomadic spirit. A bag of apples was hung from the fence post, as if it were a traditional bag found in a yurt. It is a painting of longing by the artist for the nomadic life. His other painting, "Reincarnation," brilliantly fools the viewer's eye wherein when the painting is seen from one angle it depicts the eagle in flight and when turned to another angle, the regal bird morphs into a nomadic warrior. All is masterfully done with energetic brushstrokes and a tension between strong imagery and subtlety of form.

In **Leila Elias** lovely painting, "Blondy Girl on the Steppe," the artist portrayed a young girl gazing at a fawn. In the background are yurts with elders minding children playing nearby. It is spring on the steppe and the painting is diffused with sunlight. Elias brings to the viewer a scene of innocent, nomadic life, ecologically pure, before modernization.

Janet A. Cook painted a young Kazakh woman in her oils, "Daybreak," and "Twin-Study." She also showed along with the paintings, a drawing of the same girl. In "Daybreak," the girl, wearing traditional dress, holding a bouquet of flowers, is just entering womanhood. Cook told me she painted this work over another painting and applied washes of color, allowing a suggestion of the underlying picture to show through. This gave the composition a sense of tension between the stillness of the figure and the surrounding swirling lines in the ground and much is suggested in economical application.

The exhibition was rounded out by **Colleen Blackard's** verdant acrylic canvas, simply titled, "Steppe." The artist uses cool blues and greens, bringing this viewer into the unending, lush, grassland. Blackard's piece emphasizes the expansiveness of the steppe and the natural richness of the Kazakh land. Kazakhstan is as big as Western Europe and the prairie covers the land almost endlessly. Cities and settlements rise intermittently out of the rolling steppe. I am told one can travel by horseback or car almost forever, guided only by the sun, moon and stars to the towns spaced distantly between each other. Blackard's painting is not the largest in the exhibit but it made me feel the atmosphere of the land in its fine execution.

"The Voice of the Eternal Steppe" was truly an education for me about a rich culture and history of which I was almost totally ignorant. I am grateful to Berik Kulmamirov and Leila Elias for curating this show and acquainting me with such wonderful artists.



Erbol Khamirov



Meyrzhhan Nurgozhin



Leila Elias



Janet A. Cook



Colleen Blackard

2014-2015 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

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

September 10 - 28, 2014 (P)
Uptown is the New Downtown
Jean Prytyskacz

October 1 - 19, 2014 (P)
Open 2014
Carolyn Reus

October 22 - 26, 2014 (F)
The Voice of the Eternal Steppe
Berik Kulmamirov

October 27 - November 3, 2014
Broadway Mall Community Center Show

November 5 - 23, 2014 (F)
Free Expression 2014
Sonia Barnett

November 26 - December 14, 2014 (F P M)
Everything Goes
Anne Rudder

ARTISTS:

Gail Atherton	Dimuthu Ranasinghe
Joseph Boss	Marie Robison
Daniel Boyer	Beatrice Rubel
Silvia Soares Boyer	Anne Rudder
Georgianna Grantham	Ava Schonberg
Mikki Powell	Elton Tucker
Dammika Ranasinghe	

December 17, 2014 - January 4, 2015 (F)
A Gift of Art 2014
Linda Lessner

January 7 - 25, 2015 (F)
Fresh Visions
Clare Stokolosa

January 28 - February 15, 2015 (P)
Musing & Meditation
Robyn Gecht

February 18 - March 8, 2015 (F)
Black Renaissance 2015
Sonia Barnett

March 11 - 29, 2015 (P)
TBA
TBA

April 1 - 19, 2015 (F)
Dreams & Reflections 2015
Daniel C. Boyer & Silvia Soares Boyer

April 22 - May 10, 2015 (P)
TBA
TBA

May 10 - 31, 2015
Broadway Mall Community Center Show

June 3 - 28, 2015 (F P M)
Salon Show 2015
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

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: anne.rudder@gmail.com.

January 7 - 25, 2015
Fresh Visions
A Fine Arts Exhibit
Hanging: January 4, 6:45 pm
Reception: January 10, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Removal: January 25, 6 pm
Curator:
Clare Stokolosa
1 Bay Club Drive, Apt 7N
Bayside, NY 11360
516.532.4624
clares@aol.com

January 28, 2015 - February 15, 2015
Musings and Meditations
A Photography Exhibit
Entry Deadline: December 5, 2014
Hanging: January 25, 6:45 pm
Opening Reception: January 31, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Closing Reception: February 15, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Removal: February 15, 2015, 6 pm
Curator:
Robyn Gecht
150 Mackenzie Street
Brooklyn, NY 11235
robyngecht@gmail.com
*Contact Robyn to send image samples, entry forms, and fees.

February 18 - March 8, 2015
Black Renaissance 2015
A Fine Arts Exhibit
Hanging: February 15, 6:45 pm
Reception: February 21, 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Removal: March 8, 6 pm
Curator:
Sonia Barnett
301 Cathedral Parkway, #8A
New York, NY 10026
917.257.5874
renisseb1@msn.com

**To participate in these shows, please submit the emailed Exhibit Entry Form and a \$60 check to the appropriate Curator, whose contact information is listed.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND OUTSIDE SHOWS

Outside Show - Notice Boricua College

The person WSAC was working with at Boricua College is no longer there. Unfortunately she failed to pass on our arrangements for a show in April 2015. At this point we are waiting to hear if we may have a week show April 24 - May 5, 2015. Please contact Margo Mead at meadart@gmail.com with questions or concerns.

GENTRIFY

*An Outside Black & White
Photography Exhibit*
November 1st - December 1st
Curated by Jean Prytyskacz

By Anoeek van Praag

Haiku

First of all,
it needs saying
the rose
I snatched
at the restaurant
is alive
and well.

FRIENDS OF THE WSAC



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

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

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
Metro Grand Hardware Stationery & Toy	2554 Broadway
Quad Right	125 W 72nd St
	147 W 95th St

POETRY CORNER

The next Riverside Poets' Open Poetry Reading will take place on December 6th at the **NYPL Riverside Branch**, 127 Amsterdam Avenue (between 65th & 66th Streets) from 3-5 pm. Please call 212-870-1810 or contact the Riverside Poets at the email below.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact the Riverside Poets at riversidepoets@live.com.