

News from The Plastic Club

SHOWBIZ

The annual **Small Worlds** show is always “bigger” than the rest of our shows. There is something about the small (16” or less) dimensions that brings out more artists. Of course, there are some who only work small. And, it’s easy to carry them to the Club. The show opened on March 3rd with a great reception. The juror, **Giovanni Casadei**, looked at the 187 works very intently and finally awarded the prizes. This year, **Ken Hamilton** won 1st place for his “*The Hallway*”, a fabulous recreation in miniature of a hallway in a derelict apartment building complete with miniature trash and a working overhead light. 2nd Prize went to **Judy Engle** for her collage, “*Western Union.*”. 3rd went to **Shushana Rucker**. There were 6 Honorable mentions: **Rick Wright, Dorothy Roschen, Ellen LoCicero, Daria Souvornova, Ross Abraham, and Alice Sharp**. Congratulations to all!

Sunday, April 7th was the beautiful day that saw the opening of the **Sketchbooks, Preparatory Drawings, and Other Ephemera** exhibition conceived by our Exhibition Chair, **Susan Stromquist**. This show enabled us to explore the often hidden world of an artist’s private methods of researching and developing ideas that may or may not become finished works of art. Some participants presented the preparatory sketch along with the finished work. Others showed working drawings. Some showed their sketchbooks only. Rather than have a juror choose among this disparate collection of work, 106 numbers corresponding to every separate piece on the wall were put in a box and five were chosen. Each artist with the winning number received \$50.00. This is a great show.

The Bob Jackson Gallery Shows:

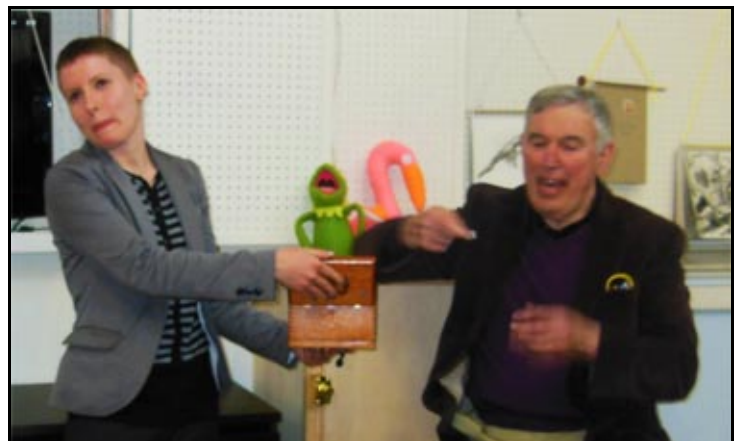
During **February**, Mary Beaumont, Laura Freisel, Richard Goldberg, Robert Heiler, and Peter DeFeo showed their work. During **March**, Michael DiGiacomo, Leon Graff, Errico Gregory, and Sanny Williams, showed their work. During **April**, Elizabeth Hughes, Harriet D. Kline, Carter Leidy, Richard C. Meyer, and Catherine (Kit) Mitchell are showing their work.

!!!ATTENTION!!!

We are now planning to do a major renovation in the Shiekman Studio. After years of water leaks, the upper part of the studio is in bad shape. The plaster is cracking and the paint is peeling. We need to fix it. To do this job a scaffold will be erected in the studio. Therefore, we are anticipating closing the Shiekman Studio to all the workshops from the last week of June to the end of July. At the same time, a new lighting system will be installed. This is a very big project, but we believe that when it is all finished we will all like the result. The exact closure date will be announced on our web site as soon as it is known. We don’t anticipate closing the first floor or the downstairs during these renovations. The Printmaking Workshop can continue and the meeting rooms will be available as always to those groups who use them.



Small Worlds Prizewinners: L to R Exhibition Chair, Susan Stromquist, Shushana Rucker, Rick Wright, Ellen LoCicero, Ross Abraham, and Dorothy Roschen.



And the Winner is!!!! Susan Stromquist holds the box while Chic Kelly picks a number for a prize for the Preliminary Sketches and Sketchbook Show.

Show Me

You may not know it, but the display case in the main room was given to the Club by John Wanamaker. Since then, many members have used it to show the rest of us things that they have either collected or made. During March, **Phyllis Ryan Jackson** exhibited some of her collection of “Black Dolls.” Phyllis purchases these dolls wherever she can find them. Many come from a dealer at the Philadelphia Flea Markets. She has topsy-turvey dolls – two dolls in one – one black doll and one white doll. Some have exquisite handiwork; others are simple and made of humble fabrics. Two of her favorites are stuffed with straw. One is a male doll in a corduroy suit. The other was too big for the display case. One of the dolls that was exhibited is from a recent fundraising project of Free Trade merchants for children in Zimbabwe; for every doll purchased here, a doll – its twin – is given to a child in Zimbabwe. Thank you, Phyllis.

If you have a collection or something of interest that you would like to show in the display case, let us know by email and we will schedule it.



One of Phyllis Ryan Jackson's 'Black Dolls.'

Spring Dinner

Save the Date! Our annual **Light Supper and General Membership Meeting** will take place on Sunday, June 2nd. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5PM in the garden, weather permitting, and then a buffet supper will begin at 6PM upstairs in the Shiekman Studio. It has always been a pleasant evening catching up with members and friends. At 7:30 we'll have a general membership meeting to talk about the past, present, and future of the Plastic Club. You don't have to come to the dinner to come to the meeting. (But, it's more fun that way!) A reservation form is enclosed. It can also be downloaded from our web site.

Welcome to the Underground

Ken Jacobs, a nationally known avant-garde filmmaker, paid us a visit on Saturday, April 6th. He brought with him several of his films which he then discussed. They were presented with our new blue-ray projector and our new surround sound speakers. We had a very good view and very strong...might we say earsplitting, sound. The films he showed are not for everyone. They are mostly abstract, with twisting and flickering images, using still photos as a base from which to start. The combination of these images and the sound produced a strong visceral reaction. A lively question and answer session followed. You can learn more about him on Google. We would like to thank his old friend, **Alice Meyer-Wallace** for introducing him to us. Also, we want to thank **Bob Lee** for handling the technical aspects of this very interesting evening.

Exhibitions To Come

During **May** we have the **Members' Medal Show**. This is the 101st annual show of work by members of the Plastic Club that has as first and second prizes, gold and silver medals. Also, the **Ziegler Prize**, the **Dorothy Wackerman Hutton Prize**, the **Dorothy Invernizzi Guinn Prize** and the **Beizer Prize** will be awarded. The prospectus can be downloaded from our web site.

In **June** we have the annual **Workshop Show**. This is open to anyone who has attended our workshops and who submits work that was done either in a workshop or from work done there. Work will be collected at the workshops at the end of May.

Dues Are A'Cumen In

It's that time again! Spring is here! Where does the time go??? Our fiscal year is May to May and that means that your annual dues are due on May 1st. They remain the same....\$60.00 for Full Members, \$40.00 for Associate Members, and \$25.00 for Long Distance Members (those who live more than 50 miles from the Clubhouse on Camac Street.) It's still not much money, but it means a lot. To pay your dues using PayPal or a credit card, go to plasticclub.org/donations.html and use the dues button.

Find out what happened at the “**RABBIT**” in the next issue. Photos are now on our Facebook page and will be on our web site shortly.

