

# News from The Plastic Club

## Holiday Dinner

Once again, the Plastic Club held its annual Holiday Dinner on December 15th. All of the usual good things were there. A table full of hors d'oeuvres, spiced cider, wines and beers, in the decorated rooms of the Club. Once upstairs, we feasted on Bob Jackson's famous Roast Suckling Pig (dressed for the occasion with a pair of giant sunglasses), turkey breast, mashed potatoes, sweet potato salad, green salad, lasagna, eggplant parmigiana, breads, and, for dessert, Betty MacDonald's yule logs. Sweet! If you didn't make it this year, you should definitely make it next year!

## Plastic "Club" Award

Every year for the last ten years we have honored one of our members at the Holiday Dinner for their long and dedicated service to the Club. The honoree gets a check, a framed certificate, and a plastic "club" (an orange, plastic wiffleball bat!) This year we honored **Eileen Eckstein**. Eileen is our Corresponding Secretary (she sends out the thank you notes) and a Board Member of the Plastic Club for many years. She is also the President of the Photographic Society of Philadelphia which meets in our building on the third Tuesday of the month. They are the oldest photographic organization of its kind in the U.S. It is through Eileen that many of her members have become members of the Plastic Club as well. We welcome them and thank Eileen for all that she has done for the good of the Plastic Club.

## THE "Rabbit"

The theme for this year's "Rabbit" will be "Artists and Art." You can come dressed as your favorite artist or come as a subject in a famous painting or sculpture. For those of you who don't know, the "Rabbit" is unique to the Plastic Club. It began in the Club's early days as a party with a theme. Costumes were made and skits were presented. "Welsh Rarebit" was served, (cheese on toast.) Thus the name. It will be held at the Club on Saturday evening, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. The Rabbit last year was a great success and this year will be no different. Come and have fun!



*Eileen Eckstein gets the "Club"*

## THE CLASS OF 2013

As the New Year begins, it is pleasant to look back at events of the past year and see the results of the work and effort that we put into the Plastic Club. One measure of things going well is the number of new members who joined the Club during 2013. And, there is no better way to show the quality of these new members than to see their work. On January 5<sup>th</sup> the annual **New Members Show** opened with the art works of 22 newcomers. There were 71 pieces in many media hanging, or in some instances, sitting, in our rooms. Strong, colorful, insightful, humorous, thoughtful, inventive, these are some of the adjectives that come to mind when looking at this group of artists' works. We welcome them. They are: **Janice Balson, Glenn Benge, Sinead Cahill, Roy D. Cortez, Frances Cunningham, Wayne Franks, Roberta L. Gross, Gwen Harper, Scott Johnson, Susan Leshnoff, Carla Liguori, Karen L. Mark, Emme McDermott, Robert C. Moore, Elke Muller, Samuel Park, Lina Pearson, Lauren Reed, Kim E. Shienbaum, Miho Tanaka, Louise Vinueza, and Joyce Wilson.**

# Movie Madness

After three years and over 40 movies shown, the **Plastic Club Cinemateque** is still going strong. Generally held on the third Saturday evening of the month, the “movie night” features a wide range of films. Old classics and modern classics. “Art” films and documentaries. Comedies and thrillers. Obscure and celebrated. It’s a double feature and there’s always a cartoon. The cinema- teque is curated by **Anders Hanson** and **Bob Lee** and they give information and insights about the films before the showings. The cartoons come from the personal collection of **Andy Hoffmann**. Andy, who is a cartoonist himself, also shares his knowledge of animated cartoons throughout their history. There is also a very nice social between the two films that is livened up by copious amounts of various refreshments brought in by the audience. And it’s free. What are you waiting for? See our web site for the schedule.



*The Three Impresarios: Andy Hoffmann, Anders Hansen, and Bob Lee.*

# WEATHER SHOW

The Weather Show was another exhibition curated by our Exhibition Chair, **Susan Stromquist**. The prospectus asked for art work related to the theme of “weather”, either literally or abstractly. We received 90 examples from 90 artists in many media. Because of ever increasing membership and a finite amount of space, it was decided to limit each artist to one entry. Even so, the 90 examples filled the space very nicely. The juror for this exhibition was **J. Gordon**, a curatorial Associate at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art. He picked **Miho Tanaka’s** little watercolor, “Fair Day Ashore” for 1st Prize. Second Prize went to **Angelo Benedetto** for his “Stormy Sunset” photograph. Third Prize went to **Carla Liguori** for her witty “Four Sheep To The Wind” (Four little sheep made from clay and needle felting with a little weather vane.) Honorable Mentions went to **Michael Guinn**, **Anders Hanson**, **Alan J. Klawans**, and **Lois Schlachter**.

# Inaugural Concert

The first in a planned series of afternoon concerts at the Plastic Club took place on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. **Ezgi Yargici** and **Gozde Tikna**, two young women of Turkish heritage, performed music for cello from the Baroque era. Works by Vivaldi, J.S. Bach, Gabrielli, and Offenbach (hey..how’d he get in there?) were on the program, and both modern and Baroque cellos were played. The Shiekman Studio was packed and had surprisingly good acoustics. A very nice reception with hors d’oeuvres by **Bob Jackson** completed the day. **Anders Hansen**, our resident impresario, is planning another concert for April 27<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned.

# Bob Jackson Gallery Shows

In November and December we were honored to have a mini-retrospective of the amazing graphic work of **Victor Lasuchin**. Victor, who died last year, made colorful lithographs in an abstract style using a computer as a tool to refine his ideas. We thank **Dorothy Roschen** for arranging this exhibition. In January, **Edward Johnson**, **Nicole Michaud**, and **Rick Wright** showed their works.

# SHOWS IN SIGHT

**March** – “Small Worlds” a juried, open show of work that is no more than 13” in any dimension including the frame.

**April** – Fiber and Textiles, a juried, open show featuring work done with fibers.

**May** – the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Members Medal show. This show is open to Full Plastic Club members only.

**June** – The annual Workshop Show featuring artwork done at or from works made at our eight workshops.

**July** – Models As Artists, a show of work done by the models who pose at the Plastic Club.

Look for the dates and prospecti on our web site.



*Weather Winners l to r: Anders Hansen, Miho Tanaka, Alan J. Klawans, Pat Wilson-Schmid, (accepting for Lois Schlachter) Angelo Benedetto, Michael Guinn, and Carla Liguori.*