

News from **The Plastic Club**

106th Members' Medal Show *Fiber, Fabric & Textiles*

How many art clubs can boast of having an annual members' show for the last 106 years? That's quite an achievement! But, here we are after all that time, still giving out (real) Gold and Silver medals to honor worthy artworks done by our members. Our 106th Members' Medal show opened on Sunday, May 6th. The prize juror, **Eileen Togini**, chose **Barbara Watts'** large watercolor entitled "*French Grocery*" for the Gold Medal. In a comment, Ms. Togini called it "a technically brilliant piece with a beautiful control of the medium and a beautiful palette of colors." The Silver Medal went to **Elizabeth H. MacDonald** for her 3 dimensional work that she called "*Skin Deep*." From different viewpoints, the woman's head could be seen as either white or black. (Betty is no stranger to winning medals. She won her first one in 1952!) The Ziegler Prize was won by **Dante G. Celia**; The Dorothy Wackerman Hutton Prize was won by **Lorie Balistocky**; The Dorothy Invernizzi Guinn Prize was won by **Jocelynn Tice**; The Karen Frank Prize was won by **Clara Soyoun Kim**; The David Latin Williams Prize was won by **Laura Friesel**; The Eric Porter Prize was won by **John A. Benigno**; The Frederick W. Reiniger Prize was won by **Lois Schlachter**. These prizes are memorial prizes sponsored by relatives and friends of people who are no longer with us but remain dear in their hearts. If you would like to sponsor a prize in honor of someone, please contact us. Honorable Mentions were awarded to **Gail Zelikovsky**, **Idaherma Williams**, **Miho Tanaka**, **Karen Mark**, and **Jesse Vandenburg**. Congratulations to all!

Our theme show for the month of April was entitled *Fiber, Fabric & Textiles*. We do a show like this every two years to showcase artists who use these materials in their art. It opened on Sunday, April 8th and 46 artists had one or two works in the show. The juror, **Marina Capara**, said she was looking for craftsmanship, materiality, composition, and presentation. She gave the First Prize to **Elizabeth Williams** for her large, wonderful quilt entitled "*Dancing With My Mother*." The Second Prize went to a lovely, large batik painting by **Laura Madeleine** entitled "*Audience*." Third Prize was given to **Julia Haines** for her map-like wall piece entitled "*Map of 16th Street and Berks*." Other prizes were won by **Laura Friesel**, **Carla Liguori**, **Leslie Sudock**, **Reena Brooks**, and **Susan Levering**. We'll see everyone again in two years!

Emerging Artists

Club members **Roberta Gross** and **Paul Davis Jones** have been curating "*Emerging Artists*" shows in the Bob Jackson Gallery for two years now. Students from Tyler and P.A.F.A. have participated with enthusiasm. In March, 6 students from The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts showed their work, and in April, 9 students from the Tyler School of Art showed their work. We are very happy and excited to see this selection of "New" artwork and we hope the students will come back to see us now that they know what the Plastic Club is all about.



L to R: Elizabeth H. MacDonald, Exhibition Chair, Susan Stromquist, Jesse Vandenburg, Clara Soyoun Kim, Jocelynn Tice, President Rick Wright, Lorie Balistocky, Karen Mark, John Benigno, Idaherma Williams, and Barbara Watts.

Small **Worlds**

As always, we presented a show of small works in the early Spring. This year's Small Worlds Show opened on Sunday, March 4th with the usual lavish reception. 92 artists exhibited their work which had to be 13" or less in any dimension including the frame. No problem! The Juror, **Tim McFarlane** picked **Serge Krupnov's** moody oil on wood (no title) for the First Prize. **Ed Keer** won Second Prize with his Lith Print (photo) called "*Snyder Avenue, Philadelphia.*" Third Prize was taken by **Marc Britton** for his mixed media piece called "*Veronica*". Honorable Mentions were won by **Judy Engle, Unada Gliewe, Laura Storck, and Martin B. Bernstein.**

Bye-Bye

Susan Stromquist, our Exhibition Chair, is leaving her position on the Board of Directors after serving for 6 years. During that time she has curated 24 shows and has worked on 60 of them by obtaining jurors and doing other supportive tasks. We would like to thank her for this valuable service to the Plastic Club. She is moving on to the **Halide Project** where she is already the president. It is an organization that encourages the continued practice and appreciation of traditional and alternative process photography through exhibitions, workshops, online resources, and a new community darkroom. Our best wishes go to you, Susan!



Exhibition Chair, Susan Stromquist

Drawing Marathon

If you like to draw and draw for as long as 12 hours straight then the Plastic Club was the place to be on April 22nd. That's when we held our annual Drawing Marathon. Over fifty artists showed up ready to draw life models and portrait models in long and short poses. Also, there was a still life set up and in the evening, a special workshop with "noir" lighting. Food and drink were available on site so no one had to leave the Club.

Animation Festival

On Saturday evening, February 24th, the Plastic Club was host to a program of animated films brought to us by some of Philadelphia's best independent animators. Billed as a "celebration of local animators" and led by UARTS's **Chris Magee**, the show included 27 short films by 20 members of the group. Included in this group was our own **Andy Hoffmann** who showed his latest film, "*Terror Train.*" Afterwards there was a lively Q&A covering the technical and dramatic aspects of the works presented. A nice reception followed to end the evening

Two New for Tuesday

There has been a change to our Tuesday workshop schedule. The Tuesday evening Draped Figure short poses workshop has moved to 1:30 to 4:30 in the afternoon. **Terence Smith** remains the monitor. After a number of requests, we've added a Long Pose life model workshop from 6:30 to 9:30 in the evening* with **Peter Cottingham** as monitor. **Remo Frangiosa** continues to be monitor of the Portrait Workshop from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM every Tuesday with two week poses. Try to make one or more of these sessions!
**Doesn't meet on the third Tuesday of the month.*

Why Renoir? Why Not?

On Sunday, April 15th, we were treated to a lecture entitled "Why Renoir? A Conversation with **William M. Perthes.**" Mr. Perthes is the Director of Adult Education at the Barnes Foundation and an expert on the work of Pierre-Auguste Renoir, the famed Impressionist painter and favorite of collector Albert C. Barnes. He talked for about an hour and also showed images of Renoir's paintings which were mostly in the Barnes collection. Later, he opened up the floor to questions about Renoir and his contributions to contemporary art. We want to thank club member **DoN Brewer** who was instrumental in organizing this informative lecture.

In Memoriam

Plastic Club member **Peter Petraglia** passed away last month. He was a member of the Club for 10 years and had won Second Prize in the "Out of the Box" show just last year. He was a graphic designer, agency owner, painter, and photographer and showed his work at the Artists' Gallery in Lambertville, NJ. We regret his passing and send condolences to his family.