



Provincetown Art Association and Museum June Exhibitions and Events

A comprehensive monthly schedule of exhibitions, workshops and special events published exclusively for members of the working press.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2010
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press room

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PAAM

GALLERY HOURS

Memorial Day -

Calendar Listings

PAAM Exhibition Opening

The public is invited to attend an opening reception for

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available. PAAM is located at 460 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657. Call 508.487.1750 or visit www.paam.org for more information.

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The Fredi Schiff Levin Lecture Series

Presenting free public lectures in conjunction with PAAM exhibitions:
Robert Fisher Tuesday, June 8, 7pm FREE
Curator John Winciunas discusses the life and art of Robert Fisher.

Arts & Alzheimer's Initiative at PAAM

Where Art and Conversation Meet

Thursday, June 17, 2010, 10am-12:30pm

Facilitated art discussion at Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM). Utilizes artwork to assist individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias, helping to stimulate long-term memory. Sessions take place in the museum's galleries on the third Thursday of each month through August 19, 10:30-12:00pm. This program is limited in size and pre-registration is required. Caregivers who would like to participate in the program with their care recipient should call Suzanne Faith at the Alzheimer's Services of Cape Cod & the Islands at 508-775-5656 or suzanne@alzcapecod.org or Lynn Stanley, lstanley@paam.org, 508.487.1750.

September

11 am - 8 pm Monday - Thursday
11 am - 10 pm Friday
11 am - 5 pm Saturday and Sunday

OFFICE HOURS

9 am to 4 pm, Tuesday - Saturday, November through May

ADMISSION

\$7 general admission
Free for members
Free for kids under 12
Free Fridays after 5pm

PAAM

460 Commercial Street
Provincetown, MA 02657
508.487.1750
www.paam.org
info@paam.org



press room



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**Annual Spring Consignment Auction at PAAM
Saturday, June 12 at 7pm**

Presenting 120 desirable objects and pieces of fine art from Provincetown and around the globe. Includes contemporary and vintage works of art, rare furniture pieces, and high-quality collectibles. Included works will be on view May 28 - June 12 online and in PAAM's galleries (until 5pm on June 12). Complimentary admission, absentee and telephone bids accepted. Auction occurs Saturday, June 12 at 7pm. Provincetown Art Association and Museum 460 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657. www.paam.org 508.487.1750.

Music in the Cape Air with Dick Miller and Friends

Wednesday, June 23, 6pm, \$15 at the door

An evening of favorite songs presented by pianist Dick Miller, who has been entertaining audiences with lively popular jazz performances for more than three decades. Having performed with some of the country's top musicians, he is able to bring together notable special guests from near and far, making each concert distinctly unique.

The Fredi Schiff Levin Lecture Series

Presenting free public lectures in conjunction with PAAM exhibitions:

Edward Hopper Tuesday, June 29, 7pm FREE

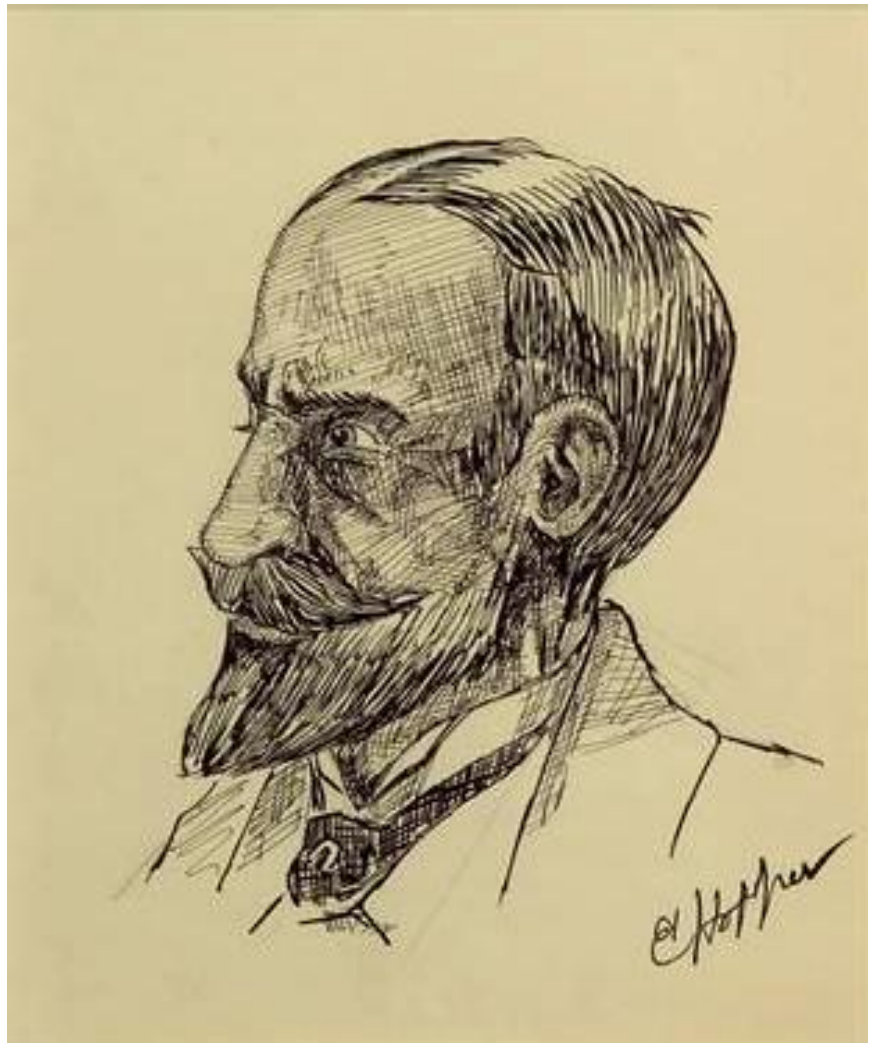
Curator Bruce Loch discusses the early work of Edward Hopper.

Summer Jazz with Bart Weisman

Wednesday, June 30, 6pm, \$15 at the door

Now in its fifth season, PAAM's Summer Jazz with Bart Weisman brings together some of the region's most talented jazz musicians. Each concert in this series establishes a different feel and flavor inspired by the various talents Weisman brings to the stage from Boston, New York and beyond. Shawn Monteiro performs her only Provincetown appearance June 30 in artful surroundings at PAAM.

Exhibitions



Edward Hopper, portrait Head, pen and ink on paper

Early Expressions: Drawings by Edward Hopper

On view May 21 - July 4, 2010

Opening reception May 28, 2010 at 7pm

Hopper Exhibition at PAAM: Early Works by One of America's Most Prominent Artists

Provincetown, MA: Provincetown Art Association and Museum(PAAM) announces a new exhibition of works by one of the nation's most celebrated artists. Edward Hopper (1882-1967) produced enduringly popular pieces of American art. Throughout his career, he created quiet yet riveting pictures that express a sense of isolation and uncertainty, and the bittersweet comfort of solitude. Early Expressions: Drawings by Edward Hopper, on view May 21 - July 4, 2010, presents illustrations and sketches created during the artist's early career. This exhibition is made possible through the collaborative efforts of [Thurston Royce Gallery of Fine Art, Ltd.](#) and [Berta Walker Gallery.](#)

"In every artist's development, the germ for the later work is always found in the earlier," Hopper said. "What he once was, he always is, with slight modifications."

Edward Hopper was born on July 22, 1882 to a middle-class family of Native American descent. The Hoppers lived in Nyack, New York, a Hudson River town just outside of Manhattan. By the time he was 10 years old, Hopper was signing and dating small sketches, and upon graduation from high school, he

enrolled at the Correspondence School of Illustrating in New York City. The following year, he enrolled at the Chase School, working under Robert Henri, one of the fathers of American realism.

Before his career blossomed at the age of 41, Hopper earned a living through commercial illustration, a profession that afforded him practice in creating complex arrangements of figures within detailed settings. He worked in various media, including pen and ink, pencil, crayon and charcoal illustrations and advertisements. He was reportedly not particularly fond of illustrating, but seemed to understand its importance in his development, "Art is like life itself," Hopper later declared, "It's a lot of hard work."

The majority of works included in this exhibition at PAAM come from the collection of Reverend Arthayer Sanborn, a close friend of the Hopper family who officiated burial ceremonies for the artist in 1967. One of the earliest pieces included in the show is "Ivory Booth" dated 1897 (featured below). This drawing is a literal transcript of a specific person in an actual scene with a hint of underlying emotional drama. The theatrical nature of the image is underscored by the architectural design of the booth containing the young girl. The stage-set character of this structure, with its parted side-curtains and proscenium-like opening, suggests an intriguing story, which is not specifically revealed. Thus, the girl herself, who is positioned to display and sell a commercial product, takes secondary importance relative to her architectural setting. The diagonally positioned four-sided tent-like structure is positioned on a rectangular counter-topped base, also covered in fabric. This structure is a variation on a Greek temple with its tile roofs, slender supporting columns and pediment with a laurel wreath above the Ivory soap lettering. The laurel is symbolic of praise, in this case praise for the Ivory soap product. The dramatic and romantic situation in which this sedate, Victorian-clad young woman is positioned serves to develop her as a character in a play, yet she remains an impersonal marionette in the elaborate theatrical setting. The luminous ambiance in which she sits contrasts with the mundane ordinariness of her own life, similar to the pensive solitary usherette in the lighted alcove of the dark theater in Hopper's 1939 oil painting "New York Movie." The darkest passages in the drawing take on a velvety surface quality, underscoring the tonal element, which is achieved through the precisely ordered linear hatchings.

Hopper continued to work in the commercial arts for years, but began transitioning into a new career after he sold his first painting in 1923 at the age of 41. His talent as a painter was not publicly recognized until the 1930s.

The lure of Cape Cod's legendary light took hold of the Hoppers during the summer of 1930, when Edward and his wife, Jo Nivison Hopper (also an accomplished artist), decided to summer in Truro, Massachusetts. Hopper described the landscape of this isolated town as composed of "fine big hills of sand -- a very open almost treeless country." The area provided a fresh source of inspiration for the Hoppers, and they built a house in South Truro in 1933. He recalled his first summers there as among the most productive he had known.

Painting for Hopper was an intensely personal act that could represent only the artist's individual vision. "My aim in painting," he explained, "has always been the most exact transcription possible of my most intimate impressions of nature."

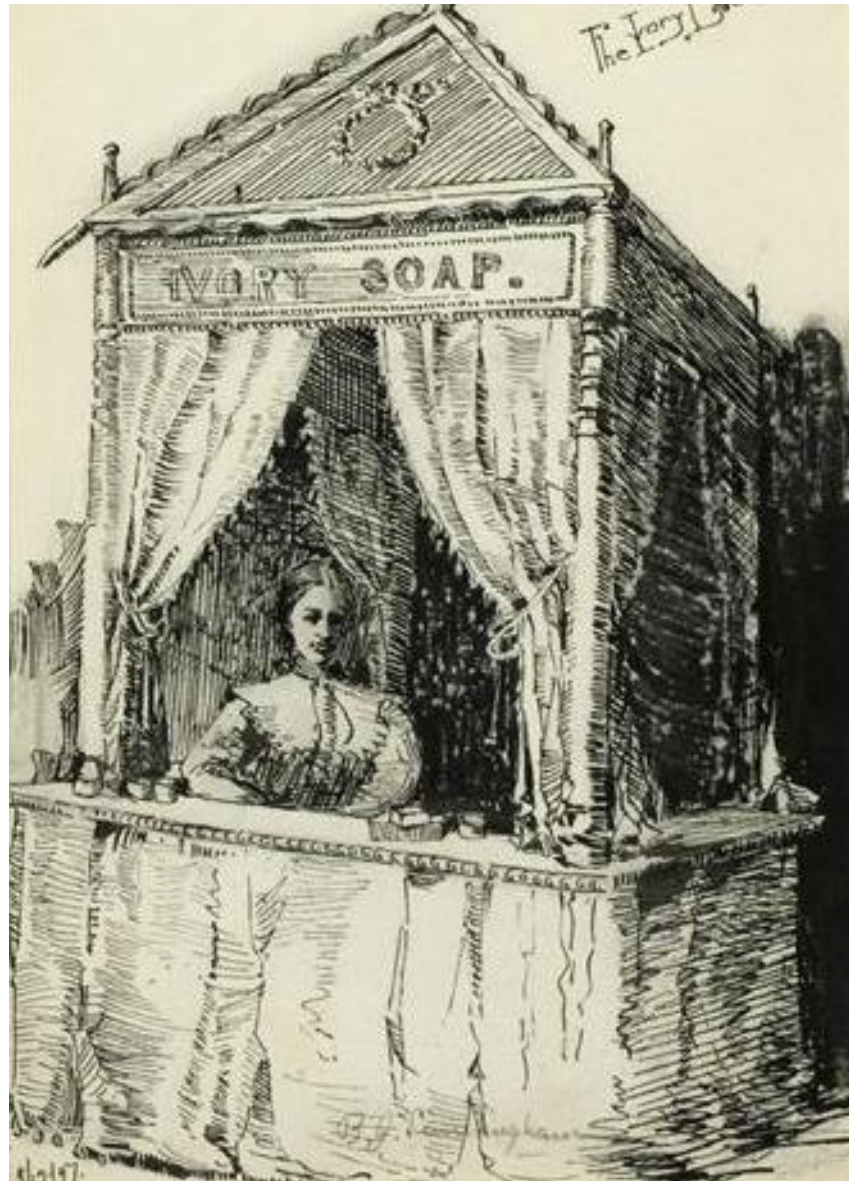
In 1942, he completed "Nighthawks," which is in the permanent collection of the Art Institute of Chicago. "Nighthawks" is recognized by many for its focus on "desolate figures at a lunch counter in the tough, brightly lit oasis of an all-night diner." Upon his death in 1967, he bequeathed more than 2,500 of his works to the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City (current estimated value of \$10 billion dollars). In November 2006, actor Steve Martin sold an original painting by Mr. Hopper entitled "Hotel Window" at Sotheby's in New York City for more than \$26 million dollars.

Edward Hopper is truly an American icon.

Early Expressions: Drawings by Edward Hopper is on view at Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM) May 21 - July 4, 2010. The public is invited to attend a complimentary opening reception Friday, May 28 at 7pm in the PAAM galleries. A exhibition catalog will be available for purchase in the

Museum Store. PAAM will also offer a free public lecture with curator Bruce Loch on Tuesday, June 29 at 7pm as part of the Fredi Schiff Levin Lecture Series. PAAM is located at 460 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657. www.paam.org 508.487.1750.

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Edward Hopper, *The Ivory Booth*

###



Robert Fisher: A Career Survey

On view June 4 - July 18, 2010

Opening reception June 4, 8-10pm

PAAM Presents a Survey of Abstract Expressionist Robert Fisher: Hans Hofmann Devotee

Provincetown, MA: Many of the students of the renowned artist and teacher Hans Hofmann have become well-known artists in their own right. Frank Stella, Robert De Niro Sr., Larry Rivers, Lillian Orlovsky, William Freed, Myrna Harrison and James Gahagan are just a few one could name. However, another Hofmann student and artist, Robert Fisher, though less well-known, may have remained a more pure "Hofmann stylist" throughout his career than his better known friends and fellow students, with whom he was featured in the 2003 PBS Documentary, "Hans Hofmann: Artist/Teacher, Teacher/Artist."

Robert M. Fisher (1928 - 2007) was born in Cleveland, and graduated from Vermont's Goddard College in 1954. He became a student at both the NY and Provincetown Hofmann schools. In 1956 Bob worked with Mr. Hofmann on his four large Italian mosaic murals, helping to install them at 711 Third Avenue in New York. This experience committed him to a life in pursuit of his teacher's theory of "pure color."

When Mr. Hofmann's school closed, Fisher began painting and drawing full-time, with a brief excursion into sculpture. In the late 1950s and early 1960s two large commissions to work for other sculptors supplied employment. The first was with Ibram Lassaw (one of the founders of the Abstract Artists Association), and the second with Herbert Ferber. Fisher then began to do his own metal sculptures, and created a large outdoor stainless steel piece with a mirror finish that reflected colors of the sun and fall leaves. He considered this to be "...a work using modern techniques and materials, yet following the ancient 'polychromatic' form of the Greeks and Egyptians."

Returning to Vermont to live and work, Fisher maintained a frugal and somewhat isolated lifestyle. Between the mid-1960's and his death in 2007, he produced more than 200 oil paintings and hundreds of charcoals and watercolors (the latter mostly created in the South of France, where he tried to visit each year for a month as his finances allowed). His oil paintings often fell into series, such as his "Geraniums" series, his "Le Bouquet Sur La Table" series, his "Renate" (Mr. Hofmann's wife) series, and his "Street Angel" series (portraits of homeless people whom he'd met in his travels), which were used as visual backgrounds for a multimedia presentation of the same name.

Unfortunately, Fisher's personality and beliefs (including, as his friend and fellow Hofmann student and artist Myrna Harrison put it, that he amongst all of Mr.

Hofmann's students believed most strongly that "...selling art was selling out...") made it difficult for him to sell or even promote his own artwork. Under pressure from a friend or neighbor to sell a piece, he would literally have to leave his studio, as he could not stand to have a prospective buyer choose one painting over another "[It's]...like choosing one of your children over the other," as he put it. Thus, he would occasionally sell a painting or drawing, but more often supported himself and his art by doing a variety of odd jobs, and sometimes teaching art classes at the University of Vermont or Goddard College.

By nature, Fisher was an iconoclast and often oppositional and vehement in his beliefs. His lifestyle was generally a solitary one, although "hermit" is really too strong a word for such a politically and socially conscious person. His extremely high ethical standards combined with often contrarian views (such as being a conscientious objector during the Korean War, a civil-rights worker in Mississippi in the early 1960s, and an advocate for the rights of prisoners) often alienated people. He had difficulty in relating to many of those in the business of selling art, and often "shot himself in the foot" when it came to getting representation for his work. Paradoxically, he was generous to an extreme, and up to the last year of his life would cut fallen timber into firewood for those "less fortunate than himself" (said by a man living in rather primitive conditions on his land in Vermont, with an income of approximately \$5,000 a year).

At the time of his death in 2007, Bob was working on a book tentatively entitled "Ancient Bottle, New Wine: The Impact of Hans Hofmann and his New York City Mosaic Murals on the World of Modern Art." These Hofmann mosaic murals - one at 711 3rd Avenue and one at West 49th Street on the old Printing Trades School - had consumed an entire year of Hofmann's artistic life, and in Fisher's opinion were: "...often overlooked although unique and crucial to an understanding of Hofmann in that they provide an enlightening window into his theory of 'pure color.'" Fisher explained, "The work on Hofmann's mosaic mural was an extension of my work and study at his school, and was one of the most mind-boggling experiences of my career as an artist. All the people working on the mural appreciated the tremendous opportunity we were sharing with this gentlest and most dedicated of artists. The time spent during lunch hours was filled with stories of his own life in Europe and of the great times he and "the boys" had drinking wine in the Cafe du D'ome in Paris - the "boys" in this case being artists Picasso, Braque, and Delaunay....In addition to this peak experience, my study with Hans Hofmann has profoundly influenced my work to this day. Working from nature to obtain abstract but living forms; enriching and developing those forms on a two dimensional surface through the use of pure color - these concepts form the basis of my own private search for artistic meaning, as they have done for so many other modern artists.[...]. This experience was to re-surface in my life in the year 2003 when the PBS documentary show called Hans Hofmann: Artist/Teacher, Teacher/Artist, narrated by actor Robert De Niro, was shown nationally. My five appearances during the documentary gave, I hope, some idea of the humor and joy that he brought to his teaching."

As his death approached, Fisher requested his long-time friends and neighbors David Harp and Rita Ricketson of Middlesex, Vermont to help keep his legacy as a Hofmann devotee alive. With the help of other friends, artists and fans, his life's work has been located, organized and cataloged. A successful show featuring his work and pieces by his friend and fellow Hofmann student James Gahagan took place in the summer of 2009 at the Wood Gallery in Montpelier, Vermont.

Although Fisher was never as well-known an artist as his close friends and fellow Hofmann students James Gahagan and Lillian Orlowsky, the large body of work that he leaves is true to the volumetric "push and pull" and Colorist precepts of his beloved teacher. In the eyes of a number of experienced artists, when compared to the work of his contemporaries, his work is closer in look and feel to that of his master teacher, to whom he devoted his life as an artist.

RELATED EVENTS

Opening
Lecture

Robert Fisher: A Career Survey is on view at the Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM) June 4 - July 18, 2010.

This exhibition will also feature Hans Hofmann's personal easel, given by Renate Hofmann to Lillian Orlofsky who, at the end of her life, bequeathed it to Robert Fisher in recognition of his devotion to his teacher. The public is invited to attend a complimentary opening reception Friday, June 4, 2010, 8-10pm in the PAAM galleries. PAAM will also host a panel discussion with curators John Winciunas and Ellis Jacobson, artist Myrna Harrison, and Rita Ricketson, Executor of the Fisher Estate on Tuesday, June 8 at 7pm as part of the Fredi Schiff Levin Lecture Series. This event is free and open to the public. Provincetown Art Association and Museum 460 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657. 508.487.1750. www.paam.org.

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###



Anne Peretz, Ha Long Bay, Vietnam, 2007 46 x 60"

Anne Peretz

Part II, An Around the World Journey

On view June 18 - August 20, 2010

Opening reception June 18, 8pm

Anne Peretz's Landscapes on View at PAAM: An Around the World Journey

Provincetown, MA: Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM) announces the second half of a continued exhibition of artwork by painter Anne Peretz, on view June 18 - August 28, 2010. Featuring large oil paintings of natural landscapes inspired by Morocco, Spain, Israel, and Vietnam, this show highlights Peretz's extraordinary mastery of the medium, embracing audiences in her unique creative vision.

This solo exhibition is a continuation of a survey presented at PAAM in the summer of 2009, which featured large oil paintings that effectively capture the beauty and erosion of Cape Cod dunes and Provincetown piers.

Part II of the survey focuses on the artist's interpretation of natural landscapes abroad -- inspired by extensive travels throughout Spain, Morocco, Vietnam and Israel. The discipline of Peretz's brush is evident in these works. The large paintings convey both the perfect calm of idyllic nature and treacherous storms. Her paintings, nuanced in stroke, in color and in depth, are at once almost luminist, as in George Inness, and flat in the complicated way of Mark Rothko.

Peretz paints large canvases as well as intimate works begun en plein air. She evokes the grandeur of New Zealand, the intimacy and awe of Israel, the rocks and sparse hillsides around Jerusalem, the wildness of the Spanish coast, the stubborn historicity of cities and villages emerging from the Moroccan desert, and what are surely the near-last impressions of pilings at Cape Cod and New York's sea ports.

Peretz' work hangs in many distinguished and distinctive private collections. Her paintings also appear in public collections including, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Bard College Museum, the Jewish Museum, the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University, the Israel Museum, and the Provincetown Art Association and Museum. Peretz is represented by the Rice/Polak Gallery in Provincetown, MA. Anne Peretz is also founder of a mental health and family service agency in Somerville, Massachusetts called The Family Center. A color catalog will accompany the exhibition, and will be available for purchase in the Museum Store at PAAM. Anne Peretz, Part II: An Around the World Journey is on view at the Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM) June 18 - August 29, 2010. The public is invited to attend a complimentary opening reception Friday, June 18, 2010 8-10pm in the PAAM galleries. Provincetown Art Association and Museum 460 Commercial Street Provincetown, MA 02657. www.paam.org. 508.487.1750.

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###



Serge Chermayeff, untitled, n.d.

Gathering: Art about Architecture

Art by three architects and architecture by three artists: John Hejduk / Serge Chermayeff / John M. Johansen / Angela Dufresne / Peter Hutchinson / Michelle Weinberg

On view May 28 - June 12, 2010

Opening reception May 28, 2010, 7-9pm

Live auction June 12, 2010, 7pm

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###

Auction



Lillian Meeser, Chrysanthemums

Spring Consignment Auction

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###

Grant



Lillian Orlowsky, *Still Life by the Sea*, c.1940s

The Lillian Orlowsky and William Freed Foundation Grant

PAAM Establishes New Grant for Mature Painters

Provincetown, MA: Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM) is proud to announce The Lillian Orlowsky and William Freed Foundation Grant, a new source of funding for mature American painters. This marks the first year that these grants are made available to the public.

The late Lillian Orlowsky and William Freed were artists, teachers, and active members of PAAM and the Provincetown arts community for over 50 years. Lillian, in particular, was sensitive to the challenges that artists confront, especially artists working against the mainstream or outside of popular schools of art. Her desire to provide financial support to mature artists through this generous endowment gift speaks to her passionate commitment to art for art's sake and art created regardless of the demands and whims of the market place. This gift has positioned PAAM to, for the first time, be a grantee - an opportunity to financially assist artists on a national level.

"PAAM is thrilled to be a position that allows us to distribute this kind of funding to painters in need. It's hard to be an artist; the rising cost of living and the effects of the recession have hit the creative community in a major way. To be able to offset some of those expenses is truly a dream come true," says PAAM's Executive Director, Chris McCarthy. "Additionally, we are very grateful to the Foundation executors for providing PAAM with an unprecedented opportunity."

Grants will be offered to American painters aged 45 or older who

demonstrate financial need. The primary emphasis is to promote public awareness and a commitment to American art, as well as encouraging interest in artists who lack adequate recognition. Grants will range from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Applications are available online at www.paam.org or by calling 508.487.1750. Completed applications must be postmarked by August 16, 2010.

Provincetown Art Association and Museum's (PAAM) Lillian Orlowsky / William Freed Museum School (LOWF) serves students of all experience levels, offering year-round programming including workshops, art history lectures, scholarships, and free classes for adults and children, led by professional teaching artists. To register for a class go to www.paam.org or call 508.487.1750.

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