

# FRIENDS OF ART NEWSLETTER *Winter 2008*

## Holiday Art Auction

*Friday, December, 12 2008*

The SoFA Gallery and the Friends of Art are once again joining forces to present a gallery full of interesting and eclectic artworks to be sold for the benefit of the SoFA Gallery. The works in the Holiday Art Auction will be on exhibit from Wednesday through Friday, December 10, 11 and 12, for view or purchase. The auction and reception are immediately preceded at 5:30 pm by the Fine Arts Student Awards Ceremony in Woodburn Hall 100.

Until the reception on Friday, works may be purchased immediately for the posted "Buy It Now" price. The event will conclude with the reception for the Holiday Art Awards on Friday evening, when all works will be sold based on bidding in a silent auction format. (The "Buy It Now" price will remain in effect throughout the silent auction.)

The SoFA Gallery has had a great response to requests for donated art from faculty, staff and students. Special jewelry works created by students and faculty in the metalsmithing and jewelry program will also be featured.

We are happy to receive donations from members who wish to contribute art pieces that are in good condition for sale. Please contact Tom Rhea in the Friends of Art office at 855-5300 and arrangements can be made for pick-up.

Come and find your treasure at the Holiday Art Sale and Auction.

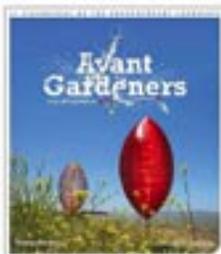


**If you have a painting \* drawing \* print \* photograph \* water-color \* sculpture \* or ceramic piece in good condition to give,  
LET US KNOW**

The Friends of Art make important, twice-yearly contributions that help underwrite the operations of the SoFA Gallery, particularly the year-end thesis exhibitions by graduating MFA students. The Holiday Art Auction has been a crucial fundraising event to support this effort. In the past, generous donations of artwork have formed the bulk of our offerings. We need YOUR help to collect attractive artworks to offer for sale to make this event a success. Can you help?



# LOOKING FOR INSPIRED GIFT IDEAS?



## **AVANT GARDENERS** by Tim Richardson

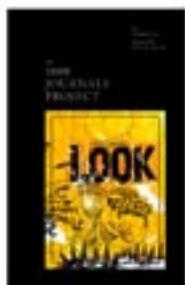
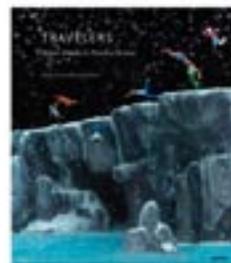
In the past decade, landscape design has witnessed a burgeoning of new ideas. Recent garden plans have embraced the latest thinking in science and materials, and have appropriated ideas from related disciplines such as architecture and product design, redefining and blurring the borders of nature and the man-made. *Avant Gardeners* presents the 50 most exciting and innovative contemporary garden and landscape design practices from around the world, with informative texts, gorgeous photographs, plans and essays.

**RETAIL \$60 MEMBER PRICE \$48 !**

## **TRAVELERS** by Walter Martin and Paloma Muñoz

Within the simple constraints of a glass globe, the captivating images in *Travelers* conjure up imaginary worlds and events. The artists collaboratively create mesmerizing miniature snowbound environments, then record them in chilly color photographs. At first glance the work is playful. A closer look reveals darker narratives: lone wanderers survey the frigid landscape, people and creatures exhibit unnatural tendencies and ill-defined crimes are committed. The plot of *Travelers* deepens with an original short story by acclaimed author Jonathan Lethem.

**RETAIL \$35 MEMBER PRICE \$28 !**



## **THE 1000 JOURNALS PROJECT**

by Someguy

One thousand blank journals are currently circulating throughout the world, beckoning contributors who find the journals by chance on trains, in cafés, and anonymously left on doorsteps. Artist Someguy shares more than 250 of the best entries: a collage of African countries repositioned into a new continent; the musings of a teen trapped in a drug-ravaged community. The perfect gift for journalists, aspiring artists, designers and anyone who can't wait for one of the journals to magically appear in their lives.

**RETAIL \$22.95 MEMBER PRICE \$18.36 !**

The Friends of Art Bookshop wishes you a marvelous holiday season! Please stop in to browse our wonderful collection for other great gift ideas.

Out of town? We are happy to ship!  
Call us at 812-855-1333 or  
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Sorry, sale excludes texts, food & special orders.

**the Friends of Art BOOKSHOP**



## Letter from the President

*The Perfect Present (and Economical, Too!)*

Looking for the perfect present? One that keeps on giving? A present that entertains, offers exciting trips, is intellectually enticing? How about a present that delivers 10% discounts at the Friends of Art Bookshop? All these attributes are wrapped into a single gift: a membership in the Friends of Art! A bargain at this time of financial distress!

The Friends of Art sponsors many events, from trips to art museums and exhibits, participation in activities at the Indiana University Art Museum, our Collector's Club, celebrations of gala events, such as this year's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Friends of Art Bookshop and the traditional dinner for the Fine Arts Library. Members are kept informed about these happenings of the Friends of Art, at the Bookshop, at the Art Museum and other related organizations through announcements and a quarterly newsletter. The money raised aids fine arts students, a central purpose of the organization.

These items are a sampling of the joys afforded by membership in the Friends of Art, and I urge you to consider memberships as gifts to friends, family – and even yourself (to renew your membership). All you have to do is to contact Tom Rhea, the Executive Director of the Friends of Art at his office, FA 125, Fine Arts Building, phone: 812-855-5300. Gift cards are available.

Special note to members: Please remember that we are in a concentrated membership drive, with the aim of having every member recruit three new members over the next two years.

Season's greetings and happy gifting to all of you.



*In Memoriam: Dottie, We Miss You*

One of the early members of the Friends of Art, Dorothy Saltzman, died in her sleep on October 29, 2008. Dottie was a devoted, active, vital participant in the Friends of Art during many of her 82 years. She enjoyed its trips and diverse activities, often inviting her many friends to join her at these events. These activities were frequently captured in pictures; Dottie appears in most of them, always the magnet for others. We send our profound condolences to the entire Saltzman family and want them to know how much we miss her.

The associated column was written by her family for her memorial service.

Peggy Intons-Peterson

## In Memoriam

~ Dorothy Saltzman ~

*February 18, 1926 – October 29, 2008*

Dorothy ("Dottie") Saltzman, 82, a retired Indiana University psychologist, died Wednesday, October 29, 2008, in her sleep. Born on February 18, 1926, in New York City, she was the daughter of William and Ethel Coleman. Dottie began her college education at Hunter College, CUNY, where she earned a BA degree in psychology and statistics. Later she earned a Master of Arts degree in psychology from Johns Hopkins University. She did additional post-graduate work at Indiana University.

Dottie moved to Bloomington in 1948 with her husband, Irv, who joined the IU faculty in psychology. Along with her own many professional activities, she assisted her husband in mentoring young psychology faculty during his 20 years as chair of the psychology department. In addition to teaching psychology at IU herself, she worked as a psychologist and counselor for the Monroe County Community School Corporation (at University High School), and later at the IU Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, where she assisted children with delayed language problems to improve their skills.

Dottie was active in many community organizations, including the Friends of Art (from 1982 to present), the League of Women Voters, the Board of the Local Council of Women, the Head Start Health Council, the Bloomington City Advisory Council for Community Development Block Grants, the Affirmative Action Committee of the Bloomington IU Faculty Council, and the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Health Care. She was a member of the Bloomington Hospital Board of Directors from 1996 – 2005, where she served on the Compliance Committee, Quality Improvement Committee, the Ethics Committee and co-chaired the Medical Services Development Committee.

In September 2007, Dottie was honored by the Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women and Bloomington Mayor Mark Kruzan for her "tireless efforts to advance the status of women in Bloomington." In recognition of her work, the City designated her "Lifetime Status of Women Commissioner Emerita." In May 2008, the IU Speech and Hearing Sciences Department created the Dorothy Saltzman Outstanding Pre-School Clinician Award to recognize on

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# SoFA Gallery

## One Moment

October 17 – November 21, 2008

*Six contemporary young artists from Chicago*

Thomas Robertello is a concert flutist and an Associate Professor of Music at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. He has also for years pursued a passion for contemporary art, as a collector and as a gallery owner in Chicago. In searching for a possible collaborative exhibition to undertake with Betsy Stirratt, director of the SoFA Gallery, he arranged for studio visits with several young artists across the Chicago area. As Stirratt made the tour with Robertello, she found a loose continuity to the works of six artists whose pieces all seemed to explore the fleeting, the fugitive, and the momentary.

A long-standing limitation of visual art, in contrast to performing arts, has been the exclusion of time. This limit has been much pushed against. For instance, the immediacy in Bernini's portrait sculpture has been described as "the speaking likeness," to convey the moment of lips parting to speak. In their own odd way, the paintings of Grant Schexnider all share a fascination with the mouth and lips. In spite of their large size (96" square), the paintings deal with instants of high emotion, a lunging bite, a fat lip, a sucker punch. The paintings use imagery that might have been culled from a fast tour through a rough trade web site. Fast, messy brushstrokes coalesce around the close-up swelling of "Fat Lip." The painting's size pulls against the instantaneity of the narrative, which reproduces a ratio of public interest to triviality. The work speaks to celebrity and scandal and viral media that allow such obsessions to be miles

wide and a millimeter deep. The viewer sees an action painting first and last.

The emblems of the momentary take iconic shape in the photographs of Adam Ekberg. Circle follows circle in "Balloon," "Smoke Ring," and "Condensation." Again, the life-size scale plays an important role in putting viewers into the image space and normalizing the small aesthetic errands of the pictures. Only in their accretion do the repeating circles come to seem haunting and portentous. As it slowly loses altitude, the red balloon registers as the last human presence in an otherwise empty apartment (the dents of moved furniture mark the carpet). A soap bubble nestles in the grass for an instant, a cliché of impermanence, but also reminds one of Blake who saw a world in a blade of grass, and eternity in an hour. In a Buddhist way, the only offer of permanence here is the rhythm of "Breath," in which three car windows fill with the condensation from exhalation, joined like a thread to snow on the windows that look like dreamy clouds.

The installation and projection work by Cayetano Ferrer quickly conveys impermanence writ large, showing on a film loop the greatest hits of grand old Las Vegas hotels and their demolitions.

His statement asserts that Las Vegas experiences one major demolition a year, of even fairly new buildings, and treats them like public spectacles or celebrations. Aside from the technical beauty of the implosion work to bring massive structures down cleanly, and aside from the exhilarated excitement of witnesses voices caught on tape, one must confront the vacuum left behind in the moment after, and deal with the hole left in history and memory.

The evanescent paintings of Stephanie Serpick visualize transient patterns that register as overlapping layers of light and shadow, often with a dark background with blurred features or painted-over reliefs of foreground patterns. The repeating pat-



*Grant Schexnider, "Untitled (Fat Lip)," oil on canvas*



terns, taken from fabric and architectural sources, appear in careful, scrolling outlines or in stenciled segments. Both versions allow a view around and through them, creating multiple layers of ambiguous reference. Those patterns are then shot through with an alarmingly vivid, electric light that picks up a few branches of pattern from the rest.

Serpick keeps close harmonies of blue in many of these works, reminiscent of Rauschenberg's photographs of bodies done on blueprint paper in the Fifties. The same random, accidental feeling suffuses them. The drips of paint on the surface of "Blowing Blue" look like the falling embers of a fireworks display.

The famed art historian Kenneth Clark once asserted that a pure aesthetic sensation would last no longer than one can savor the smell of a fresh-cut orange. One can argue the relative importance of the transient versus the monumental, but one would never dare dismiss as trivial that fresh burst of citrus. These works aim at a similarly pungent whiff of reality. Taken together, the result is reminiscent of the closing lines of Wallace Stevens monumental poem, "An Ordinary Evening in New Haven:" "It is not in the premise that reality/ Is a solid. It may be a shade that traverses/ A dust, a force that traverses a shade."

## IU Art Museum

*Chinese Prints from WW II February 2009*

In a special collaboration with Judy Stubbs, Pamela Buell Curator of Asian Art, and the IU Art Museum, the Friends of Art will co-sponsor a noon talk and luncheon in connection with a fascinating show of Chinese woodblock prints. These prints were saved out of the violent turmoil of Japanese-occupied China during World War II by one of the participants of a bold OSS initiative to alter the outcome of the war. In 1944, Army Captain John Colling, who served with Dixie Mission, received these prints from Zhou Enlai in recognition of his service to the Chinese people.

The Dixie Mission, approved by Franklin Roosevelt and under the command of General Stilwell, was charged with establishing contact with the Communist forces, evaluating their effectiveness in combating the Japanese, and rescuing American flight crews returning from bombing missions in Japan and Manchuria.

Captain Colling arrived in Yen'an Province in July of 1944. His mission, in addition to gathering intelligence for the OSS, the precursor of the CIA, included traveling with the Communist Eight Route Army and the People's Militia, where he served as the official photographer and demolitions expert. He met, conferred and lived with many of the legendary figures of the communist revolution: Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, and Dr. Ma Haide (a Lebanese American who served as Mao's advisor to the army and architect of the Barefoot Doctor program).



*Gu Yuan (Koo Yuan), Chinese, 1919–1996, "Winter School," Woodblock print; ink on paper. In memory of John and Alice Colling. Photo: Courtesy IU Art Museum.*

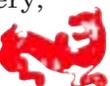
Although woodblock printing was long used as a means to print text and images in China [the earliest extant examples date to the 7<sup>th</sup> century], in the 1930s the writer and intellectual Lu Xun, inspired by the prints of European artists such as Kaethe Kollwitz (1867- 1945), and Frans Masareel (1889 - 1971), initiated the Creative Print Movement whose striking black and white images expressed criticism of society and social order.

In the 1940's woodblock prints were used as unapologetic tools of communist propaganda. Championed by Mao Zedong in a speech given in 1942 at the Yan'an Forum on Literature and Art, Mao saw art as a means to educate and glorify the masses. In Communist China, artistic expression — potent symbols of political and social content—was controlled, vetted and disseminated by the state.

*Noon Talk on February 25, 2009*

William Colling, the son on Captain John and Alice Colling will talk about his father's mission in China in conjunction with installation of Chinese Socialist Realist Prints in the second floor gallery,

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*Prints, continued from page 5*

Art of Asia and the Ancient Western World. This event is co-sponsored by the Friends of Art.

Following the talk, Mr. Colling will join members for a catered luncheon upstairs in the Museum conference room. The noon talk is free and the lunch cost is \$12 per person and will require advanced registration.

In celebration of Arts Week, Ellen Johnston Laing, University of Michigan, will present an Horizons of Knowledge Lecture on "Art and Politics on the Eve of the Chinese Revolution" in Radio and TV 251 on Friday, February 20th 5:30–6:30 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception in the Thomas T. Solley Atrium at the IU Art Museum from 6:30-8:00.

## Collectors' Club

Tony White, Chair of the Collector's Club Committee, is finalizing the committee roster and hopes to have this wrapped up by the first week of December. Following this White will schedule a meeting to begin drafting the charge for this committee and working to establish a programming timeline for the first 12 months. If you have ideas that you'd like the Collector's Club to consider please contact Tony White directly ([antmwhit@indiana.edu](mailto:antmwhit@indiana.edu)).

## Library Benefit Dinner 2009

*Professor of Painting Tina Newberry to Lecture*

The Friends of Art will present a slide lecture by Tina Newberry, Associate professor of Painting at IU, as featured speaker for the next Library Benefit Dinner on January 24, 2009. Newberry was hired after the faculty search in Spring of 2007.

After undergraduate work at the Kansas City Art Institute and earning a BFA in ceramics from the University of New Mexico, Newberry completed an MFA in painting from IU in 1986. She taught for 16 years at Drexel University in Philadelphia as an instructor and drawing coordinator. Her focus has long been on the figure and on issues of identity and history. Her work has been represented by the Ruschman Gallery in Indianapolis and the Schmidt Dean Gallery in Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia Inquirer has written about her work, "Tina Newberry's painting is autobiographical, but it looks inward. She's a traditional figure painter who casts herself pictorially in a

variety of roles. These include being a professional golfer, a competent musician, and a goat herder. Many of her paintings involve her reflections on her Scots ancestry. She presents herself wearing tams and tartans, standing in front of an elaborate family tree or standing nude on a length of plaid cloth. The paintings in which Newberry appears nude or partially so are symbolic reveries. They're often leavened with sly humor.

"Self-deprecating humor is always attractive, but in these quietly beautiful little paintings the joke is on all of us. Newberry is not just herself but Everywoman and man who daydreams of being someone or someplace else. By exposing herself and her obsessions, Newberry makes her audience feel equally naked."

In her own artistic statement, Newberry says, "My inspiration to become a painter rose out of voracious jealousy and covetousness of other people's artistic achievements. Actually, the same can be said for my inspiration in all other aspects of my life. In my paintings, I can live a very vibrant, satisfying life, finally becoming a PGA champion or a Venus. This is also a life of no shame, where plaids don't clash and who cares about the flab pushing up and over the waistband, elastic or otherwise."

Tina Newberry's lecture will begin at 5 pm in the Fine Arts auditorium, Saturday, January 24, 2009. The lecture is free and open to the public. The Library Benefit Dinner begins upstairs in the Fine Arts Library at 6:30 pm. The dinner requires advanced registration and tickets are \$55 per person. Invitations will be sent in mid-December.



*Tina Newberry, "Epaulettes," 2005, oil on board, 12" x 12"*



## FOA Travel: Possible Trips

We are looking at several exciting possibilities for out of state travel, and it is always helpful to receive an early indication of interest from members to guide our planning. Below are two important shows in cities we might like to visit next spring.

*Philadelphia: Cézanne and Beyond*

*February 26 – May 17, 2009*

Paul Cézanne's posthumous retrospective at the Salon d'Automne in 1907 was a watershed event in the history of art. The immediate impact of this large presentation of his work on the young artists of Paris was profound. Its ramifications on successive generations to the present are still in effect. This exhibition features forty paintings and twenty watercolors and drawings by Cézanne, displayed alongside works by several artists for whom Cézanne has been a central inspiration and whose work reflects, both visually and poetically, Cézanne's extraordinary legacy. These artists include Max Beckmann, Georges Braque, Pierre Bonnard, Alberto Giacometti, Arshile Gorky, Jasper Johns, Henri Matisse, Piet Mondrian, Giorgio Morandi, Pablo Picasso, Liubov Popova, and Jeff Wall.

This exhibit is based on the remarkable resources of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, both in its holdings of major works by Cézanne and in its large collections of early modernist works.

*New York: Francis Bacon: A Centenary Retrospective*

*May 20, 2009–August 16, 2009*

The first major exhibition in New York in 20 years devoted to one of the most important painters of the 20th century, Francis Bacon: A Centenary Retrospective will feature 153 works (70 paintings, 19 drawings, and 64 archival items) that span the entirety of the artist's full and celebrated career. The landmark exhibition and its accompanying catalogue, which mark the centenary of the artist's birth in Dublin in 1909, will bring together the most significant works from each period of Bacon's career, focusing on the key subjects and themes that run through his extraordinary creative output. This presentation will afford the most comprehensive examination to date of Bacon's sources and working processes, offering a reevaluation of the artist's work in light of a range of new interpretations and archival materials that have emerged since his death in 1992. The Metropolitan will be the sole U.S. venue for this exhibition, which draws from public and private collections in 12 countries.

an annual basis the graduating student who most closely exemplifies Dottie's dedication to pre-school children.

On Saturday, November 8, 2008, Dottie's life was celebrated in a gathering of over 150 friends, family and colleagues in the Georgian Room of the IU Memorial Union. The celebration included two hours of tributes, memories, and anecdotes of a warm and funny human being and her fierce and unsentimental dedication to her work and the children and families she served. Her brother, Alan Coleman, recalled their childhood in the German-Jewish neighborhoods of pre-war New York. Her children spoke lovingly of a tightly-knit Bloomington community that seemed to hold only Dottie's close friends and acquaintances.

We will always remember her fondly and miss her dearly.

## Coming Events

*Friends of Art Calendar*

- **December 2 – 6, 2008** The SoFA Gallery presents a BFA group painting show. Reception Friday, December 5 from 7 – 9 pm.
- **December 9 – 13, 2008** The SoFA Gallery presents BFA Thesis Shows. Reception Friday, December 12 from 7 – 9 pm.
- **December 12, 2008** Fine Arts Student Awards Ceremony in Woodburn Hall 100 at 5:30 pm. Holiday Art Sale & Auction follows in the SoFA Gallery 7 – 9 pm. Preview runs Wednesday through Friday.
- **January 24, 2009** The Fine Arts Library Benefit Dinner begins with slide lecture by Assoc. Professor of Painting Tina Newberry at 5 pm. in FA 015. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm in Library.
- **February 20, 2009** Ellen Johnston Laing, University of Michigan, will present an Horizons of Knowledge Lecture on "Art and Politics on the Eve of the Chinese Revolution" in Radio and TV 251 from 5:30–6:30 p.m.
- **February 25, 2009** Noon talk and luncheon with William Colling, speaking on his father's unusual collection of Chinese prints from WW II. Lunch follows upstairs (please reserve space).
- **April, 2009** Possible Friends of Art trip to Philadelphia to view "Cézanne: Then and Now."
- **May – June, 2009** Possible Friends of Art trip to New York City, to view the spectacular Francis Bacon retrospective at the Metropolitan.



# Reply Form

To join the Friends of Art, renew your membership or to sign up a friend, select a category & return this form with a check made payable to: **Friends of Art/ IU Foundation**. Mail this form to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Friends of Art**  
Fine Arts Building, FA 125  
1201 East 7th Street  
Bloomington, IN 47405  
foart@indiana.edu  
812-855-5300

- Please reserve a spot for noon talk & lunch on Feb. 25 at IUAM for \$12 per person.
- Yes, I want to visit New York for the Francis Bacon Centenary
- Yes, I want to visit Philadelphia for the *Cézanne and Beyond* show
- Renew or begin my membership at the indicated level:
  - Patron \$250
  - Donor \$100
  - Family \$50
  - Individual \$40
  - Student \$20

Your membership entitles you to receive:

- Invitations to IU Art Museum & School of Fine Art events.
- A 10% discount at the Friends of Art Bookshop & IUAM Gift Shop.
- Opportunities to travel at reduced group rate fares.
- Invitations to special events for Friends of Art members.
- Subscription to the Friends of Art Newsletter.

Label shows membership expiration!

Return Service Requested

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