

The oldest and most read arts and culture publication in the mountains

[www.rapidrivermagazine.com](http://www.rapidrivermagazine.com)

# RAPID RIVER

Arts & Culture Magazine

June 2008 Vol. 11 No. 10

## INSIDE



Local Living Legend  
Jonas Gerard



From Florida to  
Waynesville, Carrie  
and John Keith



Owners of Textures,  
Suzanne & John Gernandt

# KING CONCERTS

SWANNANOVA AND KEOWEE BRING IT ON THIS JUNE

ART • MUSIC • THEATRE • EVENTS • MOVIES • FOOD • HOME



# Digital Resolutions Group



Photography, Fine Art Reproduction  
& Giclee Printing Services



828.670.5257  
www.ashevilledigital.com  
info@ashevilledigital.com

## Gold Exceeds Record Highs

Some experts believe gold may surpass \$1,500 per ounce.



Today's news tells us that we are confronting a serious economic crisis: looming recession, record oil prices, turmoil in the banking and financial sectors, a falling dollar and record home foreclosures. Now, more than ever, you need to consider protecting and diversifying your assets with gold. Historically, gold has represented real wealth that has provided investors with a recognized safe haven asset in a diversified portfolio. Gold prices have tripled from their lows in 2001 and some experts forecast gold may rise as high as \$1,500 an ounce.

- Goldline has been assisting investors and collectors diversify their portfolios with precious metals and rare coins since 1960.
- Goldline offers some of the lowest prices on gold bullion coins and bars.
- Credit Cards are accepted on many products and storage is available.
- Add gold to your portfolio today with an investment of as little as \$1,000.



Call Goldline today to receive your free investment information on the benefits of owning GOLD.

**1-800-979-6041**



**Goldline**  
INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Goldline recommends that you acquire a sound understanding of precious metals, coins and their market before you make your first investment. Goldline's spread between the bid and ask prices on the most common bullion coins is approximately 4% to 7% and between 30% and 35% on semi-numismatic coins and numismatic coins and currency. Read Goldline's risk disclosure booklet "Coin Facts for Investors and Collectors to Consider" before making your acquisition.

**Advertise with Rapid River Magazine**

**(828) 646-0071**

**Free web links • Free ad design • Easy monthly billing**

## ART TALK

### Asheville Area Arts Council's Purple Ball

BY MELISSA SMITH

From lavender to deep plum, the purple spectrum is the color of choice at this year's Asheville Area Arts Council's fundraiser ball coming up on Saturday, June 14.

Four theme parties throughout downtown Asheville and an anticipated crowd of nearly 1,000 will be cloaked in the royal color, which if you aren't familiar with the ball, its color changes each year. Now in its seventh year, the Purple Ball raises funds for the Asheville Area Arts Council's educational programs and artist grants. This year's ball is sponsored in part by Charlotte Street Computers.

The Purple Ball is an evening of four hosted theme parties featuring delectable eats, specialty cocktails, and top-notch local entertainment. The evening kicks off for Patron ticket holders at Violet Femme, followed by two parties running concurrently. Inspired by the Bollywood music industry of India, exotic and spicy sets the tone for IndiGo!, while Purple Reign offers a 15th century royal court featuring

decadence, indulgence, and debauchery. Finally, guests will converge for the finale party, Ultra Violet, where guests experience a futuristic, Matrix-like, cyberspace.

### If you go

*Asheville Area Arts Council's Purple Ball, Saturday, June 14, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.*

*Where: Four locations throughout downtown Asheville (Scandals, Nashwa Nightclub, Haywood Park Hotel Atrium, & Haywood Park Hotel). A trolley service and LaZoom Tours, will feature live entertainment while in transit, providing free shuttle service between the parties.*

*Ticket Prices & Info: Patron tickets are \$150, \$175 after June 1, and \$200 at the door and grant access to all four parties.*

*A ticket to either IndiGo! or Purple Reign, plus the finale, Ultra Violet, costs \$75, \$100 after June 1, and \$100 at the door.*

*Tickets can be purchased online at [www.ashevillearts.com](http://www.ashevillearts.com) or through the Asheville Area Arts Council, (828) 258-0710.*

### Animals, Animals, Animals!

On May 2 Hand in Hand Gallery opened an exhibition titled "Animals, Animals, Animals!" which will run through July 8, 2008. Thirty-seven regional artists

creating in various mediums are represented in this extensive show.

Artwork displayed in the gallery's new exhibition room ranges from the whimsical to the sublime.

Invited artists include Dale Weiler, carved stone and cast bronzes; Cindy Billingsley, Maggie Jones, Mary Dasheill, Mary Mikkelsen, Henry Pope, Ann Gleason, Chris Moses, Christine Kosiba, Judy Brater-Rose, Peter Rose, Amy Goldstein-Rice, Ron Philbeck, Lisa and James Tevia-Clark, Margot Wallston, ceramic sculpture, tiles or pottery; Del Holt, Virginia Huckabee, Roger Bansemer, Isabel Taylor, Kelly King, Jane Voorhees, Susan Voorhees, Gail Williams, paintings; Jeff Miller, John Flinchum, photography; Barbara Joiner, Pegi Pike, jewelry; Dave Taylor, Brian Stepp, George Matthews, metal sculpture; Lucius Dubose, Debbie Littledeer, Dea Sasso, Chad Hagen, printmaking; Lee Joiner, Peter Chapman, Gary Seitz, carved wood; Nancy Driscoll,



Dave Taylor's "Dog"

painted furniture; and Dee Dee Triplett, fiber dolls.

To see examples of many of these artists go to [www.handinhandgallery.com/AnimalsAnimals.html](http://www.handinhandgallery.com/AnimalsAnimals.html)

### If you go

*Hand in Hand Gallery is located at 2720 Greenville Highway/NC 225, along Flat Rock's Little Rainbow Row.*

*For more information call the gallery at (828) 697-7719 or contact us at: [www.handinhandgallery.com](http://www.handinhandgallery.com)*

*Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.*



# 8th Annual Keowee Chamber Music Festival

## WEEK I / PROGRAM I

Music of Francis Poulenc, Madeleine Dring, Eugène Goossens, Frank Martin and Olivier Messiaen  
Kate Steinbeck, flute; Alicia Chapman, oboe; Fabio Parrini, piano; special guest Eric Wall, organ

### *Friday, June 6th – Candlelight Concert*

Music begins around dusk (8:30 PM), North Street Concert House, Greenville, SC

### *Sunday, June 8th CONCERT, 3 PM*

First Presbyterian Church, 40 Church Street, Asheville, NC

*Reception to follow* in the Front Gallery of the Asheville Area Arts Council



## WEEK II / PROGRAM II (except 6/13)

Music of Max Reger, Claude Debussy,  
Erno Dohnanyi and WA Mozart  
Kate Steinbeck, flute; Dan Skidmore, violin;  
Simon Értz, viola; Liz Austin, cello

### *Thursday, June 12th – CONCERT, 7:30 PM*

First Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC

### *Friday, June 13th – CONCERT, 7:30 PM*

*Program One* The Performing Arts Center at the  
Shelton House, Haywood Arts Repertory  
Theater – 250 Pigeon Street, Waynesville, NC  
*Reception to follow*, sponsored by the Haywood  
County Arts Council

### *Saturday, June 14th – CONCERT, 7:00 PM*

Founders Hall, The Reserve at Lake KEOWEE,  
Sunset, SC *Reception to follow* Free admission. To  
place name on Reserve List call 866-540-1817

### *Sunday, June 15th – CONCERT, 3 PM*

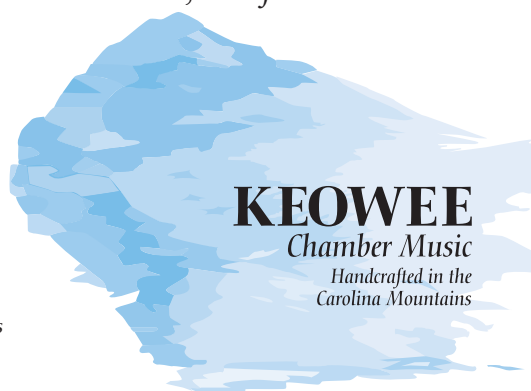
Fathers' Day Concert, Pretty Place Chapel in a  
spectacular mountain setting! Camp YMCA  
Greenville, Cedar Mountain, NC *free admission*

Tickets are \$15 per individual  
and \$25 per couple. Free  
admission for students with  
ID and volunteers! Tickets are  
available at the door.

For the 6/13 performance,  
tickets can be purchased in  
advance at the Haywood  
County Arts Council.

For more information, directions  
and links to venues, please visit  
[www.keoweechambermusic.org](http://www.keoweechambermusic.org)

E-mail: [info@keoweechambermusic.org](mailto:info@keoweechambermusic.org) Call: 828-254-7123 (NC) / 864-624-9693 (SC)





# Message from the Publisher



Dennis Ray, publisher, and son Harrison Graham Ray

Dear Readers,

I want to take a moment of your time and talk about how much the area around us is growing. Wherever I go construction is happening. The downtown skyline has dramatically changed since I moved here in '96 and most of the change has happened in the past couple years.

Biltmore Village is unrecognizable. Hotels and high-rises are populating our streets, growing like bushes. It's not a bad thing. A city has to grow or it will die. I get all that. I'm not complaining. I'm just wondering where it's all heading. I suppose the city council has a good idea. After all we voted them in there. I'm sure our mayor knows exactly where Asheville will be in 10 years. Only when I call to ask her she

won't return my phone calls. I, like you, probably are not that important to her. That too is okay. I doubt we're all that important to any politician. If we believe otherwise I think we're just kidding ourselves.

Asheville's growth reminds me of a story about an elegant horse drawn carriage or an equipage if a correct term is needed, and a greedy king. The story goes that a king wanted the fastest and largest carriage in all the land to take him and his daughters and a retinue of servants to and from other castles.

In order to gain the speed the king requested they had to add more horses. To make the carriage as large and opulent as the king requested they again had to add more horses.

"Faster," said the king, and they added more horses. "Stronger," said the king, and they added even more horses. This went on until they had an enormous carriage, a masterpiece in design and comfort, pulled by 50 of the strongest and most beautiful horses, each adorned with silver and gold. Upon finishing, the king loaded the servants and his daughters and a few dignitaries, lords and knights, into his shinning accomplishment to show it off at the next kingdom just over a couple hills and across a small valley.

They got going very fast and the king was very pleased but when they reached a fork in the road and they were supposed to go left, the horses went right. The king ordered the driver to stop and turn around.

"I can't stop the horses," said the driver. "There's too many and they're going too fast. "Well," said the king, "I'm sure the horses know where they're going."

Yes, indeed I'm quite sure the city knows where it's going too.

- DENNIS RAY, PUBLISHER RAPID RIVER MAGAZINE

newspapers  
logos catalogs  
brochures websites

Simone Bouyer's  
**Ad World**  
services

info@quickbrightsharp.com  
**828 689-8543**

www.QuickBrightSharp.com

**Peter Loewer**  
Printmaker      Graphos=Studio

PO Box 5039 ~ Asheville, NC 28813  
email: Spicebush@mtncarea.net

RENEGADE PLANETS PUBLISHING  
**marijomooore.com**  
SILVER RINGS PRESS

# Rapid River® ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE

Volume Eleven, Number Nine

Established in 1997

Distributed at over 390 locations  
throughout eight counties in WNC and South Carolina

Publisher/Editor: Dennis Ray  
Managing Editor: Beth Gossett  
Art Director: Dennis Ray  
Print Production: Simone Bouyer  
Marketing: Dennis Ray  
Staff Photographer: Dennis Ray  
Accounting: Sharon Cole  
Distribution: Dennis Ray

## CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

H. Byron Ballard, Byron Belzak,  
Sierra Bicking, Karen Boekschoten,  
James Cassara, Roxane Clement,  
Denise Cook, Adam Corman,  
Jeff Davis, Amy Downs,  
Christophe Durang,  
Daniel Gordon, Felicity Green,  
Barbara Halton-Subkis,  
Max Hammonds, MD, Phil Hawkins,  
Pam J. Hecht, Phil Juliano,  
Chip Kaufmann, Michelle Keenan,  
Amanda Leslie, Peter Loewer,  
Torva Logan, Mackensy Lunsford,  
Caroline McIntyre, MariJo Moore,  
April Nance, Michael Parker,  
Dennis Ray, Melissa Smith,  
Nancy Sokolove, Lucia Del Vecchio,  
David Voorhees, Bill Walz,  
Simcha Weinstein, Joe Zinich.

## INFO

Rapid River Art Magazine is  
a free monthly publication.  
Address correspondence to:  
info@rapidrivermagazine.com  
or write to:

Rapid River Art Magazine,  
85 N. Main St.,  
Canton, NC 28716.

Phone: (828) 646-0071  
www.rapidrivermagazine.com

All materials contained herein are  
owned and copyrighted by *Rapid  
River Art Magazine* and the individual  
contributors unless otherwise stated.  
Opinions expressed in this magazine  
do not necessarily correspond with the  
opinions of Rapid River Art Magazine  
or the advertisers found herein.

© Rapid River Magazine,  
June 2008. Vol. 11, No. 10

Cover Design: Dennis Ray

JUNE 2008

www.rapidrivermagazine.com

# Inside

## 5 Cover

Keowee Chamber Music ..... 5  
Swannanoa Chamber Music .. 7

## 8 Art

River Arts District ..... 8  
Twigs and Leaves .... 9  
Clay Day & Guild Fair .... 10  
Richard Oversmith ..... 13  
TAAS Gallery ..... 13  
Toe River Tour .... 20  
Textures .... 21  
Peggy H. Taylor .... 32  
Jonas Gerard .... 35  
Jonathan Williams .... 39

## 15 Columns

Peter Loewer ..... 15  
James Cassara ..... 16  
MariJo Moore ..... 19  
Roxanne Clement ..... 27  
Mackensy Lunsford ..... 30

## 6 Music

Shindig on the Green ..... 6  
Degas String Quartet ..... 7  
The Stringdusters ..... 17

## 18 Books

H. Byron Ballard ..... 18

## 23 Movie Reviews

## 28 Wine

## 29 Beer

## 30 Local Flavor

## 31 Artful Living

## 36 What to Do Guide™

Best in Show ..... 37  
Callie and Cats ..... 37  
Corqi Tales ..... 37



## COVER STORY

## KEOWEE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

## Planting Our Musical Garden

Kate Steinbeck wears a lot of hats. She is an international flute virtuoso, and she is co-director of a non-profit, KEOWEE Chamber Music which she runs with her business partner and colleague, cellist Liz Austin.

Kate is as down to earth as she is talented, "Liz and I always say, running a non-profit is like doing laundry. It's never ending." Once you hear her, you will not believe her when she tells you that performing is the easy part for Kate. If you get Kate out of earshot of her spouse, she'll tell you she owes much of her robust sound to the flute that she plays. This is particularly sweet, given that her husband, Chris Abell, makes her handcrafted wooden flute. When I compliment Chris on his flute's big sound, he says matter of factly, "90% of that sound is Kate's". Power couples are touching.

Kate is indefatigable, but wearing all those hats is an incredible balancing act, even for her, because she has another full-time job; she's a mom who proudly touts her son and daughter as her "best work." They are nice children. That is how I met Kate; our kids go to the same school. In fact our boys can be seen doo-dling together at her performances. She says, "Bring your kids. Bring paper and pencils though 'cause they get squirmy." When our family first heard a KEOWEE Chamber Music concert, none of us were

prepared for that level of playing; we were blown away. My eight-year-old came home and asked me, "Do you have any of that music with no words?" He's been listening and drawing to classical music ever since.

This is big city talent, right here under our noses, or ears, as the case may be, home delivered, to our doorstep, in our small mountain community for us to enjoy without the hassle and expense of flying to New York, San Francisco, or Chicago. In addition, KEOWEE Chamber Music gives back to the community all year, every year, not only by providing professional music to the community, but also by giving free concerts to underserved audiences like the homeless, kids, and the disabled.



Fabio Parrini

KEOWEE is part of Asheville's vital arts community that annually generates \$65 million dollars into our local economy. While a family of four spends around \$40 for a mass produced feature film at a chain theatre, KEOWEE is practically giving away entertainment at only \$25 per adult couple with students admitted free (recommended concert attendance for age 6 and up).

At a time of year when we hopefully spend less time in our cars, and more time catching fireflies, talking to neighbors, or gardening, KEOWEE Chamber Music celebrates its 8<sup>TH</sup> Annual Festival June 3-



Kate Steinbeck

15. It's the perfect opportunity to welcome the slower pace of summer. All you have to do is put on some flip flops and show up as the ensemble kicks off its festival with a free afternoon rehearsal at UNCA's Reuter Center on June 3. As Kate tells me before performances at even the swankest venues, "You can wear jeans. Just come."

Chamber music is just that, a handful

BY KAREN BOEKSCHOTEN

of musicians gathered in drawing rooms, gardens or any small, intimate setting. Essentially a very democratic musical process with only one player to a part, chamber music enables each instrument to intermittently share its own independent voice while contributing to the same piece of music — a dialogue of instruments in a conversation that ranges from whispered hums to frequent bursts of enthusiastic, zealous opinion. Each instrument has the opportunity to voice its own sound, and display its own virtuosity, before returning to consensus.

Indeed, you will be delighted with the distinct and outstanding talent of each member of this professional group. Chamber music hails from a simpler era before the world got big and overwhelming, and experiencing KEOWEE Chamber Music feels like attending a very personal tea party given in your honor. This intimacy is an excellent balm to life's

'Keowee' continued on pg. 34

...ou vas tu?

CONTEXT	CONSTANCE BOUTIQUE	CONSTANCE
62 HAYWOOD ST DOWNTOWN 828.350.6006	2 HENDERSONVILLE RD BILTMORE 252.4002	100 JULIAN LANE LONG SHOALS 650.6566

## ASHEVILLE GALLERY OF ART



The city's longest-established, most diverse and exciting gallery offering two dimensional fine art by 29 regional professional artists.

16 College Street 828-251-5796  
www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com



## MUSIC

# Shindig on the Green

## 42<sup>ND</sup> Season Begins on Saturday, June 28

The celebrated mountain tradition, Shindig on the Green, which showcases the region's rich heritage through its folk musicians and dancers, kicks off the season at Martin Luther King Jr. Park in downtown Asheville.

Along about sundown, or at 7:00 p.m. for those who wear a watch, locals and visitors alike come together downtown for this free event, which features a stage show and informal jam sessions throughout the park. Highlights include performances by The Stoney Creek Boys, the long-standing house band for Shindig on the Green; newly formed and long-standing bands from throughout the mountains; and an extensive lineup of dance teams.

The Folk Heritage Committee produces Shindig on the Green and its sister event, the Mountain Dance and Folk Festival, to support the preservation and continuation of the traditional music, dance and storytelling heritage of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Between 3,000 and 5,000 people attend Shindig on the Green for free throughout the summer. In addition to throngs of locals, visitors routinely travel from out of state, across the country, and even around the world to make their way to downtown Asheville for Shindig on the Green.



Danielle and Danny Bishop play old-time at a Shindig in the summer of 2007. Photo by Tom Chapman.

BY ELLY WELLS

cording contracts, their own tours, and the national spotlight.

Shindig on the Green takes a break from its regular Saturday schedule just twice during July and August: once on July 26 to make

way for the city's Bele Chere festival and again on August 2 when the musicians and dancers head to Shindig's sister event, the 81<sup>ST</sup> Annual Mountain Dance and Folk Festival, a ticketed event at Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place, takes place nightly Thursday through Saturday, July 31 to August 2. Tickets are available from the Pack Place Box Office at (828) 257-4530.



The Sweet Tater Band on stage at a Shindig in the summer of 2007. Photo by Tom Chapman.

## If you go

Shindig on the Green takes place at Martin Luther King Jr. Park on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in downtown Asheville, on June 28 and July 5, 12, 19.

The City of Asheville parking lots, located to the south of the City Building, and the Buncombe County parking lot, which has an entrance off Charlotte Street directly south of the entrance to Tripps Restaurant, are open to the public during Shindig on the Green.

Martin Luther King Jr. Park can be accessed either by the front entrance to the park, or through an opening in the gate at the corner of S. Charlotte Street and Tunnel/College Street.

For more info about Shindig on the Green call the Folk Heritage Info Line: (828) 258-6101 x 345 or access: [www.folkheritage.org](http://www.folkheritage.org).

# Sculpture

FOR THE GARDEN

SPONSORED BY:  
The Cliffs at Walnut Cove  
The Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa  
The Wine Guy

OUTDOOR EXHIBITION  
June 7-8, 2008

Asheville, NC | 828.253.7651  
[www.grovetwood.com](http://www.grovetwood.com)

GROVEWOOD  
GALLERY



## TOE RIVER STUDIO TOUR

Mitchell and Yancey Counties, North Carolina

Saturday & Sunday, June 14 & 15 • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sponsored by the Toe River Arts Council, this free event celebrates its fifteenth anniversary in 2008, as more than 100 craftspeople and fine artists open their scenic mountain studios to visitors. It's the perfect opportunity to see "art in the making" in a self-guided adventure.

*The Premier Open-Studio Tour of Western North Carolina*



269 Oak Avenue, Spruce Pine • (828) 765-0520 or 682-7215  
[www.toeriverarts.org](http://www.toeriverarts.org)



The Green Grass Cloggers at a Shindig in the summer of 2007. Photo by Anne Mallett.

Many of the nation's best traditional musicians are mountain-area musicians who got their start coming to Shindig and "cutting their teeth" before advancing to professional careers complete with re-



# COVER STORY

Swannanoa Chamber Music Festival Presents

## THE DEGAS STRING QUARTET

The Swannanoa Chamber Music Festival is happy to announce the return of the Degas String Quartet for the 2008 season. The “Degas” made an immediate connection to the audiences both on and off the stage last summer.

This year they will be bringing two new and permanent violinists with them. Emily Popham and Timothy Peters are both well-known in musician circles. People who have heard the Quartet recently say that this new configuration is a great matchup. Simon Ertz, the Quartet violist says “It is good to be returning to this unique festival, the audiences are enthusiastic, the camaraderie between the musicians is great, and the mountains are beautiful. I am looking forward to seeing many of the people I met last summer.”

Inessa Zaretsky, a prize winning pianist and composer will join the Festival again for her tenth season. Inessa has become an audience favorite over the years for her strong, effortless performances, and also her compositions that have been performed at the Festival. She teaches at the Mannes School of Music and maintains a busy performing schedule in NYC. Inessa says “What a wonderful place to make music! Warren Wilson College has such a beautiful campus, and making music with these musicians who gather here year after year is a treat.” Everyone feels the same about Inessa.

The Festival runs for five weeks, beginning on June 22. Concerts will be in Waynesville, Hendersonville and at Warren Wilson College. Frank Ell, Director, selects pieces for each program that complement each other and allow you to hear each of them in a new light. Each piece has a different instrumentation and comes from a different musical period. Various combinations of strings, woodwinds and piano are used to bring a variety of musical colors to each concert. People who don’t usually enjoy an entire evening of piano trios or string quartets particularly enjoy the variety of these concerts.

### THIS SEASON’S REPERTOIRE

#### Program I

Quartet in D minor, Mozart  
Trio in Bb Major, Beethoven  
Piano Quintet in A, Dvorak

- Sunday, June 22, 7:30 p.m.,  
Performing Arts Center
- Monday, June 23, 8:00 p.m.,  
Patton Auditorium

- Tuesday, June 24, 8:00 p.m.  
Kittredge Theatre

What better way to start the season than with a Mozart String Quartet. This is one of the finest string quartets he wrote and the Degas String Quartet promises to give us a great reading. Next we have a young Beethoven piece for clarinet, cello and piano. Already you hear the rambunctious, rhythmic Beethoven leaving the influence of Mozart. The concert ends with the rich, melodic Piano Quintet by Dvorak. You will be singing the melodies in your head for days.

#### Program II

Fantaisie for Flute and Piano, Faure  
Sextet for Piano and Winds, Poulenc  
Quartet No. 2, Opus 17, Bartok

- Sunday, June 29, 7:30 p.m.,  
Performing Arts Center
- Monday, June 30, 8:00 p.m.,  
Patton Auditorium
- Tuesday, July 1, 8:00 p.m.  
Kittredge Theatre

The program begins with a virtuoso flute piece performed by our new flutist George Pope. It is a romantic *tour de force*. The Poulenc sextet is witty and urbane, a reaction to the excesses of the romantic period. Poulenc is at his best here. Last we have a Bartok String Quartet. In this, his most accessible, we hear the Hungarian folk tunes, rhythms and visceral quality of the mountain music. Exciting is the word.

#### Program III

Notturmo Concertante, Dussek  
Kleine Kammermusik, Hindemith  
Piano Quartet No. 3, Brahms

- Sunday, July 6, 7:30 p.m.,  
Performing Arts Center
- Monday, July 7, 8:00 p.m.,  
Patton Auditorium
- Tuesday, July 8, 8:00 p.m.  
Kittredge Theatre

Notturmo Concertante is for violin, horn and piano. This “night” piece is the first time we have performed Dussek at the Festival. Hindemith has written a masterful woodwind quintet, “a little chamber music”. Hindemith’s writing is very clear, with a strong sense of musical direction. It is a perfect foil to the Brahms. Little has to be said of Brahms. His Piano Quartet has a thoughtful richness that is incomparable.



#### Program IV

Konzert in D Minor, Telemann  
World Premiere, Newman  
Quartet in G Minor, Debussy

- Sunday, July 13, 7:30 p.m.,  
Performing Arts Center
- Monday, July 14, 8:00 p.m.,  
Patton Auditorium
- Tuesday, July 15, 8:00 p.m.  
Kittredge Theatre

Richard Illman, trumpet virtuoso joins us for this concert. The Telemann features a piccolo trumpet. How high can a trumpet play? Next composer Ronald Newman brings piece written especially for the Festival. Look for something original, with a jazz element, and enjoyable to listen to. After the Newman your attention will be drawn to the jazz elements in the incomparable Debussy String Quartet.

#### Program V

Serenata in Vano, Nielsen  
Octet in F Major, Schubert

- Sunday, July 21, 7:30 p.m.,  
Performing Arts Center
- Monday, July 22, 8:00 p.m.,  
Patton Auditorium
- Tuesday, July 23, 8:00 p.m.  
Kittredge Theatre

We close the season with two pieces that we have not presented for a number of years. Nielsen’s “Serenade in Vain” is

program music about a group of musicians who help out a friend by serenading his amour. The title tells the whole story. The Schubert Octet is perhaps one of the greatest works written for a combination of strings and winds. This is great way to bring the 2008 season to a close.

For those of you who’d like to know more about the music being performed, and get to know the musicians better, there will be a series of Lecture/Demonstrations each Thursday night at 7:30 in the Music Building at Warren Wilson College. The players bring the composers and their pieces alive, talking about and playing important aspects of each composition. Lectures will be held on the following Thursday nights this summer: June 19 and 26; July 3, 10 and 17. They are free and open to the public.

### If you go

Locations: Performing Arts Center,  
Waynesville, (828) 452-0593

Patton Auditorium, Blue Ridge  
Community College, Hendersonville  
(828) 890-4411

Kittredge Theatre, Warren Wilson  
College, Asheville-Buncombe County  
(828) 771-3050

Ticket Information:

Series Tickets: \$70 for all 5 performances  
Single Tickets: \$19 each

Students age 25 and younger admitted  
free. All tickets are on sale at the box office



Lighting • Accessories • Fine Furniture

## 25% OFF

Regularly Priced Items,  
excluding Tyler Candles



Take an Extra  
**10% OFF**  
any Sale Items

Located at  
**Interiors of Asheville**  
Biltmore Station  
**2 Hendersonville Rd.**  
828-342-0809

**Have That Special Item  
Framed While You Visit  
With "Rafferty"**



**FASTFRAME**  
EXPERT PICTURE FRAMING

### OFFERING:

Expert Picture Framing  
Shadowboxes ~ Mirrors  
Local Artists Work  
Pet Portraits by Maggie

**900 Hendersonville Rd.**  
**Suite 102 Asheville**  
**247-5176**

www.fastframeasheville.com

## FINE ART

# The River Arts District – A Study in Community

**T**wice each year, in June and November, Asheville's River Arts District becomes a destination point for art lovers from all across the country with its very popular Studio Stroll.

The River District is filled with old, refurbished warehouses that are home to over 100 artists' studios. Many of these studios are open on a regular basis and most all of them participate during the Studio Stroll. This year (the 14th year of the event) the Stroll takes place the weekend of June 14-15 and is free and open to the public.

Those who come to the Studio Stroll are able to see work from a diverse group of artists working in many different mediums and employing many different styles. What is most exciting for those who attend is the opportunity to actually visit and talk with the artists, and to see and understand that out of these studios is born amazing creativity and innovation. Buying artwork directly from the artist after meeting and talking with them adds a value to the experience that cannot be measured.

As creative as much of the work is that you will see while visiting the studios, there is perhaps a case to be made that it is not even the artists' finest work. That prize may best be given to a work that they have all created together, possibly without consciously attempting to create anything at all. The combined efforts of the over 100 artists who work each day in the River Arts District has created a community – a vibrant, dynamic and effective community of artists.

Artist Communities have been around in this country and certainly in Europe for quite a while, becoming very popular during the mid 19th century. One of my first encounters with such a community was while visiting Jerome, AZ many years ago. Jerome used to be a thriving mining town and after the Depression became a ghost town, only to later become a very prosperous Artist Community, which it still is today. It is not uncommon to see Artist Communities emerge out of the ashes of some previous community. The River District in Asheville was devastated in 1916 by a very damaging flood and after a few twists and turns has now evolved into its own Artist Community.

What is most compelling about Artist Communities is the almost Utopian-like society that is generated, often without any real effort. It seems to just naturally evolve. I'm sure that with over 100 people there are probably some who don't always get along and sure, there is probably some competition and envy going on at different times, but otherwise, in what other working industry would everyone who participates in that industry be



BY SIMCHA WEINSTEIN

for true inspiration, creativity and innovation. Artists inherently understand this wisdom.

As strange as it may sound, the true aim of the artist community must be to go beyond its own accomplishment. This is achieved by the values and wisdom of the Artist Community ultimately becoming so well absorbed and integrated into the

natural, larger society that a more isolated and segregated community is not necessary or perhaps even desirable.

For this to happen, of course, we will need a tremendous awakening within our culture to the value and role of the artist in our communities. It will be a tremendous day when the contributions and character that an artist brings to our everyday life are no longer seen as eccentric or lacking a mainstream quality, but are rather acknowledged as a beneficial aspect of our culture. The ultimate aim of a smaller community should be to have its values and wisdom become contagious upon the larger community.

The merger of the Artist Community with the larger community would not be in any way diminish the role of the artist. Quite the opposite would be true. The outcome would be that the larger community has so well integrated the Utopian-like attributes of the Artist Community, that being a separate part of the community would actually seem redundant.

Of course, it seems clear that our larger community has by no means arrived at this point yet, and until that

day comes the journey of the Artist Community continues — sharing their work, their vision and their community.

## If you go

2008 Studio Stroll, June 14-15 and November 8-9, 2008! Call (828) 254-2166 for more information.

Simcha is a freelance writer who lives in Asheville, NC. He can be reached via email at [simcha@mindspring.com](mailto:simcha@mindspring.com)

working side by side as neighbors? Not only are they neighbors, but typically close neighbors at that — sharing information, providing valuable feedback to one another and honestly cheering on their counterparts.

I doubt that the banking or Real Estate industries, for example, would want to be that physically close to one another in doing commerce. And, they certainly wouldn't be exchanging ideas or

cheering the other company on. There is an egoless quality that is often strong in the Artist Communities. I believe it stems from the fact that there is no work that is more unique to one's own vision or more authentic to who you are than being an artist.

An artist truly understands that no matter how much she/he shares with another peer, the other artist cannot ultimately do what they do. It is impossible to usurp, undermine or steal true authenticity.

This is the ultimate innovation that comes from art. Each created piece can only happen once, and it is that level of authenticity that breeds the generosity and humanity that we find in Artist Communities. There is no competition





# FINE ART

## “Twigs and Leaves” Just Keeps Getting Better

In March of 2007 John and Carrie Keith chased a dream taking them from Northwest Florida to Western North Carolina. Like most dreams it wasn't a “sure thing.”

There were risks involved as there are with any venture, but purchasing an established art gallery, one as well loved by artists and collectors and patrons as Twigs and Leaves, would for most prove to be a major challenge. Perhaps even an impossible one.

Not so for the Kieths who say “It was such a smooth transition that a lot of folks weren't even aware there was a switch in ownership.”

They had the experience and knowledge to run a successful gallery. Carrie, at the time owned a garden shop in Destin, Florida and John worked and had been working for 32 years in commercial banking. Yet, change isn't always easy, no matter how qualified we are to make the move.

Gene Kelly said “You gotta dance before you get anywhere.” And the Kieths did just that. They took the dance and said goodbye to their friends and the life they had in Florida, because this was something they knew they had to do. Destined to do.

The Keiths love nature. They love spending time getting out for the weekends, hiking and taking extended camping trips, and most importantly, they love art. So, if ever there were two people who could take this nature themed gallery and move it forward, they were it. And those who know them aren't surprised at all by their continued success.

“We've been visiting this area for quit sometime,” John says, “and we always thought ‘Wouldn't it be nice to live here?’ So when Twigs and Leaves became available we both knew immediately this would be the right choice.”

Some of the artists warranted fears that the new owners wouldn't have the same dedication and drive as the gallery founders David Erickson and his wife Kaaren Stoner did. All fears were put to rest when it was told Stoner would continue carrying her pottery and clay work here. (Stoner is known for adorning porcelain leaves on her pottery).



John and Carrie Keith

BY DANIEL GORDON

The gallery, an airy, loft-like space of some 3,000 square feet spread over two floors, is a destination for serious collectors, downtown residents, tourists and casual visitors. Over 180 artists and artisans, in all, show their work here.

“Galleries constantly change,” Carrie says. “The nature of art is change. The best part of working with our artists is watching their work evolve, flow and change. It's simply beautiful.”

Twigs and Leaves has a convergence of so many elements of nature and living with nature that it requires

a considerable amount of time to actually absorb all that this wonderful place has to offer. There is a melding of art and craft, home décor, furniture, nature-related handcrafts, photography and paintings that will give you a new appreciation for the world around you. There is, after all, something for anyone.

“We are committed to showing works of art and crafts that are engaging,” John says. “At the same time we want our gallery to be very approachable and embracing, whether you have been purchasing from here for years or are on your first visit.”

### Upcoming Events at Twigs and Leaves

#### Art After Dark - June 6

Featuring copper artist Robert Pike. Music will be provided by pianist Josh Fowler. Also we will be hosting presentations by Doris Mager (The Bird Lady).

#### Gallery Walk - June 20 & 21

Twigs and Leaves will feature three artists who will be doing demonstrations. The artists will be Cedar Lee, painter, Kim Thompson, jeweler, and Bob Grytten, wood worker.

#### Art After Dark - July 3

Artist Desmond Suarez will be premiering a new line of furniture.

#### Twigs and Leaves Gallery

98 North Main St.  
Waynesville, NC  
(828) 456-1940



PATRICIA RAMOS ALCAYAGA

**HONORING THE BEAUTY OF THE HORSE**

365 MERRIMON AVENUE ASHEVILLE  
828.252.6036 · MERRIMONGALLERIES.COM  
MON-FRI 9:30-6 · SAT-SUN 10:30-5

step out of the ordinary

**blue**

1 swan street biltmore village 277-2583



## FINE ART

## Clay Day &amp; Guild Fair on the Parkway

BY APRIL NANCE

On June 7, the Southern Highland Craft Guild is sponsoring a one day festival which offers all the best WNC has to offer: a trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway, fine regional crafts, old-time music by local musicians and regional BBQ.

For the second season, Clay Day and Guild Fair on the Parkway have been combined to offer educational demonstrations and an exposition of craft booths from 10am to 4pm at the Folk Art Center.

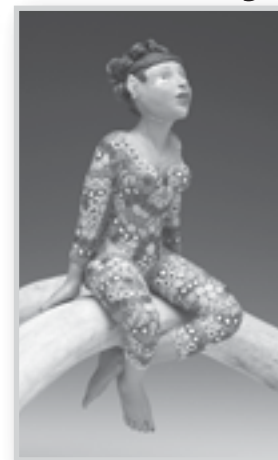
Clay Day has been a favorite event at the Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center for over 20 years. Members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild demonstrate throwing on the potter's wheel, hand building and surface design on clay among other techniques.

There will be activities for children including the popular "make and take" raku firing. For a \$5 materials charge, visitors can glaze a pre-made pot, watch as an expert takes it through the raku firing process, and take home a beautiful piece of pottery. Guild members who will assist in the raku firing include: Gary Clontz, Kim Dryden,

Nancy Darrell and Steven Forbes-deSoule. Other clay artists demonstrating will be Lee Davis, slip drawing on porcelain; Ann Gleason, clay whistles, rattles, and sculptures; Christine Joura, bread dough jewelry; and Rose Tripoli Mueller, clay sculptures. Clay for demonstrations and activities is generously donated by Highwater Clays of Asheville.

The second annual Guild Fair on the Parkway features the work of members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Select craftspeople will set up booths with

original works for sale including pottery, jewelry, glass, wood, metal and fiber. Artists include: Riverwood Pewter from Dillsboro, NC; Ruthie Cohen, jeweler from Arden, NC; Kathrin Weber Scott, textile artist from Clyde, NC; Turtle Island Pottery from Old Fort, NC; HIS Glass-



**Polymer clay figure by Teri Byrd of Knoxville, TN. Photo by Robert Batey.**

works of Asheville, NC; Ted Lawshe, marquetry artist from Horse Shoe, NC; and Rebecca Owen, quilter from Canton, NC. For a complete list, please visit: [www.craftguild.org](http://www.craftguild.org).

Entertainment will be provided by local old-time and bluegrass musicians and regional BBQ will be served in the true southern style. While at the Folk Art Center, visitors will have the opportunity to visit Allandstand Craft Shop, the National Park Service bookstore and information desk, as well as three exhibition galleries. Outside the Folk Art Center, there

are hiking trails, picnic tables, grassy areas and plenty of free parking.

## If you go

*Clay Day and Guild Fair on the Parkway, June 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

*Free Parking – Free Admission. Folk Art Center, Milepost 382, Blue Ridge Parkway, in Asheville.*

*For more information, call (828) 298-7928 or visit [www.craftguild.org](http://www.craftguild.org).*

## Focus Galley Presents Bernie Rowell and James Cornell

BY APRIL NANCE

On display now through June 17 in the Folk Art Center's Focus Gallery are the painted quilts of Bernie Rowell and ceramics of James Cornell.

The show is a celebration of beauty combined with form and function. Fitting the Spring season, the work of both artists blooms with light, color and texture. Rowell's quilts depicting nature complement Cornell's clay vessels which also appear to be inspired by the outside world.

Bernie Rowell of Candler has been a member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild since 1975. She begins her work by painting large sheets of canvas these sheets are then cut and layered with others to form a background. Many small embroidered

pieces along with buttons, beads and other found objects are applied to the surface to build color and texture. The light reflective quality of the metallic fabrics and threads she uses adds more dimension. In her artist statement Rowell says, "Patterns of light on the Pisgah Range, the diversity of trees and plants, and seasonal changes all bring inspiration to my art." While seeing the work is the real joyful experience, reading her quilt titles is like reading poetry. The show features: *Moun-*

*tain Garden, Chickadee Morning, April Orchard and Hummingbird's Return.*

James Cornell of Landrum, SC designs and makes functional pottery and has been a member of the Guild since 1983. He compares, in his artist state-



**"Pliquea Jour" jewelry by Linda Caristo of Fairview, NC. Photo by Stewart Stokes.**



**"Five Poppies" quilt by Bernie Rowell.**

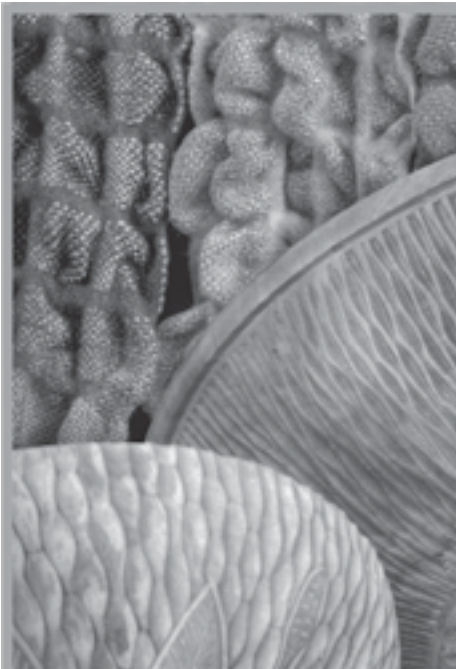


**Tripodal Vase by James Cornell.**

ment, pottery making to a process or journey. He says, "It is that interplay or dialogue between myself and the material that still keeps the work interesting to me." He delights in knowing that his work will be enjoyed for many years to come by the people who use them.

His Focus Gallery show includes thrown stoneware in various forms: tripodal bottles and teapots, cap jars and casseroles decorated with fish handles, a boat vase and platter. Many of the pieces are characterized by carving in abstract organic patterns of leaves. Cornell's combination of form and texture make his ceramic art inspiring and beautiful.

For more information, call 298-7928 or visit [www.craftguild.org](http://www.craftguild.org).



Scarves and bowls

From hip to handcrafted.  
Inspiration for your home.

**textures**  
for the finely crafted home

142 N. Main Street, Waynesville  
828.452.0058 [www.texturesonmain.com](http://www.texturesonmain.com)

Mon-Sat, 10-6 • Sun, 12-5

*Roxane Clement*

*Decorative Artist*

Faux Finishes  
Marbling  
Stencilling  
Gilding  
Wood Graining  
Venetian Plaster

*Certified by  
the City  
& Guilds  
of London  
Institute*

828.254.9408

[rmclement2001@aol.com](mailto:rmclement2001@aol.com)



Custom Picture Framing, prints, photo frames, easels, picture lights

1103 Brevard Rd.  
665-7730



# FINE ART

## Sculpture for the Garden at Grovewood Gallery

Join us on June 7 (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and June 8 (11 a.m. to 5 p.m.) for the opening weekend of Sculpture for the Garden – Grovewood Gallery's first annual invitational, outdoor sculpture exhibition.

This exhibit will feature the works of 15 nationally recognized artists, with sculptures ranging from small, playful pieces suitable for the home or garden, to works for public spaces and corporate settings. Bring your friends and family to spend the day and have the opportunity to meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments in the beautiful setting of Grovewood Gardens.

Participating artists include: Ralph Berger, Stefan Bonitz, Dory Brown, Grace Cathey, Francis Vega & Don Drumm, Ben & Kate Gatski, Tinka Jordy, Barbara Kobylinska, Rich Kolb, Evan Lewis, Gretchen Lothrop, Joe Miller, Dale Rogers, Scott Strader, and Lyman Whitaker.

Grovewood Gallery is located next to the Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa in Asheville. Call the gallery for more information: (828) 253-7651.



**Sculpture by Tinka Jordy.**

## Rip Squeak Comes To Asheville

When we were introduced to the world of Rip Squeak — the books and the marvelous art associated with them — we just had to have the product in our FAST-FRAME store.

So who and what is Rip Squeak? Rip Squeak and his little sister Jesse are lovable mice. They share their cottage in the country with Abbey, an abandoned kitten, and a frog named Euripides in a world where no humans live for ten months out of the year...

The world of Rip Squeak has been captured in a series of exquisitely illustrated hardcover books, preserved in a handsome presentation box, and accompanied by your choice of framed illustrations from the Rip Squeak books.

The adventures of Rip Squeak and his friends are charming and intriguing. The first book begins:

"ONE MORNING the humans left the cottage, taking their suitcases with them. The house was sooooo quiet.

Rip Squeak sat at his desk, daydreaming about having a great adventure. He started to scribble a note when suddenly the aroma of cinnamon made his stomach growl. He followed the sweet smell into the hall and found his sister, Jesse. Together they tiptoed toward the kitchen.

"Are you sure all the cats went too?" asked Jesse. "Don't worry," Rip replied, sniffing the air.

That's when they heard the sound every mouse dreads...



**Rip and his little sister Jesse.**



**Rip the Pirate.**

"Meeeeooooowwww!"

Jesse let out a terrified squeal and clutched her doll, Bunny.

"Be brave," Rip said to himself as he peeked around the corner and saw a kitten lying on the floor, sobbing.

"Exc-c-cuse me," Rip stammered. "M-m-my name is Rip Squeak."

The kitten looked at Rip with tears in her eyes.

"I'm Abbey," she said.

"My family left without me and I'm all alone."

"You're not alone," Rip said soothingly. "My sister Jesse, and I live here too."

That's just a taste of the adventures you and your youngsters will share. The books are fun and intriguing, and the poster art associated with the books is a delightful addition to any child's bedroom.

We carry the full range of Rip Squeak books and posters. Maggie and Bob would love to introduce you to the word of Rip Squeak in person. We're one block south of Ingles, in Forest Center, just across from Biltmore Forest.

### FASTFRAME

Bob Brown and Maggie Graham  
900 Hendersonville Rd., in Asheville (below Amici trattoria)  
(828) 274-5176  
[www.fastframeasheville.com](http://www.fastframeasheville.com)

Fine Art Prints Exclusively Available from Our Studio  
[www.JohnMacKah.com](http://www.JohnMacKah.com)

John Mac Kah

Original Oil Landscapes

Limited Edition Fine Art Prints

Located in the Heart of the River Arts District  
in the Cotton Mill Building

122 Riverside Drive

Studio H

828 ~ 225 ~ 5000

Regular Studio Hours by Chance or Appointment

Represented by 16 Patton Gallery  
16 Patton Avenue 828-236-2889

## Dentistry. With a Difference.



Dr. John Highsmith and Dr. Charles Fultz practice dentistry that may be a bit different from dentistry you've experienced before.

These talented dentists blend science and artistry, creating healthy, attractive smiles with high quality care, advanced technology, modern materials and exceptional comfort.

This is the dentistry they believe in. Isn't it the dentistry you deserve?

Call Today:  
**828-627-9282**

78 Nelson St.  
Clyde, NC  
[www.drhighsmith.com](http://www.drhighsmith.com)

John M. Highsmith, DDS  
CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR FOR THE LAS VEGAS INSTITUTE  
FOR ADVANCED DENTAL STUDIES



Charles E. Fultz, DDS  
GENERAL, COSMETIC & IMPLANT DENTISTRY



# WALL STREET

## Eat, Shop, Create and Play

Dolce Vita



34 Wall St. # 201  
Asheville, NC 28801  
828-253-1584

Mon 10-6 Tues-Fri 9-6  
Sat 10-6 Sun 11:30-4

Fired Up!  
creative lounge

● ● ●  
paint-your-own-pottery

26 Wall St.  
Downtown Asheville  
[www.fireduplounge.com](http://www.fireduplounge.com)  
828.253.8181

CUCINA24

RESTAURANT • BAR • BRICK OVEN  
24 WALL STREET ASHEVILLE NC 28801  
[WWW.CUCINA24RESTAURANT.COM](http://WWW.CUCINA24RESTAURANT.COM)  
P: 828.254.6170 F: 828.254.6175

BRIAN CANIPELLI • CHEF/OWNER  
[BCANIPELLI@CUCINA24RESTAURANT.COM](mailto:BCANIPELLI@CUCINA24RESTAURANT.COM)

BEADS  
and  
BEYOND

19 Wall St. Downtown Asheville  
(828)254-7927

Dolce Vita is Italian for "Sweet Life" — Most people describe the boutique as an eclectic gift shop. We sell locally made; candles, jewelry, dog shirts, handbags, photography, and postcards. We also offer home décor, dog prints, key chains, fine wine, magnets and aprons. We have the Best Gifts in Town!

Fired Up! — "Everyone can become artists at this pottery studio. No creativity? No problem! We offer tools, idea books, stamps, stencils, a little coaching and a lot of encouragement. Helping you have a relaxing, pleasurable experience while making those special presents or souvenirs is what we excel in. No time to paint? Shop our art boutique!"

Beads and Beyond — Since 1984 beaders of all ages come to Beads and Beyond on Wall St. You can create a bracelet for a friend or maybe a necklace or new earrings. Owner Barry Olen has searched the markets of the world for unique beads, jewelry-making supplies and treasures from the earth.



# FINE ART

## Old Fort's Biggest Gallery/Café Celebrates its Second Anniversary

"I think the future is very bright," said Dru Heldman, co-owner of The Appalachian Artisan Society (TAAS) Gallery, located on Main Street in downtown Old Fort, North Carolina. "We're celebrating our second anniversary this June and have just opened the Catawba Vale Café next door, which includes even more artwork and fine crafts for customers to look at while they eat."

Dru and his wife Beverly Peek Heldman are determined to put Old Fort, home of the Mountain Heritage Museum and Andrews Geyser, on the Asheville area map as an arts and crafts destination. Downtown Old Fort is located just one minute from I-40, five minutes from Black Mountain and 20 minutes from downtown Asheville.

"Sales continue to grow," said Dru Heldman. "I believe that says something about the quality of our artists and artisans, the uniqueness of our gallery and café, and how hard we have worked to market locally crafted artwork in a retail environment and online."

TAAS now features 70 Appalachian artists and artisans. The Heldmans agree that representing only local artists and artisans benefits both the hand crafter and the customer.

"There are always new works coming in and something new for even our repeat customers to see," said Bev Heldman, who wears many hats as co-owner, café

manager, and artisan. She handcrafts beaded jewelry, but is best known for her wrapped wire artworks featuring trees and rockscapes.

"We started TAAS Gallery because we wanted to take some of the burden off of local artisans so they could have more time to work on their craft," said Bev. "We also wanted to have a place where people could truly find local art."

### Old Fort Pride

TAAS Gallery takes great pride in the service it provides for the community and furthering the good name of Old Fort and Southern Appalachia.

"We are attentive to what our customers want, and we are well known for our top-notch customer service," said Dru Heldman. "What makes us truly unique is that we have so much local art. All of our artists and handcrafters are from the Appalachian area. Customers see that everything is from this area, and that's what they want."

Dru enjoys making candles as well as marketing the gallery and café, while Bev demonstrates a deep appreciation and knowledge of Appalachian crafts.

She was born and raised in Old Fort, left for a number of years, then returned with her new husband in 1995. Dru and Bev are now raising a family and have created an original gallery of Appalachian handcrafts and art, along with a new café, that is quickly becoming a destination in its own right for McDowell County



**Catawba Vale Café serves up fresh deli sandwiches named for landmarks in Old Fort and McDowell County.**

residents and guests alike.

"My paw-paw, Johnny Vess, was a master woodworker," said Bev. "From my earliest memories, I would stand and watch him for hours create some of the most beautiful wooden pieces that I had ever seen. So the love of any craft or piece of art is deeply rooted in me. I have a great admiration for crafters." And she wants to provide visitors and residents with locally made handcrafted items.

"Nothing irritates me more than to go on a trip somewhere and not be able to bring back something that was made from that area," said Bev. "We have so many talented people in this area. I have customers that come in from all over the world and are so amazed at how unique our art is — whether it's fine art, pottery, woodworking, weaving or even our painted rocks. They are so pleased that there's nothing from China at our store. We have something for everyone here,

regardless of budget."

Bev's pride in her store and of Old Fort is contagious: "I love this town, and I see really good things for Old Fort. Sometimes people ask me why we opened here. I tell them it's because I believe in what Old Fort is and could be again. I tell them to take time to learn the history of this place and its people. We have so much to be proud of."

The roots and heritage of the Old Fort area are even featured in the names of the Catawba Vale Café's sandwiches, which borrow from landmarks in Old Fort and McDowell County. In fact, Catawba Vale was the original name of the town until it was renamed Old Fort.

So now there's good reason for the WNC traveler to visit Old Fort and find a tasty bit of local lure, Appalachian handcrafted art and fine crafts, and great deli-sandwiches all in one place: The Appalachian Artisan Society Gallery featuring the Catawba Vale Café.

Copyright 2008 MediaBear

## If you go

*The Appalachian Artisan Society Gallery with Catawba Vale Café, 32 East Main St., Hwy. 70, Old Fort, North Carolina*

*Tuesday – Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

*TAAS Tel: (828) 668-1070;*

*Café Tel: (828) 668-9899*

*Websites: [www.taasg.com](http://www.taasg.com) and [www.catawbavale.com](http://www.catawbavale.com)*

## Richard Oversmith Captures Moments In Light

BY ADAM CORMAN

John Steinbeck once commented that, "A great writer can describe a story in a couple sentences, where as a great painter can tell a thousand stories with just one stroke."

Richard Oversmith is just that painter. His work at first glimpse probably will seem to be minimal but upon further study one will see the complexion of his art and style. He allows the setting to speak, creating only as many brushstrokes as are needed for the viewer's eyes to understand and connect.

"I only paint," he says, "what needs to be painted."

This of course is easier said than done because the painting part isn't where the brilliance rises, but in the creation. It comes down to knowing what to paint and what to leave out. After all, any trained forger can recreate Claude

*Monet's Impression, Sunrise (Impression, soleil levant) or Pierre-Auguste Renoir's most famous Dance at Le Moulin de la Galette (Le Bal au Moulin de la Galette).*

Oversmith's purpose in painting is to provoke the viewer to interact with his pieces. His paintings are his voice, and stroke by stroke, he composes a whole that relates his vision. He works in oil on linen, a medium compatible with the passion he puts into his art.

In every painting he portrays mood through the use of color, stark and dull edges, value and drawing. His style comes from his lifelong study of past masters, the influence of contemporary painters he admires, and moments from his own past.



**"Barn in Autumn" Oil painting by Richard Oversmith.**



**"Mums in a Red Vase" by Richard Oversmith.**



**Richard Oversmith in Brittany, France.**

Oversmith paints en plein air, a painting style going back at least to the mid-18th century, when landscapists, frequently made preliminary oil sketches on the spot.

"It's really all about light," Oversmith says about plein air. "Scene," he adds, "isn't as important."

The natural beauty of Western North Carolina has proven to offer infinite inspiration for Oversmith's impressionistic

landscapes. From rolling mountains to abundant waterfalls, the majestic Biltmore Estate to a simple farm scene, this region evokes the artist's muse.

Over the years he has found inspiration not only in the mountains of Western North Carolina but in his many travels. He has painted all over the US and has recently spent six months living

**'Oversmith' continued on pg. 39**



# NOTEWORTHY

## Coffee Lovers – Two Reasons to Rejoice

Coffee lovers are like old women and their commitment to their hairdressers. Once they find what they want wild horses and oxen can't keep them away.

For those of you in the market for a great place to have a memorable cup of joe — two places come to mind. I frequent both quite regularly and choose one over the other only by my then current location.



Biltmore Coffee Traders

### Biltmore Coffee Traders

Biltmore Coffee Traders just south of Biltmore Village is for those who want to let their hair down and dance. It boasts of having the only drive-thru coffee window in the area and offers wi-fi, in-house fresh roasted coffee, homemade quiche, fresh baked cookies, cakes, pies muffins and bagels.

Also unique is their offering of health and beauty supplies. "Bath and Body Gift Baskets" and "Relaxation Aromatherapy Gift Basket," and their famous "Bathe in Luxury Gift Basket." They sell essential oils (\$4.95 per 5ml) and aromatherapy

### Biltmore Coffee Traders

518 Hendersonville Road,  
Asheville, NC

(828) 277-9227

www.biltmorecoffee.typepad.com

Hours: Monday - Friday, 7-6 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Smoke Free Restaurant

blends to heighten the effects of the oils. Come in and check out these hand-made, created right here in Asheville, products.

### Customer Favorite

Colombian. A balanced cup with smooth, slightly nutty taste and aroma. Very mild and subtle dry wine aftertaste. \$9.95/lb.

There is seating indoors and out.

### Mosaic Café

At Mosaic Café, a charming coffee house in Enka, serves fresh sandwiches with an assortment of tantalizing desserts. The decor is creative and captivating — like stepping into a Monet painting — and is reminiscent of a old county neighborhood café.

### Customer Favorites

Veggie Roll Up – Cream cheese, cucumbers, tomatoes, carrots, onions, mixed greens, balsamic Vinaigrette in a tomato basil or whole wheat tortilla.

Mosaic Chicken Salad – Fresh



Mosaic Café

BY DANIEL GORDAN

mixed greens with carrots, mandarin oranges, dried cranberries, almonds and Mosaic Café croutons, topped with your choice of roasted chicken or a scoop of chicken salad. Served with thai peanut dressing. (\$6.95)

The café, seating 20, is smaller than the table-service restaurant.

It is a good choice if you want to get breakfast or lunch to go, or if you want to sit down with your order and read a newspaper. You can buy that here, too.

### Mosaic Café

1390 Sand Hill Road, Enka, NC

(828) 670-8833

www.ilovemosaiccafe.com

Hours: Monday - Friday, 6-3 p.m.,  
Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Smoke Free Restaurant.  
Payment Accepted: Cash, Visa,  
Mastercard, American Express  
and Discover.

**Fletcher BMW**  
The Ultimate Driving Machine presents  
*Driving Miss Daisy*

by Alfred Uhry

"You needs a chauffeur  
and Lord knows  
I needs a job."

Let's just  
leave it  
at that..."

**NCSC**  
North Carolina  
**STAGE**  
Company  
PROFESSIONAL  
THEATRE  
IN DOWNTOWN  
ASHEVILLE

June 11 - 29, 2008

For tickets: www.ncstage.org or 828.350.9090

## The Feral Chihuahuas at 35 Below

BY ROXANE CLEMENT

The *Feral Chihuahuas* sketch comedy troupe was founded in 2003 when they began performing in a converted two-car garage in Woodfin, just north of Asheville. The 23 seat black box theatre was soon filled to bursting as crowds gathered to experience the 30 to 45 minute shows.

After two seasons in the tiny space, the troupe decided it was time to upgrade, and has since performed at venues such as 35 Below, Fred's Speakeasy, NC Stage, The Grey Eagle and The Orange Peel. They have also been featured in Asheville's own Fringe Festival and NCTC's Stone Leaf Festival. With over 100 performances under their belt, the troupe will be returning to 35 Below starting this month.

The *Feral Chihuahuas* create comedy with social and political commentary, absurdism, satire and even existentialism; they consider their biggest influences to be Monty Python, Second City and Lenny Bruce. They chose their name

after hearing there really were such things as packs of feral Chihuahuas, and the image of something equally dark and funny seemed to fit the style of humor they employed.

With access to a larger theater space, the vision of the *Chihuahuas* has also grown, with new cast members and scripts, as well as film sketches incorporated into their live performances. They still keep to their tight schedule of two 30 to 45 minute performances a night, Saturday nights starting June 14.

### If you go

The *Feral Chihuahuas*, June 14, 21, 28.  
Shows at 8:00 and 9:30 p.m. Tickets \$10  
35 Below, Asheville Community Theater  
35 E Walnut St, (828) 254-1320  
www.ashevilletheater.org



# THOREAU'S GARDEN

## The Tulip Poplar

The magnificent tulip poplar usually blooms in May but unless you can look up at a tree in your yard or live close by, the only time you see the blooms are after storms or when looking out from somebody's deck or balcony.

Both Washington and Jefferson grew this magnificent tree just adding one more star to its already illustrative biography. The Tulip Tree is the state tree of Indiana and Tennessee. Some historians claim that Daniel Boone built a sixty-foot pirogue (a dugout boat), from a single tulip tree trunk to carry his family down the Ohio River from Kentucky out to the western frontier. It's rare for a tree that sends up such fast-growing seedlings to become with maturity one of the finest symbols of our natural heritage — although Thoreau only mentioned the tree in one journal entry, noting its growth in moist ravines and writing that: "... its dried tulip-shaped relic of a flower, the broad flat stamens still remaining... a medicinal odor, somewhat like fever-bush, in the bark of twigs."

This tree bears many common names including yellow-poplar, blue-poplar, tulip-poplar, tuliptree, and yellow wood but most gardeners, including Jefferson, called it the tulip poplar. The scientific name is *Liriodendron tulipifera* with the genus taken from the Greek, *leiron*, for lily (referring to the flowers), and *dendron*, for tree. The species means tulip-bearing. Unfortunately for the tree's reputation, it's not a poplar at all but a member of the magnolia family. There are only two species in the genus, one in America and one in China (*Liriodendron chinense*) but our species grows taller and has larger flowers.

Fast-growing and able to live over 300 years, with a trunk approaching five to ten feet in diameter, the tulip poplar inhabits eastern North American ranging from Vermont, west through southern Ontario and Michigan, south to Louisiana, and east to northern Florida. Second only to sycamores in trunk diameter, for their youthful abundance, they are difficult to transplant and should be moved when young saplings and in active growth taking as much root as possible.

One of the best-known tulip poplars was the tree that George Washington tied his horse to when he worshiped at Falls Church, Virginia before the Revolutionary war. At that time the tree was at least 300 years old. The historic Davie Poplar on the University of North Carolina

campus is another of the oldest tulip poplars in the country. It was under this tree that General Davie took lunch when in 1789 he and his committee selected Chapel Hill as the seat of the University. This massive tree has been struck by lightning and survived several hurricanes, including the damage caused in 1996 by Hurricane Fran. Davie Poplar Jr., grown from a cutting, and Davie Poplar III, grown from the eldest tree's seed, are planted nearby.

Let's not forget the tulip poplar planted in 1785 by Washington at Mt.

Vernon, since designated Mount Vernon's official Bicentennial Tree. Because the tulip poplar flowers only bloom at tree-top — and most bees only fly fifty feet or so in the air — the National Arboretum has been manually pollinating these flowers since 1989 using a lift bucket and Q-tips. Seedlings of this tree were sent to replace tulip poplars destroyed in the 1999 hurricane at the palace at Versailles.

And the flowers! They are showy and handsome with orange tints brushed over greenish-yellow corollas, marked to attract bees. One of John James Audubon's great bird lithographs portrays the upper reaches of a blooming tulip poplar with a flock of Baltimore orioles flying about a nest, surrounded by attractive leaves and two glorious flowers.

The blossoms look like magnolias until the central spike splits open to reveal the seeds. Upon maturity most magnolia seedpods open up the back, but tulip poplar fruits are dry and don't open. A flat wing rises above the seed box and the contraption flies away on the autumn breezes.

The bark of these trees is gray and closely ridged. The leaves are truncate with four lobes and shallowly notched at the end, a smooth, dark green above and light green below, turning a beautiful yellow in the fall. In silhouette, the leaves suggest a tulip. The trunks of old trees are often branchless for quite a distance up. The specimen in my front yard shoots straight up with the first lateral branch about twenty feet in the air.



Flower from the tulip poplar, or *Liriodendron tulipifera*.

BY PETER LOEWER

The wood has long held high prominence for construction lumber and for plywood. The grain is straight, there's little shrinkage, and it has excellent gluing qualities. In Jefferson's time it was used for carriage bodies and shingles while today

it's used for cabinets, furniture, and pulp.

In addition to humanity, deer browse on the seedlings, hummingbirds visit the flowers, and according to the honey industry, the flowers from twenty-year-old tree produce enough nectar to make four pounds of honey. In addition birds and small animals feed on the winged fruits, called *samaras* (and it should be noted that few of those seeds are fertile). It's a favorite nesting tree for many birds and the flowers are a marvelous nectar source for humming birds. Tiger swallowtail butterflies use the leaves. Even bears occasionally spend winter sleeping in the huge hollows that often develop in old trees.

In the 1800s a heart stimulant was extracted from the inner bark of the roots and a rheumatism tonic came from the stem bark — so Thoreau was correct in his observations.

The tulip poplar is a noble lawn and shade tree and probably has a better reputation in Europe than here. As others have written: "There is no season when the tree is not full of interest and beauty, no matter what its age."



Peter Loewer examines some Lenten roses.

Peter Loewer is a well-known writer and botanical artist who has written and illustrated over twenty-five books on natural history over the past thirty years.

## Meet the New Kid on the Block



Come visit the new kid at the Western North Carolina Nature Center, 75 Gashes Creek Road in East Asheville. Cocoa, the Center's Nigerian Dwarf

goat, gave birth for the first time, Thursday, May 15, to a very cute little brown kid. Mom and kid are both doing well, but please don't touch until this kid grows older!

Cocoa has resided at the Nature Center since 2005. The father, Walker, also of the same breed, has returned to Reid Hill Farm after a brief appearance at the Nature Center this past winter.

For more information on this new kid, please call Henry Bulluck, Animal Curator, WNC Nature Center, at (828) 298-5600 ext. 311.

## The Swannanoa Chamber Music Festival

June and July  
Great Music.  
Great Performances.

Warren Wilson College  
Hendersonville  
Waynesville

For more info go to  
[www.warren-wilson-chamber](http://www.warren-wilson-chamber)  
(828) 771-3050



"BALANCE through MUSIC"

**KARMASONICS™**

Proud to support local music in Asheville

New Location Opening Soon  
19 Biltmore Ave

CD • DVD Video • DVD Audio • SACD  
Vinyl • A/V Components • Books • T-Shirts

**Neil Diamond CD – #1**  
debut album featuring  
the hit single "Pretty  
Amazing Grace"

**FREE SHIPPING!** Fast  
turn-around! Call us  
with your special  
orders. Overnight  
delivery in most cases.

828.259.9949

Order by phone or e-mail [karmasonics@yahoo.com](mailto:karmasonics@yahoo.com)


Independent and Locally Owned

Who Knows  
Real Estate?


WesternNorthCarolina.com


Custom Picture Framing, prints, photo  
frames, easels, picture lights

1103 Brevard Rd.  
665-7730

# SPINNING DISCS:

June CD Reviews by James Cassara

We're back again with a wide range of eclectic and under the radar releases. Given one star or five rest assured anything reviewed on these pages is well worth seeking out, particularly if you wisely support your local independent music store!

## Fairport Convention Cropredy Festival 2002 Recall Records

The festival from which this remarkable show was taken is one of the most important annual events for fans of British folk music; organized by Fairport Convention members it is, much like the band it celebrates, one of the last true vestiges of traditional British Folk.

The 2002 entry was a particularly important milestone for the band; it marked their 35 anniversary and featured virtually every living Fairport alumnus. This double-disc collection of recordings, culled from a pair of performances, features near-complete reunions of the original 1967 lineup along with the 1969 Liege & Lief edition. Two exceptions: Vikki Clayton stands in for the late Sandy Denny and Gerry Conway takes over on drums for Dave Mattacks.

Disc one of Festival Cropredy 2002 features material from the band's nascent years while disc two focuses squarely on the band's fertile and commercially successful late sixties early seventies run. While many stalwarts of their storied past are on hand — founding member Ian Matthews is in surprisingly fine voice — the performances tend towards the reckless abandon and firepower (courtesy of Richard Thompson's stunning guitar work) of Fairport's most recent incarnation. This makes Cropredy a bit of an enigma; some of their oldest songs played with their most recent sensibilities.

Still, if these recordings don't often suggest how innovative Fairport Convention's earliest music was, there's no question that these musicians (both the current band and their many guests) love these songs and play them with the skill and the passion they deserve; it's an impressive performance, and when the musicians unite for a final chorus of "Meet on the Ledge," the folk devotees among us (myself included) cannot help but embrace the nostalgia.

No doubt these were wondrous shows to witness, and while this disc isn't quite the same as being there, it serves as a most welcome memento to both the festival and the simply amazing band whose proud history spawned the event in the first place. \*\*\*1/2



## Daniel Lanois Here is What Is Red Floor Records

Essentially the soundtrack to a documentary film of the same name, Here Is What Is catalogs Lanois' year long global sojourn, a time in which the artist reflected upon his three decades as producer for such icons as Bob Dylan, U2, and The Neville Brothers, as well as his own diverse and under appreciated solo work.

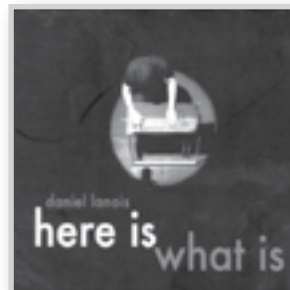
Originally released in 2007 for download only, the disc is now available either as a traditional CD or a deluxe signed/limited edition featuring the actual DVD.

Included here are 18 songs, some new and others different versions of old ones. There are a slew of familiar names on tap, including Brian and Brady Blade, Garth Hudson, and Daryl Johnson, among others. After a brief and strange narration by Brian Eno, Lanois offers an alternate version of "Where Will I Be."

The song was first recorded by Emmylou Harris on Wrecking Ball, which Lanois produced as well as wrote. It's a beautiful song, but this version pales in comparison to Harris', lacking the sincerity and resignation given by the songstress.

While the title cut and "Not Fighting Anymore" are interesting, they are far from compelling. The music here, while pleasant, certainly doesn't come across as the intimate creations that made such early Lanois albums as *Acadie* and *For The Beauty of Wynona* such aural delights.

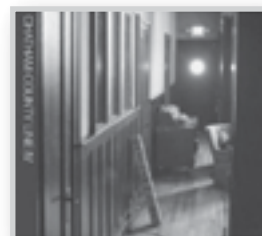
For the most part Here Is What Is lacks any real identity. Is it ambient noise, a collection of country tinged ballads, or a soft rock pseudo-psychedelic sound collage? For those of us who still hold Lanois' earlier recordings in such high regard this collection does little more than offer stronger evidence that he has lost his way as a musician. \*1/2



## Chatham County Line IV – Yep Roc Records

Chatham County Line are a band clearly in love with bluegrass, but unwilling to be tied down by its traditions and conventions. In recent years few groups have been as successful at fusing contemporary songwriting styles with the

classic acoustic sound. IV, the group's fourth album, is bursting with the same gusto playing that has been their trademark.



Producer and engineer Chris Stamey brings a natural, live sound to the recordings that give this music a warmth and presence akin to sitting around and chatting with the boys. Which is both their strength and downfall: Purists will no doubt wince at such pop infused sing along ditties as "Let It Rock" while the grown-up love affair of "One More Minute" might leave the pop set scratching their heads. Balancing the two is a tough act, and while Chatham County Line have for the most part succeeded it might be wise at some point to fully embrace one side or the other.

Anyone who revels in the sounds of Alison Krauss or Nickel Creek will most certainly find IV a welcome addition to their listening experience. \*\*\*

## Thee Silver Mt. Zion Memorial Orchestra (and Tra-La-La Band) 13 Blues for Thirteen Moons Constellation Records

Constellation Records is one of the relatively obscure labels that excels in promoting bands that might otherwise be lost in the shuffle. Such is the case with Silver Mount Zion, a Montreal based chamber rock group who has quietly become Constellations premiere band.

Following on the heels of the masterful *Horses In The Sky* comes *13 Blues for Thirteen Moons*, an album so wonderful and strange that most labels wouldn't know what to do with it. Following a dozen or so snippets of noise, tangled reverberations and high pitched random noise, the band strikes into a quartet of lengthy and astonishing sound collages.

'CD's' continued on next pg.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING

## The Unique Sound of the Infamous Stringdusters

BY JAMES CASSARA

Rising from the fertile environs of Nashville the Infamous Stringdusters have built their reputation by sounding at once traditional and fresh, respectful and irreverent, and both disciplined and unrestrained. Such paradox is becoming of the bands' sound and history, the two of which are inexorably intertwined in mutual approach and outcome. Though it may sound a bit over the top, the simple truth is there's no other band quite like them.

Emerging from a lively community of friends and colleagues that's taken root in Music City, the six now seasoned musicians who comprise the band are poised at the juncture where youthful energy is balanced with maturity, understanding, and hard work. Exactly the same ingredients that helped form the foundation of bluegrass: Schooled in tradition, yet able to stretch out in

improvisation endowed with crystal clear vocals, fiery instrumentation, and an expanding repertoire of well-crafted original material. The Infamous Stringdusters are as fresh an addition to the bluegrass scene as has come along in recent years.

Untangling the threads of the bands' origin is, thanks to the breadth of professional associations and friendships that brought its members together, a daunting task. Still, a few highlights are worth noting, from the joint tenure that Andy Hall, Jeremy Garrett and Jesse Cobb shared in three time International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) Male Vocalist of the Year Ronnie Bowman's band, The Committee, to the initial encounter between Hall, Chris Eldridge and Chris Pandolfi in Boston, where Hall had graduated from the Berklee School of Music. In fact, Pandolfi was



the first student there admitted with the banjo as his principal instrument, a breakthrough that reflects their commitment towards musical integrity. Indeed, the six musicians' resumes cut a path well beyond mainstream bluegrass.

Not surprisingly, audiences have responded with fervent enthusiasm, creating a word-of-mouth buzz that's

brought the band a string of successful appearances at venues usually indifferent to acts that have yet to release their first recording. Whether they're appearing in a hard-core bluegrass hall in Pennsylvania, a crowded showcase suite at the IMBA annual trade show, or a hip club like the Passim in Boston—not to mention numerous festivals—the group's abundance of talent and passion have won them a slew of devoted fans. Fervent follower or the merely curious (and likely to be converted) alike, bluegrass music lovers will no doubt find this a show to their liking.

## If you go

*The Infamous Stringdusters, with opening act The Farewell Drifters, at The Grey Eagle. Thursday, June 12, 8:30 p.m. \$10 advance/\$12 day of show, with limited seating available.*

## CD's continued

"1,000,000 Died to Make This Sound" builds from gently plucked strings to rapturous choir surrounding the quivering vocals of singer Efrim Menruck: And then things get really weird. After a brief pause, the remaining band kicks in with an astounding, utterly unexpected fervor and volume that transform the song into a huge, soaring rock anthem. It is all at once thrilling, startling, and not the least bit dangerous sounding.

But it isn't all just sound and fury. There is quiet among the chaos as the title track comes down from its truly aggressive start to a contemplative middle section only to build to another explosive climax. Even as the band tries to play it quietly, the noise insistently bubbles to the surface; both the more traditional "Black Water Bowled/ Engine Broke Blues" and the closing "blindblindblind" alternate between explosive energy and pastoral calm.

13 Blues for Thirteen Moons does that time and again, bringing the listener to the edge of the precipice but never quite pushing them over the edge. Few bands attempt such outlandish menace and fewer still can pull it off: In the



case of 13 Blues and Mt. Zion, its' an example of the right band, the right label, and the right moment in time and space. \*\*\*\*

### Scarlett Johansson Anywhere I Lay My Head Rhino

One of the more anticipated vanity projects of 2008, actress Scarlett Johansson, who is known on screen to misdirect any real sense of who she truly is, interprets the songs of Tom Waits.

Like the performances in which she excels, the songs of Waits are at once allegorical, literal, and deceptively straight forward. They reveal themselves in layers, careful to never give of themselves too

much. Given that it shouldn't be too much a surprise that her debut album, *Anywhere I Lay My Head*, is equally obtuse.

Producer Dave Sitek — pivotal member of TV on the Radio, producer



of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs and the Foals — succeeds in casting Johansson as a four dimensional diva, a turn of the 19 century chanteuse surrounded (and at times imprisoned) by layers of sonic intrigue. Certainly this is not strictly a Tom Waits tribute, as the songs are rearranged so

drastically they're only used a vehicle for texture — dense, crawling texture — occasionally recalling the junkyard percussion of Swordfishtrombones era Waits while leaning heavily on music Waits made after his 1983 stylistic makeover.

All but one of the ten Waits songs here date from after 1983 and the spooky music box revision of "I Wish I Was in New Orleans" bring it firmly within the Waits oeuvre. Strangely we get very little sense of Johansson the recording artist. The production tends to overwhelm her

singing and Johansson, in ways that mirror her on screen performances, seems to be holding back a bit.

Sitek does have a gift for provocative, haunting arrangements, yet this gift doesn't always compliment her voice. All soft, seductive curves as an actress, she's surprisingly deep and brittle as a singer, fighting instead of floating against texture and tension that's as intriguing as it is tiring. If *Anywhere I Lay My Head* doesn't completely succeed, neither should it be easily dismissed. \*\*\*



## UNC Asheville's Concerts on the Quad Summer Music Series

by Barbara Halton-Subkis

Music lovers of all ages will enjoy free concerts under

the stars at 7 p.m. each Monday evening June 9 through July 14 on UNC Asheville's Quad.

The public is invited to bring picnics, blankets and lawn chairs. Sorry, no pets allowed. Lawn-chair seating will be separate from blanket seating — please look for signage when arriving on the quad.

June 9 – The Billy Jonas Band (pictured at left)

June 16 – Nuevo Montuno

June 23 – The Smoky Mountain Brass Band

June 30 – One Leg Up

July 7 – Bandana Klezmer with Jiblin' the Froeline

For more information about the series, call UNC Asheville's Cultural and Special Events Office at (828) 251-6991 or click on [www.unca.edu/summerquad](http://www.unca.edu/summerquad).



**osondu**  
BOOKSELLERS

## Bookstore Happenings

**Thursday, June 5, 7 p.m.**

Charles and Carolyn Bruce read from and sign copies of their Scottish history novels, *Hammer of the Scots*, *The Har'ships* and *Bannok Burn*.

**Saturday, June 7, 3 p.m.**

Lloyd Arneach introduces his newly published *Long Ago Stories of the Eastern Cherokee*.

**Sunday, June 8, 3 p.m.**

Sarah Addison Allen reads from and signs copies of *The Sugar Queen*.

**Friday, June 13, 7 p.m.**

David Teague, director of *Leadership Haywood* will discuss the program and enroll participants for the coming year.

**Saturday, June 14, 3 p.m.**

Bahia Brenda Abrams, author of *The Other Side of My Soul* drawn from her Syrian Jewish heritage.

**Saturday, June 14, 7pm**

Vicki Lane introduces the latest addition to her Elizabeth Goodweather series of thrillers, *In a Dark Season*.

**Friday, June 20, 7 p.m.**

Sarah and Joseph Malinak introduce *Getting Back to Love: When the Pushing and Pulling Threaten to Tear You Apart*.

**Saturday, June 21, 3 p.m.**

Martin Malloy reads from and signs *Evolution in a Nutshell*.

**Saturday, June 21, 7 p.m.**

An evening of Lorraine Conard's mountain music in the Osondu Café.

**Saturday, June 28, 3 p.m.**

A party complete with pink tea, cookies and cakes, games and crafts and readings from Jane O'Connor's series for young ladies. \$5 per person in advance. Reservations required, call (828) 456-8062.

**Saturday, June 28, 7 p.m.**

Great music, great refreshment and great company, with Chris Minick and Friends in the Osondu Café.

**Osondu Booksellers**  
184 N. Main, Waynesville, NC

**Hours:** Monday thru  
Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Closed Sunday

**(828) 456-8062**  
www.osondubooksellers.com

## BOOKS

# Nearly Summer Time and the Reading is Fine

The smell of sunscreen, a drink served in a coconut and \$4 a gallon gas. What's not to love about summer?

The vacation season is gearing up, even if the price of gas may be keeping some of us a little closer to home than we would normally travel. Folks I know spend as much time thinking about what they'll read on vacation as where they'll go. There's a notion in the book business that summer reading is something light and frothy — good pace, strong characters, happy ending.

My personal preference for vacation reading is something rich and chewy. When life is stressful and manic, I want some escapist fiction. But on vacation, I have the brainpower — and sometimes the courage — to tackle a harder read. Last year, I re-read James Joyce's "Dubliners" in the Signet Classic edition. The characters, the language, the texture of these short stories are a good intro to Joyce and a refreshing reminder of the technique and heart of this master.

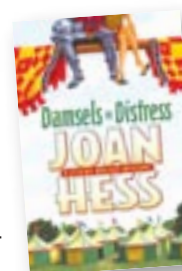
Which reminds me of another Irish saga — "Ireland" by Frank Delaney. If you are an Irish-American or simply a Celtophile, "Ireland" is an enchanting summer read. The author is a reporter for the BBC and has synthesized some of the iconic stories from Ireland's history in this surprisingly fast-paced read. Ronan O'Mara has an encounter with a wandering bard that leads him to become a

storyteller himself.



You could also find a local star to read and I have one to recommend: "The Anatomist" is by Hal McDonald, who teaches at Mars Hill College. Body-snatching in the interest of furthering medicine knowledge leads two London medical students to a surprising discovery. Evocative, entertaining and well-paced, this is a good choice for a sunny, hot beach.

"Damsels in Distress" by Joan Hess is a Claire Molloy mystery set, in part, at a Renaissance fair. Claire has a special place in my heart because she's a bookseller and in this story, she's getting ready for her upcoming marriage, in addition to solving a couple of murders and dealing with Renn fair drama. This is a light and easy read — what we call "brain-candy". Sitting by the pool, sipping some sweet tea, is the perfect setting for this bit of fluff.



Barbara Kingsolver's "Prodigal Summer" is my all-time favorite summer book and I am planning to read it again in June. Welcome to Zebulon Valley in the southern mountains of Appalachia! Summer is lush and very sexy and the intertwining story lines of this rich novel make for a study in character and relationship. From coyotes in love to an old man with a snapping turtle attached to his foot, this

BY H. BYRON BALLARD



is a touching and funny and marvelous book. I could not recommend it more highly.

"Linnets and Valerians" by Elizabeth Goudge is an old-fashioned story

and one that I return to again and again, especially in the summer. It is the very English tale of four Edwardian siblings who are sent to live with their grandmother and end up with their bachelor uncle in a decidedly magical village. The characters are dear, the adventures gentle and the message just what's needed on a rainy afternoon in June. This is an older book and you may have to order it from your bookseller or get it at the library but it's worth the effort. The bees, Ezra Oakes and Uncle Ambrose's owl Hector are not to be missed.

Kingsolver's "Animal, Vegetable and Miracle" and the appropriately best-selling "Garden Spells" by Sarah Allen are out in paperback — and Wayne Caldwell's magnificent "Cataloochee" will join them next month. Enjoy!

Next month sees the arrival of "In a Dark Season", a new Elizabeth Goodweather tale by Vicki Lane, and Sarah Allen's sweet new book "The Sugar Queen".

**H. Byron Ballard is a bookseller, bookreader and occasional writer. She suggests that we all reduce our carbon footprint by staying home and reading a good book.**

## LEA TRILOGY

Now Available for  
Children 9-90

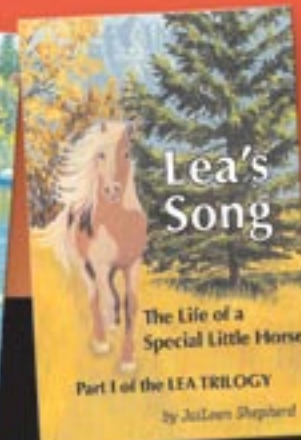
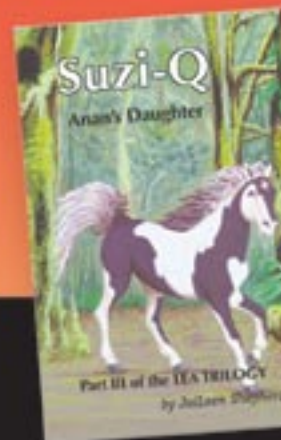
Watch for the 4th Book!  
*MoonBow and Meek-El*

Readers can relate to these powerful prehistoric horses. Their personalities and unique life situations reflect our own.

They have straight hair, kinky hair, different color coats, soft toes and hard toes, — some even have horns!

The stories are full of talking animals, invisible owls and eagles, honeybees, bumblebees, bullfrogs, saber-tooth tigers and hungry bears who terrify.

Preview the books at  
www.rapidrivermagazine.com



LEA, ANAN, and SUZI-Q show the way through many moral issues children face today.

**\$25 For All 3 Books!**  
(Includes autograph and S&H)

To order call Jaileen at (828) 488-8216.  
Books may be picked up at Malaprops.



www.tictocproductions.com



# poetry

A sacred fury...  
an uncommon madness...



a scattering of birds...

BY MARIJO MOORE

## GrandPa Imre

Grandfather always  
whistled a particular hymn  
when He wanted us  
to help in the garden.

The first tomato, luscious red,  
the first pepper, sunsensuous yellow,  
a breath of angel hair  
canary gold behind his back.

He stood proud.  
The first fruit was always  
his gift to us.

We ran and, like birds in the nest,  
beheld the lingenberries, the plums,  
the quinces that brought forth water.

Without words,  
Grandfather would reach out,  
delighted, while we picked  
fruits of his labor  
from the palm of his hands.

Then he would be telling a story.

My sister and I would sit  
in deep green grass  
under the willow's branch,  
surrounded by peepers.

I would watch words escaping  
from under his red mustache,  
intoxicating me.

I ate his words and berries  
and had no fear.

From the book  
"Every Tree is the Forest"  
© Emöke B'Rác

## The Poetess Inside Malaprop's

On June 1, Malaprop's Bookstore and Café located at 55 Haywood Street in Asheville celebrates its 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I have had people from all over the world ask me about this wonderful independent bookstore. It was also the first place I visited when I moved to Asheville almost eighteen years ago.

All of the employees and regular customers are exuberant about this celebration, and well they should be. Malaprop's has done more to put downtown Asheville "on the map" than any other business. Chosen as Best Bookseller 2000 by Publishers' Weekly, the store has received various other awards. But what of the poetess behind this store? The woman who "gave birth" to this marvelous landmark?

Emöke B'Rác, born in Budapest, Hungary, is founder of the Burning Bush Press; *Asheville Poetry Review*; One Page Press; Malaprop's Bookstore and Café, and Downtown Books and News. Her Publications include *Stories of the Seven Headed Sewing Machine: Translation of Katalin Ladik. Every Tree is the Forest*, and her writings have appeared in *New York Quarterly*, *Nexus*, *Magyar Naplo*, *Webster Review*, *Asheville Poetry Review*, *North Carolina Literary Review*, *International Poetry Review*, and *Wordimages*. She is also the recipient of the International Translation prize: second place. I asked her a few questions and she was gracious enough to share:

### How has your life as a poet evolved through the past twenty-six years?

"I have come out as a poet in the last fifteen years; I had no time before to even think of doing anything but getting Malaprop's on the right track. I grew up with poetry around me. My parents' parties in Hungary consisted of poetry recitals and the original poetry performances. I would sit and listen whole-heartedly. Not only poetry but also history of literature and political challenges were discussed and 'presented'. Of course, then history (war) stepped in and poets disappeared and so did my father. This period in my life made me realize the power and the 'danger' of spoken words and poetry."

### How has owning a bookstore helped with your poetry?

"Listening and being with poets here allowed me to consider and see the culture and the freedom. I revel in the knowledge that words can fly into our minds and there is no fear of the government hauling you off, never to be heard from again. So, Malaprop's is a strong as rock foundation for me as a poet and hopefully other poets who need their voices to be heard."

### Which poets who have read at Malaprop's stand out in your memories?

"bell hooks, Lucien Stryk, Coleman Barks and Jimmie Margaret Gilliam are the faces that appear before me as you ask this question. The reason being that each one took my breath away — each in a different way — but certainly will remain in my heart for my lifetime. The intensity and integrity of each poet weaves through my writing life. I am very fortunate that I attended their readings at Malaprop's. They all gave so much and I just cannot be appreciative or thankful enough for their visits to Malaprop's, and the journeys in their poetic lives they share every time their pens strike the page or their voices reverberate in my bones."

By opening Malaprop's twenty-six years ago, this wonderful poetess has allowed hundreds of writers to share their creations, and will continue doing so in the years to come. I offer my heartfelt thanks for the opportunity Malaprop's has given me to share my writings, listen to others, and purchase books and CDs as well. Happy Birthday, Malaprop's, and thank you, Emöke B'Rác, for sharing your thoughts and poetry!

MariJo Moore is the author of a dozen books including three books of poetry: *Spirit Voices of Bones*, *Confessions of a Madwoman* (now available on CD), and the forthcoming *Poets Inhale The Darkness Artists Breathe*. She resides in the mountains of western NC. [www.marijomore.com](http://www.marijomore.com)

## Malaprop's 26<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Sale & Other Events!

Help us celebrate 26 years of independent bookselling and receive 25% off. Sunday, June 1, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. — we'll be staying open late!

### Literary Trivia Night

Join us for Literary Trivia Night with host Caroline Green on Tuesday, June 17 at 7 p.m. Prizes will be awarded!

### Gene Hackman & Dan Lenihan

Thursday, June 26 at 7 p.m. Gene and Dan will read from their civil war novel *Escape from Andersonville*. This event is ticketed. Purchase a \$10 ticket to the reading and reception and receive a \$5 coupon toward one of the authors' books. Bring a date and share a ticket!



Bringing a wealth of  
Reading and Writing  
to Asheville and WNC  
for over 19 years.

**MALAPROP'S**  
BOOKSTORE/CAFE  
<http://malaprops.booksense.com>

## JUNE 2008

Saturday, June 7 at 7 p.m.  
**SUSAN REINHARDT READING** — Asheville  
Citizen-Times columnist and author of *Not  
Tonight Honey, Wait 'Til I'm a Size 6*.

Sunday, June 8 at 3 p.m.  
**VICKI LANE** — Reading from *In a  
Dark Season*, book four of Elizabeth  
Goodweather's exploits in Marshall County.

Friday, June 13 at 7 p.m.  
**KAREN ABBOTT READING** — *Sin in the  
Second City: Madams, Ministers, Playboys,  
and the Battle for America's Soul*.

Saturday, June 14 at 7 p.m.  
**NINA DE GRAMONT READING** — *The Gossip  
of Starlings*, set in an all-girl's school.

Wednesday, June 18 at 7 p.m.  
**KATIE HICKMAN READING** — *The Aviary  
Gate*, set in 16th Century Constantinople.

Friday, June 20 at 7 p.m.  
**ANN WICKER & KENT PRIESTLY** —  
Reading selections from *Making Notes:  
Music of the Carolinas*.

Saturday, June 21 at 7 p.m.  
Asheville's own **WAYNE CALDWELL** reads  
from *Cataloochee*.

Sunday, June 22 at 3 p.m.  
**DIY expert FOREST GREGG** will read from  
his book, *SVO: Powering Your Vehicle with  
Straight Vegetable Oil*.

Wednesday, June 25 at 7 p.m.  
**SHELLEY LIEBER SEMINAR** — *The Mistakes,  
Myths & Miracles of Book Publishing*.

Friday, June 27 at 7 p.m.  
**DAVID BAJO READING** — *The 351 Books of  
Irma Acuri*. A book restorer disappears.

Saturday, June 28 at 7 p.m.  
**GREG BARRETT READING** — *The Gospel of  
Father Joe: Revolutions and Revelations in  
the Slums of Bangkok*.

Sunday, June 29 at 3 p.m.  
**JEANNE CHARTRES READING** — *Funny, Isn't  
It?: Twenty-nine Fierce, Female Stories to  
Tickle Your Funny Bone and Titillate Your  
Grey Matter*.

**55 Haywood St.**  
**828-254-6734 • 800-441-9829**  
Hours: Mon-Thurs—8am-9pm  
Fri & Sat—8am-10pm  
Sun—8am-7pm

**Downtown  
Books & News**  
dtnbooks@mindspring.com

over 20,000 used books  
over 1,000 new magazines  
European & domestic papers  
out-of-print book searches

A Large Selection  
of Good Reading  
of All Kinds

Open: M-Th 8-6 • F-Sat 8-8 • Sun 8-6  
67 N. Lexington Ave • Asheville  
**828-253-8654**

To submit poems for consideration for publication in Rapid River Arts & Culture Magazine, email them to [info@rapidrivermagazine.com](mailto:info@rapidrivermagazine.com). Please limit poems to 35 lines. One poem per email. Maximum four poems per author. Include contact information.



# STUDIO TOURS



## From Toe River to Loafer's Glory, Artists Open Their Studios for Browsing and Buying

**Finding yourself in places with odd names is part of the fun of taking the Toe River**

**Studio Tour, one of the premier art tours in the country.**

Twice a year, on the second weekend in June and the first weekend of December, the Toe River Arts Council (TRAC) presents a free, self-guided tour of artists' studios scattered throughout the mountains of Yancey and Mitchell counties just northeast of Asheville, NC. The places you pass through may have quirky names, but they lead you to artwork and scenery that is among the best in the world.

Take the name Toe River for starters. Toe is short for Estatoe, and romantic legend has it that the young Indian

maiden of that name, forbidden to wed the son of a rival chief, drowned herself in what is now the Toe River.

More than 20 artists on the Studio Tour live along the Toe River near the community of Celo. Old-timers have speculated about how the town got its name. One theory cites the Latin *celo* meaning "conceal." Another suggests the name is from the Spanish word for sky, *cielo*. Some tell of a body found atop a nearby mountain with the name "C. E. Low" carved on the rifle stock. Artists in nearly every medium live here such as



**Mark Peters, Wood Fired Tea Cups**



**Sarah House, Teapot**

**BY DENISE COOK**

glassblowers, painters, sculptors, fiber and jewelry makers. Potters Sarah and Kathryn House and

blacksmith Lucas House display their functional pieces in a studio high above the river.

Heading north from Celo, you pass through Micaville, named for the mine south of town that processed this clear, flaky mineral for the earliest televisions. Several artists including weaver Ellen Dowling and sculptor Ila Seltzer live and work near Micaville.

Then comes Bandana. The name, legend has it, refers to the red bandana that Clinchfield railroad workers tied to a laurel branch to mark where the train stops. Up the mountain a bit there's Kona, fabled in ballad, fiction, and drama as the location of the grisly 1831 murder of Charlie Silvers by his young wife Frankie. Hawaiian coffee it's not, but it is said to have gotten its name from a railroad official who needed a brief, memorable, and easily-spelled name for that section of the track. Soon there's Toecane, where the Clinchfield RR runs alongside the Toe River and glassblower Judson Guerard has his studio in the old general store. You'll pass Loafer's Glory where woodfired clay artist Ken Sedberry does everything but loaf. Jovial painter



**Ila Seltzer, Water Lilly (Textile)**

and potter Ron Slagle displays his works in clay in his family's old tobacco barn. Slagle tells the tale that it was once used for selling moonshine. Buladean, named after Beulah Dean, daughter of the first postmaster, is home to Mark and Erin Peters. Mark is a potter and Erin creates totebags she appropriately calls *Bulabags*.

The curious place names in this Appalachian region are tied in with a wealth of history as is the tradition of fine crafts practiced here. More than 120 artists in 90 studios take part in this year's tours and getting there is half the fun.

### If you go

*The twice-yearly Toe River Studio Tour, is celebrating its fifteenth year in 2008 on Saturday and Sunday, June 14 and 15 and December 6 and 7 with a free reception and preview the Friday before from 5-8 p.m. at the TRAC Center Gallery, 269 Oak Ave. in Spruce Pine, NC.*

*For more information, visit [www.toeriverarts.org](http://www.toeriverarts.org), e-mail [trac@toeriverarts.org](mailto:trac@toeriverarts.org) or call (828) 765-0520.*

## All Natural Wooden Watch

Affordably Priced ~ For the Collector of Fine Watches

**Natural.  
Elegant.  
Unique.**

Its feather-light weight and smooth texture make it comfortable on your wrist.

Hand-crafted in Canada and made of natural, plantation grown, sustainable Sandalwood.

All wooden bracelets are hypo-allergenic. Sized to fit all.

We have the largest selection of wooden watches.

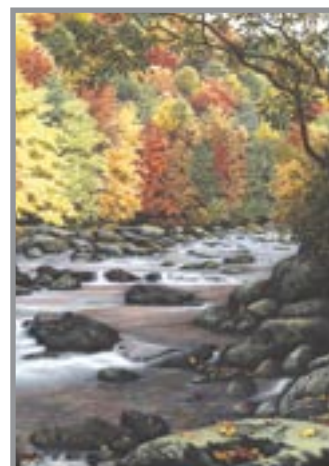
**TENSE™**  
SINCE 1971

Model Shown: G81021  
Most designs are patented.

Toll Free **1-888-661-6688 ~ 604-525-5633**

For more information visit [www.tensewatch.com](http://www.tensewatch.com) or email [tense@tensewatch.com](mailto:tense@tensewatch.com)

## Come Join All The Fun and Excitement at the Waynesville Gallery Walk



Join this special art related event beginning Friday night June 20 from 5-9 p.m. Local gallery owners will each provide their favorite hor'dourves and offer the printed recipes of each dish.

Saturday, June 21 galleries will hold artist demonstrations. Please call Textures, 142 N. Main St., Waynesville (828) 452-0058 for more information.

"People of the River" – Colored pencil drawing by Teresa Pennington. Available at T. Pennington Art Gallery.



## FINE ART

## Recycled Art Becoming Brand Art at Textures

It is extremely difficult to run a successful business while at the same time working as an accomplished artist. Most would say it would be impossible. Just don't tell this to John and Suzanne Gernandt, owners of Waynesville's upscale home décor store — known simply as Textures.

The Gernandt's began Textures just a little over five years ago with the simple idea to offer a gallery that allows the handcrafted to mingle with the manufactured, where the sophisticated is seated next to the playful, and the local and international share a table.

"This was something we hadn't seen done in this area," John says remembering back to the beginning. "We wanted to showcase our art as well as the art of the mountains but not be limited to just that. It's a blending."

John's passion is the capturing "of harmony and style to invoke warmth and create comfort in a home" through his furniture.

As an independent furniture maker John wants to create something unique in each of his pieces, either through movement, through style or through the natural beauty and grain of the hard or soft woods.

Looking at his pieces during different times of the day, as the light continually changes, you'll see different textures, different colors or curves you hadn't noticed before. When you get down to it, down to the bare bones, that's what handcrafted furniture offers.

Suzanne, award winning textile artist, views the creative journey as "a fluid always changing path." Her tapestries have decorated walls all over the country. Her art has offered inspiration to a local generation of upcoming artists. Her work is none-the-less, simply put — fantastic.

Lately, she has been teaching her many skills in private and semi-private classes. These have been well-received and very much in demand. June 19-21 Suzanne will be offering "Coloring Outside the Lines: Fiber Reactive Dyes 101." Through this class students will play with color in the dye bath and recapture that pleasurable feeling of opening a new box of crayons on the first day of school. For more information on this class or others she will be teaching this summer and fall visit [texturesonmain.com](http://texturesonmain.com).

Today there is a strong social undercurrent to preserve our forests, prairies,



Suzanne and John Gernandt, owners of Textures.

BY DENNIS RAY

our history, and like with everything else, artists reflect this in their work. It is the artist who reveals to us ourselves, our dreams and perhaps most importantly, our vast accomplishments. Textures has assembled a large variety of artists and artisans who use recycled and found materi-

als to create their art. These artists manage to produce something from something else that would otherwise have ended up in a landfill.

Examples: artist Jill Fagin's jewelry is made from aluminum cans. This makes for a distinctive style that is so light you don't realize you wearing it. John Richard's homegrown business of found object jewelry "yummy mud puddle" is whimsical and charming. This is for people who are looking for something completely different and fun in accessories.



Woodcarver Allen Davis does wood turnings with reclaimed wood, creating charming bowls and gallery quality pens. There are purses made from recycled billboards (yes, the kind you see while driving to and from work) or purses made from inner tubes. Mirrors framed in ceiling tin. Glasses made from recycled glass. And so much more.

### Textures

Suzanne and John Gernandt  
142 North Main Street  
Waynesville  
(828) 452-0058  
[www.texturesonmain.com](http://www.texturesonmain.com)

Celebrate the beauty of nature  
~ bring the outdoors in with handcrafted designs

Painting by Jack Steen

**TWIGS & LEAVES**

"Where Art Dances with Nature"

98 North Main Street  
Waynesville, NC  
[www.twigsandleaves.com](http://www.twigsandleaves.com)  
(828) 456-1940

**BLACK BIRD  
FRAME & ART**

...and more

- finest custom framing
- handcrafted furnishings and accessories
- elegant folding screens
- highly original paintings
- custom-sized art prints
- and friendly service!

252-4144 • [blackbirdframe.com](http://blackbirdframe.com)  
159 South Lexington Avenue (behind The Orange Peel)

**Mellow Mushroom  
Pizza Bakers**

(828) 236-9800  
Open 7 Days a Week

**50 Broadway ~ Asheville, NC**

**Wireless Internet Access!**

**Delicious**  
Specialty Pizzas  
Spring Water Dough  
Appetizing Salads  
Fresh-Baked Calzones  
Hoagies & Pretzels  
Healthy Ingredients



# FINE ART

## Highsmith & Hayes

### Art Enthusiasts Work to Put Spotlight on Waynesville

BY PAM J. HECHT

Dr. John Highsmith and his wife, Sandra Hayes, two of Waynesville's most ardent arts and education supporters, have, in a sense, led parallel lives. Each gravitated towards the arts during childhood and each began their professional studies in the science realm.

Together, they make a formidable pair, working to help put the small town of Waynesville on the map as an arts destination in Western North Carolina.

From a young age, Highsmith found inspiration in art. As early as middle school, he was making and selling his own cloisonné pieces. By high school, he had made the connection between art and dentistry, asking his dentist questions about tools and grinding techniques. The answers helped him perfect his cloisonné work and, later, led him to the world of cosmetic dentistry.

Now, people from throughout Western North Carolina and surrounding states travel to see Highsmith, one of five dentists in North Carolina (among 243 worldwide) accredited by the prestigious American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry.

The main art form he enjoys now can be found in his patients' mouths, he said, "sculpting and creating" with his hands. Outside the office, he regularly spends time in class, signing on for 200-300 hours of continuing education every year to hone his skills, even though the North Carolina dental license requirement is just 15 hours annually.

And when there's time, and inspiration, he'll work on a sculpture or take nature photographs, many of which dance across a TV screen in his office waiting room.

He said he learned about the power of creativity from his father, Dr. William E. Highsmith, who was president and chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Asheville (UNCA), for 22 years.

"He taught me how to visualize something that isn't already there and to make it happen," Highsmith said. "I figure out how to give people confident smiles to make their lives better."

Highsmith serves on the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) board so that he can "give back to the education com-



Dr. John Highsmith



munity," and has actively contributed to other organizations, including the Haywood County Arts Council, Haywood County Schools Foundation and the Haywood Arts Repertory Theater, among others.

His wife, Sandra Hayes, is also involved with arts and education in the community.

Hayes, a former journalist and graphic designer, met Highsmith in college, while she was earning a science degree and he was a first-year dental student. She cracked her tooth and Highsmith was thrilled to have a patient for practice.

She said that though she was interested in science, people called her a "closet artist" because she was always drawing. Eventually, she began to focus on her love of the arts.

"Art pulled me to the other side," she explained.

So did Waynesville, a place she thinks will continue to grow, pointing to its thriving arts community and historically preserved downtown, proclaiming it "as lively and deeply talented as Asheville."

Hayes is co-chair of Quick Draw, an annual event held in Waynesville, in which area artists create works of art in one hour. The public bids on the finished pieces and proceeds fund school art programs and college scholarships. She has also served on the boards of the Haywood Community College Board of Trustees and the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges.

Meanwhile, both Highsmith and Hayes have faith in the enduring power of the arts, despite the economic weather.

"We always need artists," Highsmith said. "We always need art."

### John M. Highsmith, DDS & Charles Fultz, DDS

General, Cosmetic & Implant  
Dentistry – 78 Nelson Street,  
Clyde, NC 28721

(828) 627-9282  
www.drhighsmith.com

# 16 PATTON

fine art gallery

## Figurative Allusions

June 14 - July 27

Reception:

Saturday, June 14, 6 - 8 pm



Richard Oversmith, "Two at the Beach"  
Oil on linen, 9" x 12"



Lori-Gene, "Solitude"  
Mixed media on paper, 15" x 11"

A group exhibition featuring  
Margaret Dyer, Signe Grushovenko,  
Dean Gurnack, Jane Jaskevich,  
Karin Jurick, Steve Lance,  
John Mac Kah, Lori-Gene,  
Richard Oversmith, Stuart Roper,  
and Suzy Schultz.

16 Patton Avenue, Asheville, NC • (828) 236-2889 • www.16patton.com

# FOLK ART CENTER & ALLANSTAND CRAFT SHOP

Milepost 382 ~ Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville, NC



Open Daily 9am to 6pm ~ 828-298-7928

www.craftguild.org





- ★★★★★-Fantastic
- ★★★★-Pretty darn good
- ★★★-Has some good points
- ★★-The previews lied
- ★-Only if you must
- ☹-Forget entirely

### Reel Take Reviewers:

**Chip Kaufmann** is a film historian who also shares his love of classical music as a program host on WCQS-FM radio.

**Michelle Keenan** is a long time student of film, a believer in the magic of movies and a fundraiser for public radio.

### Deception ★★ 1/2

**Short Take:** Stylish Hitchcock-like thriller has a lot going for it despite what most critics say.

**REEL TAKE:** Deception is yet another one of those films that is getting a negative critical reception along with poor box office returns, and I just don't understand why. It's being dismissed as a slick, glossy, obvious thriller and I say what's wrong with that (besides I didn't find it that obvious).

I'd like to think that if Alfred Hitchcock were around today this is the kind of movie he would be turning out. You have three young appealing leads in Hugh Jackman, Ewan McGregor, and Michelle Williams. You have a storyline where nothing is quite what it seems with double and triple crosses and even a surprise ending or two.

Lowly accountant McGregor hooks up with hot shot lawyer Jackman who brings him out of his shell by intro-



ducing him to a secret sex club where the women are all high salaried executives. "Intimacy without intricacy" claims Charlotte Rampling in her brief but effective role. It's here that McGregor meets "S" a mysterious woman played by Michelle Williams. This is just for starters.

After this initial setup, we discover that Jackman isn't really a lawyer, Williams isn't an executive, and that there are more sinister forces at work here. To say more about the story would do the movie a disservice. Let's just say that there are plot twists-a-plenty leading up to the already mentioned surprise endings. If you guess them before the end (I got the first but not the second), it's no big deal because it's not whether you win or lose but how you play the game that counts.

A lot has been said about the sex scenes and how non-erotic they are but that's the point! These high salaried people have dull, empty lives so why shouldn't the sex be the same. It's also what separates Michelle Williams from the other women. She intrigues Ewan McGregor because doesn't just jump into bed right away. She wants to talk first.

*Deception* is not a great movie (it was originally called *The List* and then *The Tourist*) because every movie can't be great nor does it have to be. Its only aspiration is to entertain and at that it succeeds. Films like this used to be the bread and butter of the industry. It's basically a glorified B movie and just like the 1930s and 40s we can certainly use more of those especially during this current economic downturn.

*Rated R for sexual content, language, violence, and drug use.*

**Review by Chip Kaufmann**

**For the latest reviews, theater info and movie show times, visit [www.rapidrivermagazine.com](http://www.rapidrivermagazine.com)**

### Flawless ★★ 1/2

**Short Take:** Top-notch performances from Demi Moore and Michael Caine along with clever plot twists make *Flawless* almost that.

**REEL TAKE:** I have long been a fan of director Michael Radford's movies. This started back in 1984 with his adaptation of George Orwell's *1984*. Next up was the award winning Italian film *Il Postino* and then the colonial African drama *White Mischief*. More recently Radford did the Al Pacino-Jeremy Irons version of Shakespeare's *The Merchant Of Venice*.

In *Flawless* the year is 1960. The place is London. Oxford educated American businesswoman Laura Quinn (Demi Moore) is constantly being passed over for advancement for less qualified male colleagues. She works at one of the largest diamond firms in the world. When she comes up with a brilliant idea, she learns she is going to be fired so others can take



the credit. Enter Hobbs the firm's longtime janitor (Michael Caine) who has a plan to steal a few diamonds so that they can both start over. What starts out to be a simple robbery turns into something far more complex.

The plot is familiar but engaging. The dialogue is crisp in that no nonsense way the British have when dealing with material like this, and the performances are first rate. So why isn't *Flawless* flawless? The leisurely pace is one thing. Granted the movie is about more than just a robbery, but in order to keep us constantly engaged, it needs to move a little faster especially in the middle.

The other problem is the overall somber tone of the film. This is not *1984*.

This is not *The Merchant Of Venice*. It's a caper film and while it doesn't have to be played for humor, it doesn't have to be quite as serious as it is. Yet there is much to admire in *Flawless*.

One expects a great performance from Sir Michael Caine, but the revelation here is Demi Moore. Her performance as a capable but ultimately frustrated woman, who has sacrificed her personal happiness in order to get ahead, is the best work she has ever done. At 45 Moore is no longer Hollywood eye candy and that explains why she had to go to England in order to find a decent part.

It's a shame that Sony Pictures Classics is not opening the film in more

venues so that a larger audience can find it. With the chemistry of its two stars and a new twist on an old theme, you'd think it would be a natural candidate for better promotion like the recent Brit thriller *The Bank Job*. *Flawless* is definitely worth your time but you'd better catch it quick. If you don't, I'm sure the DVD can't be far behind.

*Rated PG-13 for brief strong language.*

**Review by Chip Kaufmann**

### Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull ★★ 1/2

**Short Take:** Indy's back. Was it worth the speculation, hype and classified information status? Nope. But it's still a good old fashioned thrill ride at the movies.



**REEL TAKE:** Indy's back almost 20 years later, and he's still got it. *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* is the long awaited and anticipated sequel to the 1980's trilogy. It's 1957. The Nazi's are gone, but the Cold War is on and Area 51 is in its infancy. Indy is called upon top help prevent the mysterious and legendary crystal skulls from falling into Soviet hands.

Now in his mid-sixties, Harrison Ford still has what it takes to play the beloved archeological adventurer. When we first see Indy, he's already in trouble with the Soviets. He's just been tossed out of the trunk of a car. In silhouette we see him bend to pick up his famous fedora and place it upon his head, and with that, Indy is back.

Unfortunately everyone we loved from the earlier movies is not back. Denholm Elliott, who played Marcus Brody, passed on a few years back, and Sean Connery didn't think he was up to reprising his role as Professor Henry Jones. In the film, Indy acknowledges both wonderful characters, "It's been a rough two years, first Dad, then Marcus ..."

Fortunately Spielberg and Lucas did bring Indy's true leading lady back - Karen Allen as Marion Ravenwood. Added to the mix this time is Shia LeBeouf, as Mutt Williams, who shows up on the scene looking like a greaser from *The Wild One*, a la Marlon Brando. Rounding out the cast are Ray Winstone as Mac, John Hurt as Professor Oxley, and Cate

**'Movies' continued on pg 24**



# FILM REVIEWS

'Movies' continued from pg 21

Blanchett as arch villainess Irina Spalko.

It's a great cast for a not-so-great movie. Sure it's a fun action packed ride, as it should be. But does it shine like a crystal skull? No. Will this episode inspire new generations to be archeologists? Probably not. Without adding spoilers I can't sound off too much, except to say that George Lucas really is a lucky man. He's a great conceptualist, but not a great writer. He also seems to have a penchant for cute fuzzy creatures, whether they should be there or not (remember the ewoks?). In this film there are unnecessary pans to animatronic prairie dogs and then monkeys escorting a Tarzan-like Shia LeBeouf through trees in the jungle. At least the monkeys sort of serve a purpose. These things are petty annoyances in any event.

The biggest annoyance was too much time spent on extended car chase scenes, which do nothing to elevate the story. Rather, it makes the audience prematurely annoyed with our villain; we are ready to see her meet her demise way before the climatic ending. Beyond that I'm really not going to say much. After all, it's Indiana Jones, and wouldn't you really just rather enjoy it? Besides, after all this secrecy, who am I to spoil it? If you're an Indiana Jones fan, just go see it and take it for what it's worth.

Rated PG-13 for adventure violence and scary images.

Reviewed by Michelle Keenan

## Theatre Directory

### Asheville Pizza & Brewing Company

Movieline (828) 254-1281  
www.ashevillepizza.com

### Beaucatcher Cinemas (Asheville)

Movieline (828) 298-1234

### Carmike 10 (Asheville)

Movieline (828) 298-4452  
www.carmike.com

### Cinebarre (Asheville)

www.cinebarre.com

### The Falls Theatre (Brevard)

Movieline (828) 883-2200

### Fine Arts Theatre (Asheville)

Movieline (828) 232-1536  
www.fineartstheatre.com

### Flat Rock Theatre (Flat Rock)

Movieline (828) 697-2463  
www.flatrockcinema.com

### Four Seasons (Hendersonville)

Movieline (828) 693-8989

### Smoky Mountain Cinema (Waynesville)

Movieline (828) 452-9091

## Iron Man

**Short Take: The Summer's first big blockbuster hit is a clever, well written, large scale action-adventure flick with great performances from the three principals.**

### REEL TAKE:

Kicking off this Summer's series of blockbuster movies (although officially released in the Spring), is the latest Marvel creation to hit the big screen, *Iron Man*, and as these creations go it's better than most. A lot better in fact.

The story follows the standard superhero formula (with the exception of Superman). An ordinary guy becomes extraordinary through a series of unusual circumstances and then tries to right wrongs on a local and/or global level. This time around Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) isn't chemically altered like Spiderman or the Incredible Hulk, he's mechanically altered when he's forced to make a super powered suit of iron scraps to escape from terrorists who have kidnapped him.

Tony Stark is no ordinary guy. He's a filthy rich weapons manufacturer, much like Nicholas Cage in *Lord Of War*, who's also a math genius and a brilliant engineer. That is until his company gets in the way and he becomes bored with having everything. The kidnapping allows him to see the error of his ways and he's now out to redress all the wrongs his weapons company has created. This is easier said than done since management head Obidiah Stane (Jeff Bridges) has been double dealing behind Tony's back, including arranging the kidnapping, so that he could take complete control.

Every superhero has to have an underappreciated female figure. In this case it's Pepper Potts (Gwyneth Paltrow) who is Stark's personal assistant. Paltrow looks great and brings as much to the role as the script allows her, which is not a lot, but she makes the most of it. The principal villain turns out to be the aforementioned Jeff Bridges who makes a striking figure with his shaved head and Amish style beard. Like all good villains it's the plum role and Bridges has a field day by not overplaying it, much like Nick Nolte did in Ang Lee's version of *The Incredible Hulk* (2003) (which has been remade and will be released later this Summer).

Thanks to a trio of solid performances, fascinating high tech gadgetry, and a script that plays it straight without taking itself too seriously, *Iron Man* makes for a highly entertaining two hours at the



Robert Downey, Jr. stars as Tony Stark, a.k.a. "Iron Man."

movies. With the huge crop of Summer movies just arriving, it's a worthy appetizer and may just turn out to be one of the best of them.

Rated PG-13 for scenes of sci-fi action, violence, and suggestive content.

Review by Chip Kaufmann

## Made of Honor

**Short Take: A made to order rom com a la "My Best Friend's Wedding."**

**REEL TAKE:** Fresh on the heels of the success of *Enchanted* Patrick "McDreamy" Dempsey takes another stab as romantic leading man in latest formulaic, Hollywood, big-budget, romantic comedy *Made of Honor*. Unfortunately *Made of Honor* is slightly less than enchanting. However, that's not to say that it's deserving of suffering the slings and arrows of outrageous critics.

Dempsey stars as a wealthy womanizer living in New York City. Tom has been best friends with Hannah (Michelle Monaghan) since he mistakenly jumped into her bed during a college party, rather than her roommate's. Fast forward ten years. Tom is still jumping into beds but never into love. That is until Hannah is sent to Scotland for work for six weeks. Tom misses Hannah miserably; nothing in life is right without her. Much to his surprise Tom realizes he loves Hannah. He plans to tell her as soon as she gets back.

As luck would have it, his plan is foiled when she returns with Scotland's version of Prince Charming in tow, a broad shouldered, dashing fellow named Colin (Kevin McKidd). To add insult to injury, Hannah announces that she and Colin are engaged and will be wed in a matter of weeks in Scotland. To top it all off, she asks Tom be her Maid of Honor. Tom (apparently channeling Julia Roberts) agrees, but solely to thwart the matrimonial plans and win Hannah's heart.

What ensues are a series of unlikely but amusing events. Tom's basketball buddies coach him through the etiquette of being a proper MOH. When they get to Scotland, Tom is pitted against Colin in traditional Highland games, clad not in a tartan, but a mini-tartan. Suffice it to say McDreamy gives it his all, but Prince Charming wins the games. To find out who wins the girl, you'll have to go see the movie.



*Made Of Honor* isn't half as good as several of the films it borrows from, but nor does it pretend to be anything more than what it is. Dempsey is quite charming as Tom and actually makes the Lothario fairly likable. Monaghan sparkles as Hannah, and one is left wondering why it took Tom ten years to figure it out. The supporting cast, including Sydney Pollack and Kadeem Hardison, are likeable as well. In a nutshell, it's the fluffiest of perfectly pleasant chick-flick fluff.

Rated PG-13 for sexual content and language.

Reviewed by Michelle Keenan

## My Blueberry Nights

**Short Take: A broken hearted young woman bonds with a charming café owner over late night desserts before departing on a long road trip of self discovery and recovery.**

**REEL TAKE:** The common response after telling people about *My Blueberry Nights* was, "blueberry what?" That's really too bad. While certainly not for everyone, *My Blueberry Nights* would be a lovely diversion for many people if they knew about it. The film was released a couple of months ago in limited release, with very little marketing, but only just got to Western North Carolina recently.

*My Blueberry Nights* is the first English-language film by popular Chinese director Wong Kar-wai. The film plays like a stylized, post-film school, indie pic. Some of that is exactly what works for it. Some of that is what hampers it as well.

Norah Jones makes her acting debut as the broken hearted Elizabeth. She holds her own, though I think it's partially because of her own innate sense of honesty and smart reserve. She's also surrounded by the talents of Jude Law, David Strathairn, Rachel Weisz and Natalie Portman.

We meet Elizabeth in a vulnerable state after the discovery of romantic deception. It is in that horrible, neurotic place (that we all have known at some point in our lives) where she meets Jeremy, an English café owner in Brooklyn. Jeremy has that zen-like, bartender- philosopher-cool about him, only instead of slinging suds and spirits, he peddles pies and stories of keys left behind.

After several nights of blueberry pie and conversation, Elizabeth starts to cross



'Movies' continued on next pg



# FILM REVIEWS

'Movies' continued from pg 24

the street (yes a metaphor for life, pain and healing) and instead heads out on an almost year-long journey of self discovery and recovery. Her first stop is Memphis. There she befriends a couple in the last throws of utter disintegration and destruction. Next stop Reno, where Elizabeth goes out on a limb for a spunky, kinetic gambler played by Natalie Portman.

*My Blueberry Nights* is a sumptuous, languorous, and sometimes raw story of life, love and loss. Jude Law is as yummy as his pies, and you look forward to each scene with him. David Strathairn delivers one of his most poignant performances yet (and that's saying something) as Arnie, a Memphis cop by day and a hopeless drunk by night. There are a few too many protracted moments especially for Rachel Weisz's performance as Arnie's estranged wife. We are not given enough time nor reason to like or trust Natalie Portman's young gambler but perhaps that's ok. By that point our heroine has learned to trust herself, cross the street, let the keys go and see what happens next. Oh, and there is – of course – a lovely soundtrack.

*Rated PG-13 for mature thematic material including violence, drinking and smoking.*

Reviewed by Michelle Keenan

## Redbelt 1/2

**Short Take:** An honorable Jiu Jitsu instructor falls upon hard times but gets his chance to prove that good does conquer evil.

**REEL TAKE:** *Redbelt* was an interesting take. On our way into the movie we were stopped by a young twenty-something who had walked out on the previous showing, telling us, "Oh man, it sucked! Everyone [him and his buddies] left." This was a classic case of someone not knowing anything about the movie they were going to see (This is when we reviewers feel like we actually serve a purpose). Much like *My Blueberry Nights* *Redbelt* received almost no marketing. This guy probably thought he was going to see some uber cool martial arts movie, and the name David Mamet probably means nothing to him and his friends.

Though based in the world of martial arts, *Redbelt* was written and directed by Mamet. The movie is part martial arts, part good vs evil, and part Mamet-esque (heavy dialogue). It's a mish-mosh that works on some levels

'Movies' continued on next pg

## La Roue: The Apex of Silent Cinema

BY CHIP KAUFMANN

Finally after 40 years I can see what silent film historian Kevin Brownlow was talking about in his groundbreaking tome on the silent era *The Parade's Gone By*.

French director Abel Gance (1889-1981) IS a genius! His greatest work however is not his 1927 film *Napoleon* the movie for which he is best remembered, it his 1923 epic *La Roue* a film that is finally making it to America 85 years after it was first premiered in France.

While *Napoleon* is the silent cinema's greatest technical achievement, it lacks the deep and profound emotional resonance to be found in *La Roue*. This simple story of a train engineer, his son, and the orphan girl he raises as his daughter while harboring secret desires for her, becomes more than a neorealistic slice-of-life drama in Gance's hands. He elevates it to the level of a Greek tragedy, to the highest level of cinematic art.

In all my years of silent film viewing I have never seen anything quite like this. It has the painstaking realism of Erich von Stroheim, the visual quality of F.W. Murnau, the technical virtuosity of Sergei Eisenstein, the epic quality of D.W. Griffith and much more. Originally premiered at 32 reels (448 minutes), it was shown over the course of three evenings. Gance eventually cut the film to 12 reels (168 minutes) for foreign distribution, but that version never made

it America. This reconstruction clocks in at 258 minutes (4 and ½ hours) and captures the scope and power of the original presentation.

Despite the length, I was totally engrossed from first to last thanks to Gance's amazing skills as a director and the tremendous performances of the three principals, the French character actor Severin-Mars as the father (who died shortly after completing this film), the English actress Ivy Close, and another French performer Gabriel de Gravone as the son.

Silent films were never silent as they were always accompanied by music. Originally the Swiss composer Arthur Honegger composed a full score for all 7 ½ hours but all that survives of that is the locomotive theme that Honegger turned into the symphonic poem *Pacific 231*. Silent film specialist Robert Israel created a brand new full length score to accompany this DVD release and the results are absolutely spectacular - the best new silent film score that I have ever heard.

This release along with his 1919 anti-war epic *J'ACCUSE* (which will be released later this year) show beyond the shadow of a doubt that Gance was the silent era's greatest director and proving that his influence was even greater than



D.W. Griffith's. Although he continued to make films well into the sound era, Gance was like a penguin out of water. He was still worthy of our attention but his work was a lot more awkward. Sound turned him from an artist into a mere director whose later efforts are devoid of the poetry that makes his early movies so remarkable.

Thanks to the team of specialists at Flicker Alley who worked on *La Roue* and *J'Accuse* for years thus making it possible for us to see Abel Gance's two great silent efforts outside of *Napoleon* (which still hasn't made it to DVD) once again. *Napoleon* may astonish but *La Roue* devastates. If you love older movies then you must see *La Roue*, if only to see what the silent cinema was/is capable of producing. It just doesn't get any better than this.



Section co-editor Chip Kaufmann is a film historian who also shares his love of classical music on public radio station WCQS-FM.

## TEEN REVIEW

### The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian

If you are a fan of CS Lewis's fantasy book series, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, then here's the movie for which you've waiting. *Prince Caspian* is an action-packed film with awesome special effects, the second in the series that tells the tale of Narnia, a mystical land of dwarves, centaurs, talking animals and other magical creatures ruled by a great lion named Aslan.

In the first movie, four human children, Susan (*Anna Poppelwell*), Edmund (*Skandar Keynes*), Peter (*William Moseley*), and Lucy (*Georgie Henley*) Pevensie, accidentally stumble into Narnia through a wardrobe, where they become kings and queens and join Aslan in the fight of good versus evil before returning home. In *Prince Caspian*, the children are once again magically transported back to Narnia to a time 1300 years later, when yet another war is looming. Again they must fight to save Narnia with the help of a few friends, both old and new. But will they be able to, and will the lives they once knew be lost? Will the movie end tragically? I guess you'll have to watch it to find out.



Sierra Bicking is an arte aficionado extraordinaire.

by Sierra Bicking

As in the first of the *Chronicles*, *Prince Caspian* bursts with breath-taking special effects. It makes the audience feel like they're no longer sitting comfortably in a theatre, but are instead off in a fantasy world, meeting all kinds of creatures and fighting alongside the Pevensie children.

Although it can be a bit confusing at times, especially if one hasn't seen the first film, it's a great movie to escape into. Be aware, however, that although the movie is rated PG, there is way too much violence for younger children, including death, battle sequences, blood, etc. So don't bring the faint of heart to see this one. Otherwise, it's a great movie for those who love to be taken away to the outlandish world of Narnia. Who knows what you might find?

*Rated PG for epic battle action and violence.*





# FILM REVIEWS

## DVD Pick of the Month

### The Arrangement

#### A Film Whose Time Has Come

If you're interested in just how ambitious mainstream filmmaking was 40 years ago, then seek out the DVD version of *The Arrangement*. Panned and patronized at the time of its initial release, Elia Kazan's adaptation of his bestselling book plays much better now than it did in 1969. Made at a time when movies were enjoying unheard of freedom due to the demise of the production code, *The Arrangement* clearly shows that 1950s director Kazan (*On The Waterfront*) was still a filmmaker to be reckoned with.

The basic premise of the film has been done many times. A successful businessman (*Kirk Douglas*) suffers a midlife crisis and tries to commit suicide, and that's just the beginning. How he and the other characters deal with the aftermath of that action make up the rest of the story.

Kazan has always been an actor's director and the film provides a showcase for the young Faye Dunaway as Douglas' mistress who gets him to reexamine his life but wants out to be with someone else. Deborah Kerr, in her last major film appearance, is superb in the difficult role of the wife who tries to understand what Douglas is going through, but doesn't want to give up the rich lifestyle she's become accustomed to. Hume Cronyn as the family solicitor, with plans of his own, and Richard Boone, in a rare non-Western role, as Douglas'

ailing father give the movie even more acting firepower.

Marlon Brando was originally slated to play the lead but bowed out allowing Kirk Douglas, who really wanted to work with Kazan, to step in. Just as he did in *Lust For Life*, where he played Vincent Van Gogh, Douglas acquits himself well in an emotionally instead of a physically challenging role. The film is similar to *American Beauty* in its combination of raw emotions, alternating points of view including black humor, and touches of surrealism with Douglas keeping pace with all the changes. It was ambitious then and it still is today.

The movie is not without its flaws. At over 2 hours it runs too long and is occasionally sloppy in everything from editing to make-up but the powerful writing and intense performances make *The Arrangement* provocative filmmaking nearly 40 years later. Called everything from 'a harrowing emotional ride' to 'a self-indulgent mess,' it is ultimately for the home viewer to decide what they think of it.

Review by Chip Kaufmann

### Questions/Comments?

You can email Chip or Michelle at [reeltakes@hotmail.com](mailto:reeltakes@hotmail.com)



Kirk Douglas and Faye Dunaway in "The Arrangement."

### 'Movies' continued from pg 25

but not others. Mamet escalates the story to the point of absurdity; the bad luck that befalls our hero is over the top, and the extensive, supremely webbed collaboration between the bad guys is ludicrous. However, as implausible and sometimes ridiculous as it seems, you're somehow willing to roll with it.

Chiewetel Ejiofor, who was last seen by American audiences in *American Gangster*, plays Mike Terry, an honorable student, teacher and master of Jiu Jitsu.

When the story starts, Mike is running his own studio but is experiencing financial difficulties that are causing stress for him and his wife. In a series of bizarre and unlikely events, Mike finds himself in position wherein his luck seems to be changing for better. Instead, what ensues is a tangled web of corruption and conspiracy. It's a web that tests Mike's ultimate motto, "there is no situation from which you cannot escape."

Ejiofor is incredibly engaging as Mike. The audience believes in him, trusts him, and you just can't take your eyes off him. Ironically, the movie isn't Frank Capra-ish in the least and yet Mike's good guy status is up there with Gary Cooper in *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* and Jimmy Stewart's *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*. Rounding out the cast are Emily Mortimer, Alice Braga, Tim Allen, Joe Montegna and Rodrigo Santoro. They all deliver spot on performances.

The problem is, after you've watched the film, the aforementioned mish-mosh diminishes the effectiveness of the performances and the heart of the film. This is too bad, because it really is a worthwhile little movie.

**Rated R for strong language.**

Reviewed by Michelle Keenan

### Speed Racer 1/2

**Short Take: A \$150 million experimental feature disguised as a family film that is about 2 hours too long.**

**REEL TAKE:** There is nothing wrong with an experimental film or one that tries out new and different techniques for their own sake. Most of the time these films are short with the occasional



Emily Mortimer and Chiewetel Ejiofor star in *Redbelt*.

feature (*Rope-1948* or *Russian Ark-2002*) thrown in but at 134 minutes *Speed Racer* is not short and the Wachowski brothers (*The Matrix*) are not Alfred Hitchcock or Aleksandr Sokurov.

Billed as a history making film achievement, *Speed Racer* reminded me of all the other movies it took something from. There's the Robin Williams bomb *Toys*, Walter Hill's *Streets of Fire* and Quentin Tarantino's *Kill Bill* to name just a few. That's because the story is one dimensional even for a movie based on a 1960s limited animation cartoon show. Younger brother obsessed with cars idolizes older brother who is obsessed with cars. When he's killed, younger brother plans to get those who did older brother in while setting new speed records along the way. But a surprise awaits him.

The most surprising aspect of *Speed Racer* is the amount of big name talent that the Wachowski brothers got to appear in it. John Goodman, Emile Hirsch, Christina Ricci, and Susan Sarandon were all paid very well to act in front of a green screen for several weeks, and they are all professional enough to make the most of it and have fun with the limited material.

Going back to the experimental nature of the film, which is really what it's all about, the Wachowskis and their technicians have created a non-stop video montage that ranges from the eye popping to the mind numbing (especially after

over two hours). Take the then new computer generated images of Disney's *Tron* from 1982 and then mix them with the deliberately stylized, completely artificial backgrounds of *Sin City*. To finish it off add some bold pop art colors along with MTV rapid style editing and you'll have some idea of what's going on here.

The film definitely has its moments but in the long run it is not family friendly (at least for grown-ups) and at a budget reported at around \$150 million, *Speed Racer* (after tanking on its opening weekend) could become one of the costliest flops in history. I'm sure that's not the sort of history making the Wachowskis and Warner Brothers had in mind.

**Rated PG-13 for action sequences, some violence, and language.**

Review by Chip Kaufmann



## Special Screening of Alice Neel Documentary

Learn more about acclaimed portrait painter Alice Neel by attending a screening of the award-winning documentary on Thursday, June 12 starting at 7:00 p.m.

This fascinating 2007 documentary by Andrew Neel tells the story of an artist who painted people ranging from Communist Party leaders to her neighbors in New York's Spanish Harlem and created an impressive body of work that documents New York and America during the 20th century.

Alice Neel premiered at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and won the

Audience Award at the Newport Beach Film Festival that same year. The film has been screened at numerous film festivals and the June 12 showing at the Fine Arts Theatre will be its Asheville premiere.

The screening will be held at the Fine Arts Theatre, located at 36 Biltmore Avenue in downtown Asheville. General admission tickets are \$10. Tickets for Museum members, as well as seniors and students are \$8. Advance tickets are available now at the Asheville Art Museum by calling (828) 253-3227 or after 6:30 p.m. on the day of the show at the Fine Arts Theatre.

BY NANCY SOKOLOVE



# THE ARTFUL HOME

## Instant Aging With a Parchment Technique

BY ROXANE CLEMENT

When we hear the word “parchment” we generally have an image of aged and yellowed paper, but the Oxford English Dictionary reminds us that parchment is, in fact, “the skin of a sheep or goat, and sometimes that of other animals, dressed and prepared for writing, painting, engraving, etc.”

**“the skin of a sheep or goat, or sometimes that of other animals...”**

When considering it in this way, we may not immediately think of it as something we would want on our walls or furniture, but it is an effect that adds warmth and texture to any room. This is a subtle technique that doesn’t photograph well in black and white, so you will have to use your imagination.

As with other techniques I have written about, this uses simple, inexpensive tools, and the only extensive time needed is to allow one step to cure before another is applied. As the OED definition implies, this is not only an effect for furniture such as a desk top, or panels on a wall; it is also a great background for calligraphy or other lettering.

1. Start by painting your surface with off-white, semi-gloss paint, and allow this to dry overnight.
2. Apply a thin coat of clear glaze to the surface.

3. Using a 3” chip brush, apply patches of Maize\* glaze in varying sizes to cover about 75% of the surface.
4. Using a 1” chip brush, apply Mocha\* glaze in some of the spaces, covering about 20% of the surface.
5. Use a damp sea sponge to manipulate and blend the two glaze colors together. Take care not to overwork the sponging as this will produce a muddy effect. Move the sponge in one direction across the surface, creating a somewhat fibrous effect.
6. Using a wad of cheesecloth, gently dab the surface to soften and remove harsh sponge marks. Allow this to dry overnight.

**“it is also a great background for calligraphy or other lettering”**

7. To add an even richer, aged effect, use a 3” chip brush to apply small patches of Moss\* glaze over the surface.
8. Work the glaze over the surface with a damp sea sponge, but don’t try to make it completely even.
9. Soften the whole effect with cheesecloth to produce a subtle patina.



**Roxane Clement,**  
professional  
decorative  
painter.

**TIP:** When doing this method on a wall, work in irregular areas of about 3’ by 3’, taking care not to create obvious borders. Keep edges moist with a damp sponge or fine mister.

This effect is easier to do with two people. In low traffic areas this effect does not require a protective finish, but it is advisable to apply a protective low sheen clear finish in bathrooms or kitchens.

\*Valspar pre-mixed glaze, available at Lowe’s.

**Decorative painter Roxane Clement spent ten years in Raleigh, NC as a theatre set painter and lighting designer. She graduated with distinction from the prestigious Decorative Restoration Program of the City and Guilds of London Institute at A-B Tech and taught Decorative Painting there for two years.**

**She has worked on numerous restoration projects in Asheville including the Smith-McDowell House, the Biltmore Estate, and the A-B Tech library. Her decorative painting business specializes in stone effects and wood graining. Contact her at [rmclement2001@aol.com](mailto:rmclement2001@aol.com)**

### Quilting Bee ~ Thursday, June 12 & 26

Open to all ages and skill levels. Group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month beginning at 9:30 a.m. Earth Fare-South Asheville, 1856 Hendersonville Road. For more information contact Janice Husk, (828) 210-0100. Free.

## Is the Air in Your Home Making You Sick?



Moisture Control Unit

*Trapped Moisture and Gases Can Be Harmful!*

**Remove Unhealthy Air**

**Reduce Molds and Musty Odors**

- Expels stale, musty air, replaces with fresher, healthier air
- Reduces harmful gases and pollutants
- Quiet, safe, environmentally friendly
- Maintenance-free—no filters or buckets
- Uses less electricity than a 40-watt light bulb

*Improve the air quality in your home, satisfaction guaranteed*

**Call for a FREE Humidex phone consultation**

**1-800-663-2721**

*planning a special event?*

**the freelance florist**

*is available for:*

corporate functions  
private parties  
special events  
receptions  
weddings  
showers



(828) 628-6402

*your event • your style • your personal florist*



# RESTAURANTS & WINE

## Analyzing Pink ~ Get Over Your Hang-ups and Feel Its Goodness

**For Shelia, who orders the house pink wine and offers no apologies.**

Most of the rest of us are still on the defensive. Do we have good reasons for liking rosé or for not? If we like it, will we confess, and in whom do we confide?

It is that time of year when wine writers and cutesy columnists remind us that it is getting warmer and we're going to be eating gazpacho and salads with salmon and must enjoy an appropriately matching, delightful glass of rosé alongside. (Have you noticed how these columns always end with the encouragement to "Enjoy!"?)

There are those who just will not drink pink. They don't see an analyst about it. They simply go for red or go for white. I think these people simply see in color. They want a white to be a white and a red to be a red.

Somewhere out there in the www, a smart-alek comment poster wrote that rosé wine is like cordovan shoes, wine for those who cannot choose either the black pair or the brown pair.

Some, with a mind for how pink and red wines get their color, see the pinkening process as a waste of opportunity. The pink color comes from very limited contact with red skins after the crush. Freshly squeezed grape juice is almost always clear, and only a few hours of contact will result in the desired shade of pink. If only the skins had been allowed to stay and serve their true purpose...

There have also always been those who need a target for their affected snobbery, best illustrated by the "white zinfandel" haters. Never mind the fact

that pink zinfandel was the gateway wine for many of us. What else is going to introduce an eighteen year-old set of taste buds to wine than a softly sweet Solo cup of cheap pink stuff? Those of us lucky enough to hear about German Riesling were able to swiftly move on and step up in the wonderful world of wine.

And right there is a lesson for those in the service industry: rather than allow the adult white zin drinkers grate your nerves, suggest the next step with a free taste of an alternative. Bring them a taste of Riesling, or of Loire Valley Chenin Blanc. Your service just got better, and chances are, so did your tip.

The white-zinners often have a confidence-and-cost issue to overcome. When the price of a glass is often six dollars or more, it is reasonable for them to not want to risk the money on something they may not like.

I like good quality rosé wines, and there are plenty of choices. As always, we should depend on quality wine departments and locally owned wine shops for a good, up-to-date selection.

Rarely, very rarely, does a rosé improve with age – see the Vintage Champagne shelf or seek Spain's Viña Tondonia for a decade-old new release. Otherwise, drink young. The extra layer of fruit that is half of what makes a rosé a rosé requires a fresh delivery. The other half of a good rosé's allure is, to me, the more import aspect: texture.

A good rosé, one worth its price, has a richer texture, and not one that would be amplified if the wine were red. I drink good rosé for the feel. On the

BY MICHAEL PARKER

other hand, if the point of your glass is refreshment, pink delivers.

### *Vida Organica, Malbec Rosé, Mendoza, Argentina 2007 (\$8)*

This wine, from the same family that bottles wines under the Santa Julia label, delivers a good texture and very good fruit flavors in a number of layers. Drink while cooking.

### *Lagrein, Italy, (\$12)*

I lost my notes on this one and cannot remember the maker's funny name, but cannot forget the experience. This wine was a very unusual bottling of Gamay rosé, grown in northern Italy where it is called Lagrein, packaged in a bottle of the traditional shape for Riesling, and stuck with a label full of German words. The word "Italia" was about the only clue. Everybody else who saw it insisted it was from Germany, never minding the word "Italia."

### *I'M Rosé, California 2006 (\$14)*

Dry, with really good structure and a thirst-quenching quality after all that. There is a lot of Cabernet Sauvignon in it, so new vintages are released later than most rosés of the same vintage, because cab takes longer to mature on the vine.

## June Events at the Weinhaus

Reservations are required for these events unless otherwise noted. Call the Weinhaus at (828) 254-6453.

### Tuesday, June 10

Beginning at 7 p.m. The Boathouse will serve a special seafood meal paired with fine wines from the Weinhaus on the shores of Lake Julian. The cost is \$55 all inclusive.

### Saturday, June 21

The Weinhaus will hold a free wine tasting of Petits Chateaus of Bordeaux from 2 to 4 p.m.

### Monday, June 23

Beginning at 7 p.m. A wine dinner will be held in Hendersonville at the Sinbad Restaurant featuring the unique Mediterranean and French cuisines the restaurant is known for. Wines will be provided by the Weinhaus. The cost is \$60.

### Thursday, June 26

Beginning at 7 p.m. The Bavarian Lodge will present a special German Food and Beer dinner to celebrate good food and fine beers in the summer in Asheville. The cost is \$45 all inclusive.

### The Weinhaus

86 Patton Ave., in Asheville  
(828) 254-6453

## TASTING EVENTS!

Our FREE Saturday tastings continue at The Wine Guy South, every Saturday, from 4-6 p.m.

Every week we invite a different distributor to pour 4 or 5 new wines from their portfolio for us to sample. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served and all wines poured will be specially priced.

WINE RETAIL—TASTINGS—WINE CLASSES  
WE MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU!  
GREAT WINES FOR ANY OCCASION AND BUDGET.



www.theashevillewineguy.com

555 Merrimon Ave. (828) 254-6500  
1200 Hendersonville Rd. (828) 277-1120  
Asheville, North Carolina

## INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PANCAKES RESTAURANT

Our Famous Breakfast Menu  
is Served All Day!  
We also serve Sandwich Classics,  
Distinctive Dinners,  
Traditional Favorites and  
Meal-Sized Salads

Hours: Sun-Thurs 6:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Fri/Sat 6:30 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.

251 Tunnel Rd. Asheville, 255-8601



# JOE'S BREW NOTES

## Green Man Brewing and Tasting Room – A Visit to Dirty Jack's

Jack of the Wood, known to local fans as *Jack's*, is a brew-pub on Patton Avenue in downtown Asheville. *Jack's* is recognized for fun times, tasty food, and their Green Man Ales created at Green Man Brewing and Tasting Room located on nearby Buxton Avenue.

In earlier years Jack of the Wood and its Green Man Brewing shared the same space on Patton. Jack's was a friendly, neighborhood bar with many devoted regulars. As *Jack's* grew into a *destination* and more and more visitors found their way to the food, beer, music, and atmosphere, the brewery was moved off site and the pub was expanded.

Green Man Brewing and Tasting room started as a place to brew beer and provide a retail outlet for kegs and growlers. A bar for tastings was almost an after-thought. Jack's regulars began a slow migration to the new brewery/tasting room and soon dubbed the quaint,



Beer lover  
Joe Zinich.

BY JOE ZINICH

untidy location Dirty Jack's. The story goes that regulars at Jack of the Woods, who had shortened the name to Jack's, needed a way to communicate their location; the Green Man Brewery and Tasting Room became

Dirty Jack's.

From its very modest start, a brewery with one bar, a few stools and a garage for the delivery van, Dirty Jack's grew to two bars (one serves beer, one does not) with tables and chairs in the former garage and an outdoor patio. Initially their hours were sporadic but now Dirty Jack's is open seven days a week from 4 to 9 p.m. It's sociable, stress-free atmosphere is a great place to have a beer (or two) and talk with friends (current and new). Soccer and rugby



Brewmaster John Stuart.

up night, or Wednesday's (every other Wednesday) oysters-on-the-half-shell night, or any other night for spontaneous zaniness. When you do go, keep in mind food is not available but pretzels are provided along with the richly-flavored Lusty Monk Mustard (ask your server about the story behind the name and the mustard).

Neither Jack's nor Dirty Jack's would be as much fun without the savory Green Man Ales. Presiding over the production of these fine brews is Brewmaster John

Stuart. John has 20-plus years of experience in the brewing industry from his start as an award-winning home brewer to a corporate brewer for the southern brew-pub chain "The Mill Bakery, Eatery and Brewery".

His English-style ales have flavors similar to those you'd experience at a pub in England. Available year-round are a Gold Ale, a Pale Ale, an ESB, a Porter, and an IPA. My personal favorites are the ESB (medium body with a slight malt finish) and the Porter (medium body with a malty/chocolaty flavor).

But you definitely should try their award-winning Belgian Abbey (a specialty beer) and IPA; both gold medal winners at the Carolinas Championship of Beers held at the 2008 Hickory Hops Festival.

Go to Dirty Jack's to enjoy a zany, friendly neighborhood pub. Go to Jack's to enjoy a boisterous downtown pub. At either place you'll be able to enjoy those delicious Green Man Ales.

**When you do go, keep in mind food is not available but pretzels are provided along with the richly-flavored Lusty Monk Mustard.**

### Asheville Beer Notes 101: Cask Conditioned Beer

Most beer is brewed then finished in a tank with carbon dioxide added, but when that same beer is finished in a cask (special container) with yeast and sugar added to produce the carbonation it becomes a cask conditioned beer. Cask beer is typically aged and served at cellar temperature, between 50 and 60 degrees.

Sometimes called Real Beer (because it is the traditional way of finishing beer) these ales are pumped (not pushed with carbon dioxide or nitrogen) into a glass. Because they are served at a warmer temperature and lower carbonation level, the more subtle flavors of the beer can be better appreciated. Cask beer also has a much smoother (almost creamy) mouth feel.

This part of beer history and tradition is preserved at Green Man Brewing and Tasting Room. Go and experience the taste and flavor of Real Beer.



Time to enjoy a conversation and a pint at Dirty Jack's.

games (Jack of the Wood's sponsors four local soccer teams) are televised and background music flows from the CD player.

Although any night's a good night for a Green Man Ale, you may want to visit Dirty Jack's for Tuesday's Dirty Divas Night (ladies accent their costumes with feathered boas with only female vocalists on the CD player), or movie nights, or the Rocky Horror picture show dress-

### Beer of the Month

Berliner from the French Broad Brewery is an interpretation of the Berliner Weisse beer brewed in Berlin Germany. This light bodied, sour, and acidic wheat beer with a clear, pale golden straw-colored appearance is traditionally ordered with a raspberry (Himbeersirup), lemon (Zitronensirup), or woodruff (Waldmeistersirup) syrup.

The syrup addition changes the beer appearance to red, yellow, or green and changes the flavor to a sweet/tart thirst quenching delight. The French Broad offers the raspberry and woodruff syrups, imported directly from Germany, along with 3 other syrups – tripelsec, lemon and pomegranate. Go and discover your own special flavor and satisfy that insistent summer thirst.

### Green Man Brewing and Tasting Room

23 Buxton Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801  
(828) 252-5502



Don't be confused Dirty Jack's is in this building.

### Jack of the Wood

95 Patton Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801  
(828) 252-5445  
www.jackofthewood.com

For five years, Joe Zinich has been taking a self-guided, high-intensity tour of Asheville's beer world. Contact him at: [jinich@bellsouth.net](mailto:jinich@bellsouth.net)



# LOCAL FLAVOR

## Clingman Café Offers Great Food With Neighborhood Feel

**T**rip Howell greets all new visitors as old friends, an energetic presence behind the counter of this no-frills deli inside the Historic River Arts District of Asheville.

"Welcome to Clingman Café," Howell says. A moment later he takes a man's order and rings him up and takes his cash. Howell's cell phone rings and he answers it. "I'll call you back," he says. He turns to a new couple that has just entered the deli and strikes up a conversation. They are from LA. He tells them he has lived there before. They all laugh. "Good to have you in," he says then leaves to check on a delivery from a produce truck.

He is constantly in motion, a fluid act as honest yet careful as a tight-rope walker. Like the owner's personality, the food he serves is bold and authentic.

Howell and his wife Pamela purchased Clingman Café in April of 2007, at the time a mostly unknown coffeehouse, and turned it into one of the hottest breakfast and lunch spots in WNC.

This independently owned café, coffeehouse and catering service, serves premium deli meats and cheeses, certified organic, certified

fair trade coffee and espresso, baked goods and local, organic produce.

Open for breakfast and lunch Clingman Café is reasonably priced with breakfast costing about \$4 and lunch sandwiches priced around \$7. Being a full deli they offer a wide range of meats and cheeses, as well as vegetarian dishes, salads and probably the best tasting Lox bagel I've had outside New York City.



**Trip Howell**

They can cater small or large groups (but do require a 48-hour notice, which is relatively short considering the quality of entrées they serve). It's fine dining without the fluff and pretentiousness that usually accompanies many upscale caterers and this alone is quite refreshing. Probably their signature sandwich



REVIEWED BY DENNIS RAY

takeout) I advise coming early.

"Everyone who chooses to patronize my businesses makes a choice to do so," Howell says. "This I don't take for granted."

He smiles and mentions he has to pick his kid up from a sporting event in 20 minutes. "I love what I do," Howell acknowledges. "I couldn't pick a more rewarding business to be a part of, or a better group of people to work with."

**IDEAL MEAL:** The Thunderbird

**SCRATCHPAD:** Menu items change with availability. It's best to come before noon or after two for better seating. Sandwiches are available as platters or as boxed lunches.

### Clingman Café

242 Clingman Ave., Asheville, NC  
in the River District

(828) 253-2177

Hours:

Monday - Friday 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Prices: Breakfast - \$2 to \$5

Lunch - \$6.50 to \$8.00

## Give Dad What He Really Wants: Meat and Beer

**T**his Father's Day, take care of the dads in your life by giving them what they want. Not a tie, nor the creepily ill-advised gift of theme boxers. Unless he's the metro type, he likely doesn't want clothing at all.

What pops really wants to do is indulge in the primal pleasure of gnawing on a giant hunk of meat. Most likely, he'd like to be quaffing a beer or five at the same time.

If your father is the type who drinks only brandy from a snifter and prefers broiled halibut with a squeeze of lemon to red meat, well I suppose that's fine. Indulge the man in his tastes. However, if sticking to the meat and beer plan, why not consider going local? Here are a few ideas for a frosty, tasty, and purely local Father's Day experience.

### The Basic One-stop Pop Shop

My own Dad could likely imagine

no better way to spend Father's Day than with a beer in one hand, burger in another, family by his side. If the special Dad in your life is the same type, Jack of the Wood might be just the ticket. On Sundays, Jack of the Wood features an Irish Jam early (starting around 5 pm).

Fortunately, this beloved smoke-free Irish pub features its stellar Green Man Ales every day. The English-style porter pairs perfectly with the Guinness-marinated organic Angus burger — a guaranteed dad-pleasing, double fisted meal. Visit [www.jackofthewood.com](http://www.jackofthewood.com) for more information.

### Safe Suds

It's no secret that Asheville loves its beer, a fact made evident by the number and popularity of breweries about town. Brewery hopping has been made much safer thanks to the arrival of Asheville's own Brews Cruise. What better way to show a beer-drinking Dad a good time

than to whisk him away on a brewery adventure — where there's a designated driver at the helm!

Brews Cruise gives participants the "VIP treatment at three of Asheville's finest breweries," with tasting, light snacks and water provided in the cost of the ticket. The tour starts and stops at the Asheville Pizza and Brewing Company — where dad can satisfy his carnivorous cravings with APBC's "Meathead" pizza which has pepperoni, ham, beef, bacon and sausage. For more information on Asheville own Brews Cruise, visit [www.ashevillebrewscruise.com](http://www.ashevillebrewscruise.com)



**Mackensy Lunsford is an award-winning food writer who owns Café Azalea with her husband Judd Lohof. She also loves her papa.**

### BYO Beer & Meat

Perhaps you aren't lucky enough to have dear old dad close by. Why not bring a taste of Asheville to him? Hickory Nut Gap meats in Fairview raises beautiful grassfed beef, lamb, pork and chicken that would make any dad's mouth water. Hickory Nut Gap sells their meat at many local markets, or you may buy direct from the farm's store. If you can't visit Dad directly, Hickory Nut Gap even ships! Visit [www.hickorynutgapfarm.com](http://www.hickorynutgapfarm.com) for more information.

If your dad is a true beer connoisseur, before you visit him stop by Bruisin' Ales and peruse their selection of over 650 beers, including — of course — some of the outstanding brews made in Asheville. The Broadway shop also provides all manner of beer paraphernalia, including guides, glasses and classy bottle openers. Visit [www.bruisin-ales.com](http://www.bruisin-ales.com).

'Meat and Beer' continued on pg. 39



## ARTFUL LIVING

## Who Is It That Is Aware?

BY BILL WALZ

Thoughts arise. The human mind is a thought-producing machine. Emotions happen. The human body is a resonance chamber for the energy of thoughts. A thought arises in the dimension of mind, and in the physical dimension of the body, a resonant emotion is experienced. A happy thought creates a happy feeling — expansive, light, energized. An unhappy thought creates an unhappy feeling — contracted, heavy, energy dissipating.

Try it for yourself. Close your eyes. Think of something or someone that is very challenging, even threatening to you. Hold that thought for about five seconds. Pay attention to the feeling state that accompanies the holding of the thought.

Now, think of something or someone that is supportive, pleasing to you. Hold that thought for about five seconds. Pay attention to the feeling state of that thought.

Now, bring all your attention to experiencing the gentle flow of your breathing. Do not accentuate or change the breath. Also listen carefully to the sounds of the world around you. (turn off any TV or talk radio — very soft music helps this exercise — or best of all, go outside and listen to the birds and the wind in the trees) Do this for about 15 – 30 seconds. Now, open your eyes and feel what you feel.

If you are paying very close attention, you will notice that with the threaten-

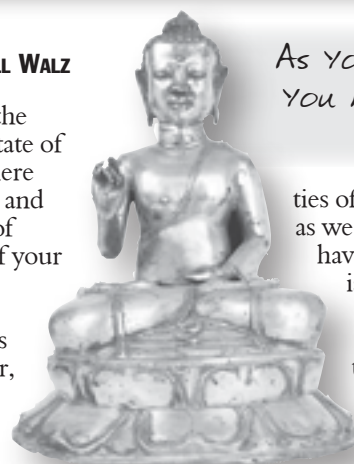
ing thought there is a contraction of the energy of the body and mind into a state of tension. With the pleasant thought there is an opening of the energy, the body and mind relaxes. But with the bringing of your awareness into the experience of your breath and listening to the subtle soft sounds of the world around you, the feeling state becomes expansive, open, relaxed, clear, even happier than the happy thought. This is the experience of no-thought. You are touching the ground of your deepest level of Being.



Bill Walz

Every thought is a contraction of the energy of the mind from its original and clear state of awareness into a limited form. With the creation of thought, you are experiencing the creation of egoic separateness and the loss of oneness with undifferentiated Life itself. The more fear-based the thought (a threatening, challenging thought form), the more the mind and the resonant body-emotion contracts into its experience of separateness.

But who is it that is aware of these various mind-body experiences? Ah! That's the secret that we have not been attending to. We are accustomed to experiencing that we are the thoughts and emotions. We say, "I am happy" or "I am sad" or "I am angry". But is this true? Zen teaches us that, no, we are not these thoughts and emotions. We have these thoughts and emotions. They are proper-



AS YOU ARE AWARE OF YOUR THOUGHTS AND EMOTIONS,  
YOU MUST ASK YOURSELF, WHO IS IT THAT IS AWARE?

- ZEN KOAN

ties of being human, just as we have hands and we have feet. Who we are, is the awareness that experiences these phenomenon of the mind and body. As I instructed you to create a happy thought, then an unhappy thought, how could these

thoughts and emotions be you if you could voluntarily create them? So then, how can they be you when they are involuntarily created? No. Who you are is the awareness that witnesses the activity of the mind and the body, but is actually unaffected by this activity.

Do you see the empowerment and liberation in this? This is the secret of meditation. In meditation, as you quiet the talking and emotionally reactive mind (in Buddhism, called "little mind"), you begin to be aware that you are aware. And as you continue to meditate, you begin to be aware that you are awareness ("big mind"). This is the ground of your Being.

Oh, how everything begins to change then. Thoughts and emotions come and go. We begin to realize that they are conditioned patterns of our cultural, societal, family and personal experience. They are programmed reactions to situations. They

are certainly not who we are. We can begin to let them come and go without investing our sense of self in them.

Defensiveness, reactivity, the need to identify with them begins to dissolve. We begin to realize we can shape and refine them. They are tools, like our hands, that we can train to be increasingly effective in dealing with the situations of life. This is why Buddhism teaches that meditation is "liberation" leading to an "awakening" out of living in "small mind" into the wisdom and effectiveness of a much larger, more adaptable and compassionate mind, the mind of awareness itself. And this is the answer to the question of who it is that is aware. It is YOU, the deepest, truest, sanest you.

**Bill Walz is a UNCA adjunct faculty member and a private-practice teacher of mindfulness, personal growth and consciousness. He holds a weekly meditation class, Mondays, 7 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, 227 Edgewood. A special extended meditation and discussion event will be held at the Meeting House on Saturday, June 21 entitled "Discover Who You Are at Your Deepest Level," from 1-5 p.m.**

**Info on classes and personal growth and healing instruction or phone consultations at (828) 258-3241, or e-mail at [healing@billwalz.com](mailto:healing@billwalz.com). Visit [www.billwalz.com](http://www.billwalz.com)**

## The Newest Theory of Disease

BY MAX HAMMONDS, MD

The newest idea to capture the imagination of medical investigators is that inflammation is the cause of disease. The cause of heart disease is inflammation of the lining of the arteries. The cause of peptic ulcer disease is inflammation of the lining of the stomach or small intestine. The cause of cancer of the colon is inflammation of the lining of the colon.

Inflammation is the body's reaction to irritants with a standard response that every medical person is taught to recognize — the simple flair and wheal — the red reaction and the swelling seen in the skin after a scratch from a twig or the sting of a bee. When the irritant comes in contact with the body, the body reacts with an inflammatory response.

Chemicals released during this inflammatory response are anything but simple. So many chemicals and proteins are released, the outpouring is called a

cascade and there are several cascades involved. Chemicals and proteins are released that increase blood clotting, summon white blood cells (body policemen), dilate and constrict blood vessels, increased output of hormones from the adrenal gland (steroids and epinephrine), the thyroid gland, the pancreas (insulin and digestive enzymes), and the pituitary gland and a host of other proteins that serve useful purposes during normal body function but wreak havoc during a prolonged inflammatory response.

The inflammatory response is designed to answer an emergency call that invaders (irritants — foreign bodies, foreign proteins) have entered the body and must be dealt with. As an acute reaction, it is very effective. When the irritants continue to enter the body over a prolonged period of time, the cascades begin to get out of control — either getting tired and dulled and not recognizing invaders who should be dealt with (bacteria, cancer

cells, or others) or becoming confused and over-reacting to and attacking normal body proteins (joint lining as in arthritis, pancreatic cells as in Type I diabetes, etc.)

There are four major body systems who are the first to receive outside irritants, outside invaders. They are the body systems most exposed to the outside world.

The outside lining of the body, the skin, is the most obvious first line of defense against invasion of irritants. It is thick and resistant to attack, only reacting if the tough outer layers of the skin are broken or have been soaked through (poison ivy juice or latex, for example). Even so, some people have sensitive skin that easily reacts to foreign proteins. We say these people are allergic. They over react to invaders that most of us can shrug off.

The inside lining of the body, the lining of the gut from the mouth to the anus, is also bombarded constantly by foreign proteins and foreign particles

that can attach to normal body proteins. The lining of the gut is not tough; in fact, it is very thin to facilitate absorption of digested nutrients. The gut is flushed out on a regular basis by the large volume of water it secretes. But a slow or irregular flush cycle can leave the gut exposed to these foreign particles causing an inflammatory response.

The next obvious area exposed to outside irritants is the breathing system, the throat and lungs. The lining here is thin to facilitate the intake of oxygen and the release of carbon dioxide. It's protective mechanism is a lining of small, ever-waving hair-like projections — cilia — that move irritants up and out of the lung or down and out of the nose, sometimes producing a cough or a sneeze to expel them. Foreign proteins that irritate can produce spasm of the lungs and in allergic people is known as asthma.

**'Theory of Disease' continued on pg. 38**



# FINE ART

## The Capturing of Color — Peggy Taylor

BY DENNIS RAY



Peggy H. Taylor

When Peggy Taylor began painting Jimmy Carter was in his last year of office and probably wishing he wouldn't have to face Ronald Reagan in the fall. Her earliest work from that time was, as she puts it, "Very traditional. I wanted to make everything look like a photograph. Folks didn't want a photograph they wanted a painting. It took me a good decade to figure this out."

work. He made miniature furniture and one day asked if I could paint some famous paintings of Monet or whomever, and have them go with the little furniture."

As a child Taylor grew up in Saudi Arabia and then later as an adult moved back to live from 1978 to 1998.

"My husband and I would get six weeks vacation each year and we'd spend two of those weeks traveling the world. I've gathered many objects from all those wonderful, exciting spots on the globe and those I use for my still life paintings."

In the summer of '98 she started Willow Wisp Farm Studios, a small art school in Fairview, NC; specializing in *plein-air* painting — Taylor currently operates her studio and gallery with the same name.

Since 1980 Taylor has won numerous awards, been mentioned in countless articles and books and has even been picked to have one of her paintings represented on Google Gadget's "Art and Artists Landscape Paintings."



"A Slice of Heaven"  
painting by Peggy Taylor.

Her style of painting changed in '91 when she took a class under the direction of master painter Lois Griffel at the Cape Cod School of Art in Provincetown, MA.

"It was at this class I fell madly in love with color. Beautiful, vibrant rich color. You can't reproduce the colors of outdoors in a studio."

Today Taylor's work is best described as dramatic and gallant with a flair for the romantic. Her body of work reveals a passionate artist willing to take risks and succeeding in doing so.

Taylor, like local artist John Mac Kay, paints *en Plein air* (a French word, literally translates as 'open air', and is defined as painting or drawing done outside, in the open air — the equivalent term in Italian would be *alfresco*), but occasionally does do some still life.

For many years she has been fascinated with miniature painting. She paints original miniatures and 1:12 scale copies of impressionist paintings. The smallest painting she has done was 1" x 3/4". Each of these little original reproductions is framed in a custom-made frame gilded in 21 karat gold leaf and sitting on a miniature easel. Taylor currently paints "artcards"; 2.5 x 3.5 inch trading cards for artists, which she sells at auction on ebay.

"My husband does incredible wood



"Blue Ridge" painting by Peggy Taylor.

She teaches painting classes and workshops for both adults and children at her studio in Fairview. For more info please visit [www.willowwispfarmstudios.com](http://www.willowwispfarmstudios.com) for class information and upcoming dates.

### Frame Shoppe & Gallery

1378 Hendersonville Rd. (Inside the Harris Teeter Shopping Center)  
Asheville • (828) 274-3635

[www.frameshoppeandgallery.com](http://www.frameshoppeandgallery.com)

Award  
Winning  
Builders

Established • Trusted • Knowledgeable

Environmentally Responsible



Custom Home Building and Extensive  
Remodeling of Fine Homes.

Homes For Life!

Design and Drafting Services Available



Call Today to Get Started on Your Custom Home!

[www.homesourcebuilders.com](http://www.homesourcebuilders.com)

828.298.0201

Vonage

UNLIMITED Local & Long Distance Calling

\$24.99

per month<sup>†</sup>

Switch to Vonage and Save <sup>UP TO</sup> \$300 a Year on Your Phone Bill<sup>‡</sup>!

Say No to Higher Phone Bills!

- Our price starts low and stays low<sup>SM</sup>. Satisfaction Guaranteed<sup><</sup>!
- No bundles, no hassles, no introductory pricing — just reliable phone service at a reliable price!

Easy to Switch, Easy to Save

- 25 Premium Features at no extra cost
- Free calls to 5 select European countries<sup>V</sup>
- International locations for as low as 1 cent per minute<sup>V</sup>
- Keep your current phone number<sup>^</sup>
- Vonage works with your existing home phone and high-speed Internet connection
- Award-winning quality and reliability

Special Offer

\$24.99<sup>†</sup>  
/month

Try 1 Month  
FREE!  
see below for details



Call: 1.800.706.3173

FREE MONTH OFFER ON \$24.99 UNLIMITED RESIDENTIAL PLAN ONLY. PLAN FEE WAIVED BUT ALL OTHER CHARGES APPLY. NEW SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.

Free Calls to Europe Offer (Available Only with Unlimited Residential Plan) Does Not Apply To Certain Call Types, Such As Calls to Cell Phones, and is Limited to Italy, France, Spain, UK and Ireland. Other International Rates May Vary. See <http://vonage.com/international> for details. Vonage 911 service operates differently than traditional 911. See [www.vonage.com/911](http://www.vonage.com/911) for details. High-Speed Internet Required. Alarms and other systems may not be compatible. † Rates exclude: broadband service, regulatory and activation fees and certain other charges, equipment, taxes, & shipping. International calls billed per minute. Offer valid in the US only. See Terms of Service for details. ‡ \$300 savings claim based on 3/07 survey of competing land line service providers. For complete details visit [www.vonage.com/compare1](http://www.vonage.com/compare1). < 30-day money back guarantee is refunded for any paid activation fee, 1st month savings charge, initial shipping charges and termination fee. Available only in the event of timely cancellation for subscribers who have not exceeded 500 minutes of usage and who obtain a valid return authorization number from 1-VONAGE-HELP, and return of equipment in original condition and packaging within 14 days of cancellation. Refund will not include charges for taxes, international usage, payphone calls to Vonage toll free numbers and directory assistance. Offer revocable. ^ Where available. The number transfer process takes approximately 10 business days from the time you confirm your transfer request. ©2008 Vonage.



# PERFORMANCE

## Americana Burlesque and Sideshow Festival

Presented by Future of Tradition Productions  
in Association with Arts2People

In 2007, Americana Burlesque and Sideshow Festival (ABSfest) awakened the spirit of the bawdy, bold and satirical arts with resounding success. Over 500 festival attendees were dazzled!

For 2008, ABSfest is back: bigger, bolder and bawdier. This event is most deliciously Asheville.

### Red Carpet Vaudeville Gala

ABSfest kicks off with the rolling vaudeville theatre Asheville adores, LAZOOM Watch for LaZoom as they spirit the glamorous stars around downtown, passing out goodies, selling tickets, and stunning the tourists. Follow the stars to the Fine Arts Theatre, as they walk the red carpet, brave the Paparazzi, and join the throng at the ABSfest Vaudeville Gala. The evening offers scintillating live performance AND the Southeast Premiere of 'Underbelly', a documentary about international burlesque and bellydance superstar, Princess Farhana that contains footage of ABSfest 2007.

### ABSfest Spectacular Cabaret

A fresh display of nationally acclaimed burlesque performances, side-show freakiness and vaudeville flair. Burlesque, hula wonders, pain management, glass walking, brisk bullwhips, Siamese twins and more a luscious cabaret ruckus after party. Headlining is Baltimore's award winning acrobatic burlesque super duo, Trixie Little & the Evil Hate Monkey, Syrens of the South, Panty Raid, Big Mama D, and much more. Emceed by Mab, Just Mab. Complete with mystics, vendors and more carnie appeal. After party with The Mezmer Society. Last year's show sold 500 tickets! The Not-to-Miss show of the year.

### Workshops

Get your freak on! Workshops in: beginning burlesque, advanced burlesque, boylesque, hula hoop, bullwhip, stage makeup, costuming, creating an arts-based business, acrobatic balance, stage-craft, swashbuckling, fire performance, and more

### About Burlesque, Sideshow & Vaudeville

The satirical performance arts brought comedic entertainment and

BY TORVA LOGAN

empowerment to the lower classes of American society throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. A mockery of the higher and more socially conservative classes, the vitality of Vaudeville and Burlesque were slowly eclipsed by mid-century morality laws and the advent of modern media. Sideshow harkens back to less commercial carnival days, glorifying human oddity and strange feats of willpower.

The Vaudeville Revival is a huge international movement with festivals around the world, exploring women's empowerment, questioning mainstream paradigms of 'normal', and offering unforgettable, good old fashioned American entertainment to those bold enough to pass thru those striped curtains to the midway beyond...

### If you go

*Red Carpet Vaudeville Gala, Friday, June 27, 8 to 9 p.m. Fine Arts Theatre, Biltmore Avenue, downtown Asheville. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. Cost: \$12*

*Spectacular Cabaret, Saturday, June 28, at the Orange Peel. Doors open at 7 p.m., show begins at 8 p.m. Cost: \$25 advance, \$30 at the door*

*Workshops, Saturday and Sunday, June 28, 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the French Broad Co-op Movement & Learning Center, 90 Biltmore Avenue. Select workshops at the Orange Peel, TBA*

*Cost: \$20 per workshop; \$90 for a day's worth (5)*

*All access festival passes available for \$200 – includes admittance to everything! Party Pass: both parties/shows: \$35*

*Visit [www.sideshowburlesque.org](http://www.sideshowburlesque.org), or [www.myspace.com/aabsfest](http://www.myspace.com/aabsfest)*





# ON GOLDEN POND

**MAY 30, 31 & JUNE 5, 6, 7 at 7:30 P.M. and JUNE 1, 8 at 3:00 P.M.**

**THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER THEATRE** | Adults: \$16 Seniors: \$13 Students: \$8  
250 Pigeon Street on Highway 276 S. in Waynesville | \$5 Student Tickets available for the Thursday & Sunday performances.

**TICKETS: 828-456-6322**

Hours: Monday - Saturday from 1-5 p.m.  
[www.harttheatre.com](http://www.harttheatre.com)

North Carolina Stage Company  
presents the Pulitzer Prize-Winning

## Driving Miss Daisy

North Carolina Stage Company closes its 2007-2008 Season with *Driving Miss Daisy*, a drama by Alfred Uhry. Directed by local favorite Angie Flynn-McIver, *Driving Miss Daisy* stars Janie Bushway as the title character, Paul Garrett as Hoke, and Joe Sturgeon as Boolie.

Elderly Atlanta matron Daisy Werthan may be too old to drive, but she is too fiercely independent to want a chauffeur. Nevertheless, her son hires Hoke Coleburn to be her driver, and an unlikely friendship is born that will span decades and cross lines of race and class. Beginning in 1948 and continuing through the Civil Right movement, this beautifully spare play is a masterful depiction of the quiet power of human connection.

Paul Garrett makes his NC Stage debut as Hoke. Garrett is familiar with the play, having played the role in Triad Stage's successful 2004 production. Garrett has worked extensively across the country and in North Carolina at theatres including Flat Rock Playhouse, Burning Coal Theater, and the now-defunct Charlotte Repertory Company.

BY AMANDA LESLIE

Janie Bushway appeared in NC Stage's 2006 production of *The Dresser* as Madge. A resident of Flat Rock, she has been affiliated with Flat Rock Playhouse since 1980.

Now based in Brooklyn, NY, Joe Sturgeon returns to NC Stage after playing multiple roles in the smash hit *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*.

Works from local artists inspired by *Driving Miss Daisy* will be on display in the Chase Gallery from June 11 through July 13. The gallery is located in the NC Stage lobby. Admission is free, open during box office hours.



**Paul Garrett  
as Hoke.**

### If you go

*June 11-29; Wednesday through Saturday 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2:00 p.m.*

*Tickets: Wednesday \$15; Thursday & Sunday \$22; Friday & Saturday \$25*

*NC Stage Company, 15 Stage Lane, Asheville, NC (across from Zambra's)  
(828) 350-9090 or visit [www.ncstage.org](http://www.ncstage.org)*



# ON STAGE

'Keowee' continued from pg. 5

frenetic activity and the perfect way to introduce children to classical music.

Snippets of the poet T.S. Elliot come to mind "Teach us to care and not to care/ Teach us to sit still." Musical performers constructing art from the air is possibly the most ephemeral of art forms. It has a transitory nature, it is happening now, and you are there, drawn in, not as the passive observer, but as an active participant – as a listener experiencing the fullness of life in a given moment. Again, T.S. Elliot says it best, "Because I know that time is always time/And place is always and only place/ And what is actual is actual only for one time/And only for one place." Wonderful music is playing in our community this summer; come spend time in the garden.

Karen Boekschoten is a writer and mother of two sons. She lives in Asheville.



Alicia Chapman, Oboist

## Summer Brings the Return of SART

Mark your calendar for "The Miracle Worker" and "Art"

BY ROXANE CLEMENT

Jim "T" Thomas, chairman of the Fine Arts Division of the college, spearheaded the development of the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre in 1975. Its mission: To present the highest quality professional productions, with a special emphasis on "plays concerning Appalachia that portray the rich culture and heritage of its people."

Under the direction of "T," a superb teacher, actor and director, as well as C. Robert Jones, Earl Leininger, Bill Gregg and Dewitt Tipton, some students and alumni, SART began to take shape.

Now in its 34<sup>TH</sup> year, SART has surpassed the original hopes of its founders. The company attracts actors, directors, playwrights and technical professionals from all over the country. This summer SART is producing six plays, starting with two in the month of June.

The season begins with *The Miracle Worker*, by William Gibson, based on Helen Keller's autobiography: *The Story of My Life*. This uplifting play centers on the relationship between the deaf and blind Helen and her teacher Annie Sullivan. Their challenges and triumphs are an inspiration to us all; as Helen Keller wrote: "Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it." Starring Savannah Crespo, Flynt Burton and Michael Mattison.

Next is *Art*, by Yasmina Reja, translated by Christopher Hampton. This Tony award-winning comedy has

been described as "stylish, sophisticated, stimulating and hilarious." It is the story of three men exploring the nature of their friendship after one of them purchases an unusual painting. Actors Michael Mattison, Ben Starr Coates and Randy Noojin play the three friends who must come to a new definition of art as well as friendship.

Productions take place in the Owen Theatre, first built in 1887 as the sanctuary of the Mars Hill Baptist Church. It was sold to Mars Hill College in 1953 and hosted its first production in 1966.

### If you go

*The Miracle Worker*: June 4-8 and 13-15.  
*Art*: June 18-22 and 26-29

Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre,  
44 College Street, Mars Hill, NC

Matinees Thursday & Sunday, 2:30 p.m.;  
Evenings 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25; children  
12 & under \$10; subscriptions available.

Box Office: (828) 689-1239

Roxane Clement is an Asheville artist and writer who has many years of experience working in theatres in North Carolina, Maryland and Europe. All local theatre groups and performance arts schools are invited to e-mail Roxane information on their productions for inclusion in this publication: [rmclement2001@aol.com](mailto:rmclement2001@aol.com)

# Buried in Credit Card Debt?

Over \$10,000 in credit card bills?  
Only making the minimum payments?

- ▶ We can get you out of debt in months instead of years
- ▶ We can save you thousands of dollars
- ▶ We can help you avoid bankruptcy

Not a high-priced consolidation loan or one of those consumer credit counseling programs

Call  
**CREDIT CARD RELIEF**  
for your **FREE** consultation

Not available  
in all states

**800-845-8758**

## We Solve IRS Problems



JK Harris & Company®

The Nation's Largest Tax Resolution Firm  
Over 200,000 taxpayers have chosen to benefit from the knowledge, experience, and proven tactics of our Tax Team.

Call 800-694-8439 Today! | Se Habla Español

### 3 Simple Steps to Tax Relief

- 1) Contact Us - 800-694-8439
- 2) Meet With Us - 425 Locations Nationwide\*
- 3) Problem Solved - Get Your Life Back

\* JK Harris sales consultants are available to meet with consumers, by appointment only, in over 425 locations in 43 states.

**Call Now 800-694-8439**



# FINE ART

## Artist Jonas Gerard, at Rest

It's 2 a.m. and a light shines in the studio of Asheville artist Jonas Gerard.

*Painting, still painting, always painting, keep painting.*

He is up most nights, painting. On a good night, he will produce three.

*Painting, still painting, always painting, keep painting.*

From the day he received his first set of paints at 8 years old, he's been painting.

*Painting, still painting, always painting, keep painting.*

Stop.

I found Jonas Gerard on a rare day of rest. His studio, quiet. His paints unopened. His brushes, still. He was waiting for me, walking about his studio. Later that day, he was to go to Charlotte, North Carolina, to exhibit in another show. It was a day to relax.

When I told Gerard I'd never been to his gallery, he gave me a wide-eyed look of surprise and, smiling, proudly showed me around the place.

People seem to be as important to the Moroccan-born artist as his paintings. Our first stop was to meet his staff - five people who seem more like family than employees. The atmosphere is convivial, inviting. It feels like I'm visiting a friend.

To Gerard, his gallery, located

in Asheville's River Arts District, is much like home - he spends most of his waking hours there, although his place of residence is a mere stone's throw away.

This arrangement makes sense, according to life partner Linda Greenup, because "he lives to paint." In fact, "he needs to paint," she said. The two met several years ago at an art show in Virginia Beach. Greenup, also an accomplished artist, has space at Gerard's gallery for her own paintings and photography, but spends much of her time as the his non-profit company's director.

Since moving to Asheville last May from Miami Beach, Florida, Gerard, who has appeared on ABC-TV's 20/20 program and whose work is on exhibition throughout the United States and abroad, has made an impact on the local art scene with his unique brand of abstract expressionism, his open, charismatic personality and his flamboyant style of performance painting in which he dances to high-spirited music while painting.



Artist Jonas Gerard

As we walked around his 5,000-foot studio/gallery, I could see firsthand how the style and focus of his work has changed throughout the years - from landscapes to portraits to the brightly-colored abstracts he's been doing for nearly two decades. A painting he did as an 11-year-old child (with a re-do on the back demanded, at the time, by his exacting mother) hangs a few steps away from a copy of his famous Bicentennial portrait, which was accepted by President Ford into the White House in 1975 and currently is housed in the Smithsonian Institute's permanent collection.

The intensity of color, contrast and movement make the paintings, which are done mostly in acrylics, seem to jump off the canvases.

He spoke of his paintings as if they were living beings, explaining that one painting "wanted to be structured" and that each "starts out bad until the good is allowed to come through."

"Creative energy is a spiritual thing

BY PAM J. HECHT

- it happens at will, without thought," he said. "It's all in the self-knowing and the knowledge that everything happens for a reason."

He pointed to another painting, describing the evolution of its seemingly random shapes and lines and when I asked him if a child could do it, he answered, without hesitation, "Yes, absolutely yes."

"The difference is in the technical knowledge, years of experience, and available materials," he explained. The key, he said, is to "quiet the mind" and to paint with the wild abandon of a child, without caring about the work."

He acknowledged that a keen sense of color and composition is also required, but pointed out that the most important part is "to enjoy and trust the process and to let go."

Gerard has been exhibiting since the age of 16, regularly selling paintings on the street, but said he was rejected from every art school he applied to and was advised to pursue another field. He kept painting.

He is regularly described as generous in spirit, welcoming fledgling artists into his studio and contributing to organizations such as the Asheville Arts Council, whenever possible.

But mostly, Jonas Gerard is full of stories, so many stories. He likes to tell them and I listen to each one, mesmerized. His strangely soothing voice sounds like a French Marlon Brando in The Godfather.

He tried this, he went there, he did that. He was lost in drugs, lost at war, lost in meditation. But always, he was painting, still painting, happily painting...

Visit Jonas Gerard at his gallery for a birthday party with cake, art, music and fun, June 13, 5 - 7 p.m. Performance paintings on June 14 & 15 at 2 p.m., as part of the River Arts District Studio Stroll. Winner of painting announced, June 15, 4 p.m.

## If you go

Jonas Gerard Fine Art, 240 Clingman Avenue, in Asheville.

Gallery hours: Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 1-6 p.m.

(828) 350-7711, [www.jonasgerard.com](http://www.jonasgerard.com)

## 2008 Asheville Gem Fest

BY FELICITY GREEN

### Friday - Sunday, June 13, 14 & 15

The Colburn Earth Science Museum announces the return of one of the most exciting gem and mineral shows in North Carolina: Asheville Gem Fest!

Hours on Friday and Saturday run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday is Father's Day and Asheville Gem Fest, featuring children's activities, a terrific silent auction and, of course, quality dealers from all over the world, is a terrific place to bring your Dad for a treat.

Jewelry, gems, minerals, fossils, cut stones, oddities, natural curiosities and treasures from the geologic world are all represented at Gem Fest. Great, edu-

cational and fun kids' activities include cracking geodes and fluming in water (a favorite for all ages) for gem stones. The Colburn Earth Science Museum will also be open admission free all weekend, and their legendary silent auction will be back, bigger and better than ever, with all sorts of items from clothes to restaurant gift certificates to toys to jewelry and more.

Returning dealers this year include ISA Fetish, selling unique fetishes and Native American jewelry, Anil Dholakia, selling exquisite jewelry, local favorites Cornerstone Minerals, bringing rare and unique mineral specimens and many others. For the first time, Gem Fest will also be featuring malachite from Mada-

### Children pan for gemstones at the 2007 Asheville Gem Fest.



gascar and rare minerals from Russia. A must for the serious collector and a visual feast for the drop by visitor, Asheville Gem Fest offers something for everyone.

Colburn Earth Science Museum, 2 S. Pack Square at Pack Place in Asheville, NC. For more information call (828) 254-7162 or visit [colburnmuseum.org](http://colburnmuseum.org).



# WHAT TO DO GUIDE™

## How to place an event/classified listing with Rapid River Art Magazine

Any "free" event open to the public can be listed at no charge up to 30 words. For all other events there is a \$9.95 charge up to 30 words and 10 cents for each additional word.

160 word limit per event.

Sponsored listings (shown in boxes) can be purchased for \$12 per column inch.

Deadline is the 19th of each month. Payment must be made prior to printing.

Email Beth Gossett at: ads@rapidrivermagazine.com or mail to: 85 N. Main St, Canton, NC 28716. Or Call: (828) 646-0071 to place ad over the phone.

### — DISCLAIMER —

Due to the overwhelming number of local event submissions we get for our "What to Do Guide" each month, we can no longer accept entries that do not specifically follow our publication's format. Non-paid event listings must be 30 words or less and both paid and non-paid listings must provide information in the following format: date, time, brief description of what your event is and any contact information. Any entries not following this format will not be considered for publication.

## WANTED:

### Advertising Sales Representatives

The Rapid River needs experienced sales personnel.

### INTERESTED?

Call (828) 646-0071, or e-mail info@rapidrivermagazine.com

**Saturday, June 7  
(rain date June 8th)**

### Annual Ice Cream Social

The event is open to the public and will be held from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on the grounds of the Flat Rock Village Hall and throughout the village. There will be free ice cream and entertainment all afternoon. Food and beverages will be available for purchase in various locations.

Many of the local Flat Rock merchants will be doing demonstrations. There will be walking tours of Connemara at the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site scheduled at specific times.

There will be a free concert from 6 to 8 p.m. on the back porch of the Wrinkled Egg in Flat Rock. For further information call Carol Andrews 697-0208

**June 7 and 8**

### Tours of Grovewood Studios

In keeping with the spirit and tradition of craftsmanship, Grovewood Gallery welcomes guests to tour the Grovewood studios – nine professional craft studios located on the Grovewood grounds. Tours are free of charge and open to the public. A special guided tour will be given Saturday, June 7th at 2 p.m. Call the gallery for additional information (828) 253-7651.

**June 7, 11 a.m and 3:30 p.m.;  
June 8, 1 p.m.**

### Walking Tours of a 1917 Arts & Crafts Enterprise

Step back in time and take a tour of historic Biltmore Industries, a weaving and woodworking industry that was once world-renowned for its hand-loomed fabrics. Each free, guided tour will start at the Homespun Museum, located next to the Grovewood Gallery. Visit Grovewood.com for more information or call the gallery at (828) 253-7651.

**Saturday, June 14**

### Father's Day Demo at Grovewood Gallery

Master woodworker, Eddie Hamrick, will be at Grovewood

Gallery on Saturday from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. for a special Father's Day woodcarving demonstration. Eddie will be working on a trout fishing tackle box and accessories. Special orders will be welcome! (828) 253-7651.

Grovewood Gallery, 111 Grovewood Road, in Asheville, NC.

**Sunday, June 22**

### Chamber Music Concert

There will be a chamber music concert with the Land of the Sky Symphonic Band under the direction of David Kirby at St. Matthias Church at 3:00 p.m. The 20-piece ensemble will perform music by Norman Dello Joio, Gustav Holst, and others. The concert will feature a saxophone concerto written by Ronald Brindley and played by Andrew Balant.

There is no fixed charge for the concert, but an offering will be taken for the restoration of the beautiful and historic church. St. Matthias' Church is over 100 years old and is on the national historic register.

The church is located in Asheville just off South Charlotte Street at Max Street on the hill across from the Asheville Public Works Building (1 Dundee St.).

### Youth Making History on URTV!

URTV, Asheville and Buncombe County's community media center, presents its second youth video camp. Registration forms are online at www.urtv.org. Students from the surround-



### Material Culture

The Asheville Community Theatre Lobby Gallery will host an exhibition of abstract paintings by Heather Lewis during the month of July. The artist has shown her work in the US and abroad but this will be her first exhibition in North Carolina. The work focuses on abstract shapes made using mass-produced objects and semi-industrial techniques.

On exhibit from July 2 through August 2 with a reception for the artist on July 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. Asheville Community Theatre, Lobby Gallery, 35 E. Walnut Street, in Asheville.

Other images can be seen at [www.heatherlewis.net](http://www.heatherlewis.net)

## Asheville Art Museum June 2008 Events

These events are free with Membership or Museum Admission

**Friday, June 6, 12:00 p.m.**

Art Break, docent led tour of Expectant Gaze - Art from the Eye and Mind. Come see selections from the Asheville Art Museum's permanent collection during a tour of the exhibition Expectant Gaze guided by a member of the Asheville Art Museum Docent Corps.

**Friday, June 27, 6:00 p.m.**

Up for Discussion Lecture: Artist's Talk. Penland-based potter Cynthia Bringle will talk about her four decades as ceramicist as well as the many different techniques and influences used to create her work. This event will be held in conjunction with the exhibition Let It Pour: Contemporary Craft Pitchers from the James Goode Collection.

Centrally located in downtown Asheville on Pack Square, the Asheville Art Museum is open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. The Museum is open every Friday until 8:00 p.m. Special docent-guided tour packages are available for groups and students.

Admission to the Museum is \$6 for adults and \$5 for seniors, students with ID and for children 4-15 (children age three and younger are admitted free).

ing area attend a 4-day video camp during which they learn all aspects of video production from media literacy and story planning to editing and basic animation. Graduation is a live TV show with "roll-ins" of student work.

The short, focused approach teaches youth how to work together on a project that requires teamwork, creative thinking and imagination. Camp graduates will host follow-up live shows during the school year.

URTV's Youth Video Program also offers internship opportunities to high school and college students. Interns will acquire

ample hands-on video experience to host their own TV show, become fully certified instructors of video production and earn college credits.

Interested students should call Pat Garlinghouse at (828) 255-8488, x104.

### Paintings by Connie Bostic

A dynamic exhibition of paintings by Connie Bostic is on view in the Pump Gallery, the street-level space of the Flood Gallery Fine Art Center in the Phil Mechanic Studios building, located at 109 Roberts Street, Asheville River Arts District.

Bostic's series of paintings have been in the making since the winter following hurricane Katrina. Be prepared to be moved by these eighteen paintings.

Studio Stroll Preview and Reception: Friday, June 6 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. in The Pump Gallery. The show runs through June 28. For gallery hours or more information call, (828) 254-2166.

## JUNE EVENTS ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ CLASSIFIEDS



# WHAT TO DO GUIDE™

## The Back Room of the Flat Rock Wine Shop

Friday, June 6 at 9:00 p.m.

### Rock Kilough

Rock has played the guitar, harmonica and provided backup vocals with Hank Jr., Merel Haggard, Mickey Newberry, Jeannie Pruitt, and many others.

Saturday, June 14, 9:00 p.m.

### Brian Ashley Jones with Tisha Simeral

Brian Ashley Jones is a soulful singer, accomplished lead guitarist, and versatile songwriter. Tisha Simeral has played electric bass and string bass with the Nashville Chamber Orchestra String Quintet among others.

Thursday, June 26, 8:00 p.m.

### The Lonesome Band

Great acoustic music — their repertoire consists of everything from Bill Monroe's "My Sweet Blue Eyed Darlin'" to the Moody Blues' "Nights In White Satin".

The Back Room is located behind the Flat Rock Wine Shop, in the Singleton Centre in Flat Rock, just down the road from the Flat Rock Playhouse.

(828) 697-6828

[www.flatrockwineshop.com](http://www.flatrockwineshop.com)

## Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance

June 26-28

### Elvis & Other Men

Nine men from companies such as Pittsburgh Ballet, Balletmet, Nashville Ballet, and the NC Dance Theatre come together to perform a repertoire free of women.

At the Diana Wortham Theater in Asheville, NC. To purchase tickets call (828) 257-4530 or visit [dwttheatre.com](http://dwttheatre.com). For more info on Terpsicorps call (828) 252-6342 or visit [terpsicorps.org](http://terpsicorps.org).

## Chautauqua Festival – America: The Land

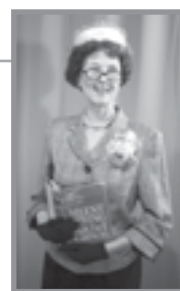
June 16 - 19 on the grounds of the Smith-McDowell House Museum. This ninth Buncombe County Chautauqua will feature five naturalists whose lives and words taught Americans to value this land. They include John James Audubon, James P. Beckwourth, Theodore Roosevelt, Black Elk and Rachel Carson.

Each evening, a scholar dressed in costume will bring the character to life through a first person monologue. The audience will then have a chance to question the character, delving more deeply into the issues that have been raised. The replies will be historically authentic, based on research using letters, diaries, journals, and published writings. Finally, the scholar will step out of character to discuss the subject and answer questions from a critical, modern perspective.

ern perspective.

Chautauqua 2008 is sponsored by the Friends of Buncombe County Public Libraries, Inc. Join us each evening under the large tent beside the Smith-McDowell House Museum at 283 Victoria Road. Parking is available on the AB-Tech campus next door.

A musical program will begin each evening at 7:00 followed by the featured program at 7:30. There is a suggested donation of \$3 per program or \$8 for the four-night series. For more information, call Pack Memorial Library, (828) 250-4700.



Caroline as Rachel Carson

### Best in Show



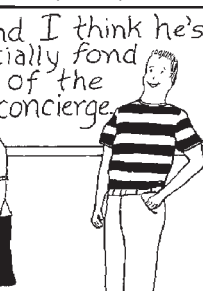
by Phil Juliano

### Corgi Tales



by Phil Hawkins

### Callie & Cats



by Amy Downs

## The Firefly Gathering: Skills for Living with the Earth

Sharing stories around the fire by night and skills by day we will explore traditional and sustainable ways of living. This gathering will be a family friendly place for people to explore traditional and sustainable ways of living with each other.

Friday, June 27 through Monday, June 30. Location: About 8 miles from Asheville, NC at a family farm.

Admission - Sliding Scale: Adults (age 14 and above) \$75-150 for the entire event, or \$25-50 for a day pass. Ages 8-14, \$40-80, or \$15-30 for a day pass.

Check out our website at [www.fireflygathering.org](http://www.fireflygathering.org), email us at [fireflygathering@yahoo.com](mailto:fireflygathering@yahoo.com), or leave a message at (206) 661-6550.

## Cradle of Forestry

Please call (828) 877-3130 for detailed information on these events.

Saturday, June 14

National Get Outdoors Day; compass games, camping do's and don'ts, guided nature walks

Saturday, June 14

Firefly Twilight Tour: enjoy this special time of day while learning about the summer woods and fireflies.

Saturday, June 21

SAWA Pro-Lumberjack Competition; see timbersport athletes in action.

June 22 through June 28

National Pollinator Week; programs on native plants, gardening for pollinators, bee keeping, and other activities focusing on the important and fascinating roles of pollinators in nature and our lives.

Saturday, June 28

Bug Day! A celebration of these amazing creatures, including forest and pond explorations.

Saturday, June 28

Winged Creatures of the Night Twilight Tour: music and evening forest explorations.

**Forest Discovery Center**  
1001 Pisgah Highway, Pisgah Forest, NC

"Send the kids to the woods. They are better for them than any classrooms built of brick."

- Dr. Carl Alwin Schenck,  
Founder of the Biltmore Forest School

# CLASSES ~ LECTURES ~ ARTS & CRAFTS ~ READINGS



## NOTE WORTHY

### 'New Orleans Jazz Expressionism'

Bryan Federico in the Front Window Gallery at Woolworth Walk

New Orleans Jazz Expressionism is being welcomed to the F.W. Gallery at Woolworth Walk for the month of June. The artist Bryan Federico has been re-inspired since moving to Asheville.

The result has been a collection of stylistic paintings that capture his past and present surroundings. Bryan's paintings, are rich in color and the images freely depict the people, the arts and the music of the times. Some of his most recent works are scenes from downtown Asheville. This exhibit will be on display from June 13 through July 8. There will be an opening reception on Sunday, June 15 from 2 to 4 p.m.



"Biltmore at Night" (left) "FineArts at Dusk" (right) by Bryan Federico

### If you go

Woolworth Walk, 25 Haywood St., in Asheville. Phone (828) 254-9234, or visit [www.woolworthwalk.com](http://www.woolworthwalk.com)

### HART Presents "On Golden Pond"

BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG

The Haywood Arts Regional Theater continues its season with one of the most popular plays written for the modern stage, the tender comedy "On Golden Pond," by Ernest Thompson.

The play tells the story of a summer on a lake in New England. Norman and Ethel Thayer have spent more than fifty years together and their summers have been marked by visits to Golden Pond. As is the case with most married couples who have spent a lifetime together, they know one another all too well, and this familiarity gives the play its warmth and humor.

But "On Golden Pond" is not a farce. Though filled with laughter, there is the touching reality that this feisty couple is in the twilight of their years and they are one another's companions 'til the end.

Ernest Thompson wrote "On Golden Pond," when he was only twenty-eight, and the play ran for over four hundred performances. Thompson won the Academy Award for best Screenplay, as well as

the Golden Globe and an award from the Writers Guild of America.

HART's production is being directed by Mark Jones and features several of the areas most popular actors. Reta Scribner, and Bob Baldridge, star in the production as Ethel and Norman. The cast is completed with Teresa Breakey, Tom De-wees, Jack Ross, and Sean Bruce in a love story, filled with wry humor, and tender moments of discovered vulnerability that linger long after the curtain descends.

### If you go

All performances take place at the HART Theater, 250 Pigeon St. in Waynesville.

Tickets are \$18 for adults \$16 for seniors and \$8 for students. The production has performances June 5, 6, and 7 at 7:30 and Sundays, June 1 and 8 at 3 p.m.

To make reservations call (828) 456-6322. Box office hours are Monday through Saturday from 1-5 p.m.

### 'Theory of Disease' from pg 31

The fourth system exposed to these foreign invaders lies just under the other three systems, just under the skin, the lining of the gut and the lining of the lungs. It is the blood vessel system. It's lining is thin to allow nutrients and oxygen in. But it has no natural flushing or cleansing mechanism. The blood vessels have to

rely solely on the white blood cells to seek out and destroy the foreign invaders. In the mean time, the blood vessels are at the mercy of the inflammatory response.

Why discuss this topic in a column normally focused on disease prevention? This is the ground work for next month's installment – what to do about the prolonged, destructive inflammatory response.

## AN IDENTITY IS STOLEN EVERY 3 SECONDS. ARE YOU PROTECTED?

I'm Todd Davis, CEO of LifeLock and 457-55-5462 is my real social security number.\*

I give it out just to prove how safe your identity is with LifeLock.

LifeLock, the industry leader in proactive identity theft protection, works to help stop identity theft before it happens. We take proven steps to help prevent identity thieves from destroying

your credit and ruining your good name, and we back our service with a \$1 million total service guarantee. I'm so confident in LifeLock's ability to protect my identity I publish my social security number. To give you that same level of confidence and peace of mind, I'd like to give you LifeLock for 30 days, absolutely free.

### Here's what you're getting with LifeLock:

- Proactive Identity Theft Protection
- Reduced Junk Mail and Credit Card Offers
- Request Free Annual Credit Reports
- WalletLock™ – Help replacing the contents of a lost wallet\*\*
- \$1 Million Total Service Guarantee

30 DAYS FREE

CALL 800-659-3559



**LifeLock.**  
Guarantee Your Good Name

\* Never share your social security number unnecessarily. \*\* Pictures, cash and other monies are excluded. No payment, no obligation for 30 days. After 30 days your credit card will automatically be billed. You can cancel at any time without penalty.

## III Corps Images

"I am a veteran and I am quietly proud of my service."



Happy Swallowtail



P-51 Mustang



Laundry Day, Khe Sanh



The Fleet

Photography, Digital Painting and Retouching

**Lonnie Darr**

[www.3corpsimages.com](http://www.3corpsimages.com)



# FINE ART

## WICKWIRE Features Jane Todd Butcher



Meet the Artist – Art Demonstration and Reception, Friday, June 6, 6 to 9 p.m. at 329 N. Main Street in Historic Downtown, Hendersonville, NC.

Gallery hours: Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. First Friday of the month until 9 p.m.

(828) 692-6222, e-mail wickwire@bellsouth.net or visit www.wickwireart-gallery.com.



## Jonathan Williams: Toward a Second Look



What's the old maxim? Don't speak ill of the dead? There's a curious metamorphosis that takes place after death, besides the body's moldering. If we believe less these days in a reckoning before

a juridical God (or Pluto, or Osiris), we know there's still a reckoning of a different sort, one that affects not our afterlife in the world beyond, but our afterlife within the community and culture of which we're each a part.

For those who lead public lives, especially our artists and writers, the departure sometimes offers a moment of public reconnection, new recognition that what the artist has done has significance and resonance, beyond whatever claims the contending artist might have made for it. Or not. And sometimes ... well, Melville's death was little noted in 1891, eliciting but one obituary; re-appraisal, and the recognition of achievement it provided, had to wait for thirty years and the publication of Raymond Weaver's 1921 biography; his edition of Melville's last work, the short novel *Billy Budd*, in 1924; and texts like D. H. Lawrence's 1923 *Studies in Classical American Literature*.

The recent death of Jonathan Williams, late of Scaley Mountain, near Highlands, seems happily to have spurred the world to give his work a more immediate second look. Ron Silliman, one of the leading conceptual poets of the generation that came of age just after Donald Allen's 1962 anthology *New American Poetry* had reshaped the landscape of American verse, noted in a post after Williams' death that *Jubilant Thicket*, his last collection, is "one of those absolute must-have books of poetry." And the Electronic Poetry Center, one of the primary Internet source sites for poets who appeared (as Jonathan did) in that anthology, as well as their spiritual progeny, has now created a page for him with an array of links to the part of his work that's made it to the web, and to a slew of articles and appreciations that help provide context for the encounter with his work. Such notice, however belated, is always welcome.

A curious fact about Mr. Williams, of course, is that he didn't start out to be a poet at all. When he came to Black Mountain College in 1951, it was to study with photographer Harry Callahan, who was teaching in the summer session. Charles Olson, who headed the college and taught courses in writing, cosmology, and "the present", recognized Williams' great gift as a writer, though, and – shazam! – writing soon became for Williams the primary creative focus. He'd founded Jargon Press by the end of 1951, when he was just

twenty-two; he'd go on to publish under the Jargon imprint nearly a hundred titles by the brilliant wildcat pioneers and outliers of American arts and letters in the decades after the college as a formal institution had ceased to exist.

Fortunately, he continued to use his camera, too; thanks to him, we have images of many of the denizens of Black Mountain College during their time together there – Charles Olson, for instance, sitting at his desk in his quarters at the college writing an early Maximus poem. And Robert Creeley, who used one of Jonathan's photos of him on the cover of 1969's *The Charm*, which collected poems from the Black Mountain era. Poet Thomas Meyer, Jonathan's longtime partner in Jargon, said recently that Jonathan had shot thousands of photos over the years, many with a Rolleiflex twin-lens reflex camera that used a medium format film – and so provided negatives with much higher resolution than those from 35mm cameras. He later favored the Polaroid SX-70, whose print format was of a similar size.

When Jonathan and Thomas would join friends for dinner, Jonathan would often use the Polaroid to shoot everyone present and document the antics of the occasion. In the fall, he'd go through the stacks of shots from the previous year, and mount them in albums. He'd also assemble slide shows of whatever images had caught his eye – poets, landscapes, architecture, landscapes, art works. Williams, according to Meyer, continued taking photos through 2004. By 2006, when the transparencies were archived at Yale's Beinecke Library, he'd amassed "several thousand", including a "core collection" of about 2400. Two of his published titles, 1979's *Portrait Photographs* and *A Palpable Elysium*, published in 2000, drew on this vast photographic work.

This month Asheville's Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center will help us give Jonathan's work as a photographer the same sort of second look that his poetry has recently begun to receive. On June 13, the Center will open a show of Williams photos, many of them fine black and white prints that beautifully register and find form in occasions during his years at Black Mountain. Others, some of them in the vibrant saturated col-



Jonathan Williams, "Beauty and the Beast: Joel Oppenheimer and Francine du Plessix Gray", 1951, BMCM+AC Collection, gift of the artist.

BY JEFF DAVIS

ors with which he later loved to work, feature Black Mountain artists and writers, like M.C. Richards and Robert Duncan, who came into the orbit of his eye after their years at the college. Williams became, I think, a master of the post-modern portrait, situating his subjects in vivid color fields or appar-

ent contexts that give the images depth and dimension.

But take this opportunity to give the work a look for yourself. The show will be on display at the Center through September 20.

Jonathan made it clear that he wanted no memorial services — but while the show is up, the Center will also celebrate Williams' work as a poet, hosting a reading on July 19. More about that event, though, in a future note.

## If you go

Photographs by Jonathan Williams "Visions of Wonderment + Affection" Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center, 56 Broadway, Downtown Asheville  
When: June 13 through September 20.  
Opening reception on June 13, 7:00 p.m.  
Admission: \$3, Free for members of the Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center. The reception is free.

More Info: (828) 384-5050 or online at [www.blackmountaincollege.org](http://www.blackmountaincollege.org)

Poet Jeff Davis (former *Rapid River* poetry editor) is a board member of the Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center. *NatureS*, his book of selected poems, was published by New Native Press in 2006.

His poems have appeared in such magazines as *Lillabulero*, *Iron*, *Asheville Poetry Review*, *Nantahala Review*, and others. Davis co-produces *Wordplay*, a weekly radio series featuring local, regional, and national poets, Sundays on WPVM (103.5FM) and [www.wpvm.org](http://www.wpvm.org). His weblog is at [www.naturespoetry.blogspot.com](http://www.naturespoetry.blogspot.com).

## 'Oversmith' continued from pg 13

and painting in Brittany, France.

Shakespeare asked "Can one desire too much of a good thing?"

When it comes to Oversmiths' body of work the answer is no. There is always room for one more of his paintings.

## If you go

Figurative Allusion, paintings by Richard Oversmith

16 Patton Gallery, 16 Patton Avenue, in Asheville, NC. (828) 236-2889, [www.16patton.com](http://www.16patton.com)

Exhibition Dates: June 14 – July 27

Reception: June 14, 6-8 p.m.

Richard Oversmith will be present at the opening.

Workshop: "Plein Air in Asheville"

Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost: \$225.

Sponsored by the Fine Arts League of the Carolinas.

## 'Beer & Meat' continued from pg 30

com for more information.

However you choose to do it, make sure to honor the fathers in your lives this year with plenty of love – and be safe while you're at it.

Have an idea for future articles for Local Flavor? Local foodies we must know about? Workshops or community food events? Contact Mackensy Lunsford at [catalyst@charter.net](mailto:catalyst@charter.net).





## Frame Shoppe & Gallery

(828) 274-3635

1378 Hendersonville Rd.

Paintings by Peggy H. Taylor



[www.frameshoppeandgallery.com](http://www.frameshoppeandgallery.com)

In the Harris Teeter Shopping Center

Sandwiches • Soups  
Malts • Floats • Shakes  
Organic Coffee



Meet me at

the SODA FOUNTAIN



WOOLWORTH WALK

25 Haywood St.

828.254.9234

[www.woolworthwalk.com](http://www.woolworthwalk.com)

## INTERIORS of Asheville

2 Hendersonville Rd.

at Biltmore Station

(828) 255-4760

Antiques &  
Collectibles

A World of  
Design



[www.interiorsofasheville.com](http://www.interiorsofasheville.com)

## True Blue



quality art supplies

251.0028

30 Haywood Street • Asheville



double  
exposure

Giclee

Fine Art Printmaking

828.299.8180

Asheville, NC

[doubleexposureart.com](http://doubleexposureart.com)



# frugal framer

established 1975

knowledgeable assistance  
conservation framing  
conscientious craftsmanship  
on-site production

95 Cherry Street N

Downtown Asheville

(828) 258.2435

[www.frugalframer.com](http://www.frugalframer.com)

2145 Hendersonville Road

Skyland Springs Shopping Center

Arden, NC

MON - SAT 9:30 - 5:30

(828) 687.8533

## Vincenzo's Ristorante & Bistro

Elegant, Romantic and Wonderful

Asheville's premier Northern  
Italian Continental Restaurant.

Offers a wide variety of pasta,  
fresh seafood, beef, veal, lamb  
and vegetarian entrees.

Dining room completely non-smoking

Chic and Trendy, Warm and Friendly

Live entertainment seven nights a week.

Call for complete music schedule

10 N. Market St.

254-4698

[www.Vincenzos.com](http://www.Vincenzos.com)

Winner of the  
Asheville Chamber  
of Commerce  
"Culinary Showcase"  
Award for  
"Best Entree"  
Four Times!

Dinner • Mon. - Thurs. 5:30 - 10:00

Fri. & Sat. 5:30 - 11:00

Sunday 5:30 - 9:00

Reservations suggested.