

PACIFIC RIM SCULPTORS GROUP

MARCH TO APRIL 2008

NEWSLETTER

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Hunters' Point Shipyard

Speaker: Muriel Maffre
Principal Dancer with SF Ballet

Potluck: 6:30 p.m.
Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

(See information on Ms. Maffre herein.)

MEMBER'S NEWS

MICHELE COLLIER'S pit-fired sculpture, *Persephone*, has been accepted into the ACGE show, **Exploring the Surface** at the Pence Gallery in Davis, CA. Opening reception is Friday, April 25, 2008, 6-9 pm.

JANE BURTON is one of four ACGA artists chosen to exhibit her large-scale ceramic sculptures at the Davis Art Center from April 25 to May 22, 2008.

ROBERT CANTOR (new member) and **ZAHAVA SHEREZ** are in a show entitled *In the Round – A Celebration of Seven Sculptors*, at ACCI Gallery, 1652 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, through March 23rd. Reception: March 14, 6-8 p.m.

CLAUDIA CHAPLINE is having a solo show of her coastal paintings entitled *Wetlands Paintings* at her gallery in Stinson Beach, California, including six works on paper in response to the Coco Busan oil spill.

FUTURE EXHIBITIONS

Paradise Ridge Winery
Santa Rosa, CA
May 2008 – June 2009

The Carl Cherry Center for the Arts
Carmel, CA
Deadline: June 2, 2008
Indoor: September 5 - October 17, 2008
Outdoor: September 5 - March 17, 2009

Hearst Art Gallery
Moraga, CA
Indoor-Outdoor Show
August 9 to September 19, 2011

UPDATE IMAGE REGISTRY

Please mail your images to:

Pam Dernham
117 Maiden Lane
Oakland, CA 94602
(510) 530-2432

Submit up to four sheets, eight sides, resume, images — your choice. We are starting an outdoor sculpture registry. Send information as above plus a price list.

OUT AND ABOUT

Nikki Schrager

I was in Mendocino over leap-year weekend and was delighted to find the work of one of our members, Ginny Stearns, at both *Partners Gallery* in Little River and at the Mendocino Art Center. Her sculptures are funny, whimsical, and a little bit scary.

EXHIBITION COMMITTEE REPORT

by Susan Peterson

Two PRSG shows in 2008!

I hope everyone who makes outdoor sculpture sent off images to Paradise Ridge Winery.

The Carl Cherry Center for the Arts, Carmel, CA, **postmark deadline is June 2, 2008** (see application form herein). *Inside/Outside* sculpture show, all media, September 5 to October 17, 2008; *Outside* sculpture September 5 to March 17, 2009.

The St. Mary's exhibition has been moved up two years. They really want us to do a show, but have had budget problems and had to change their calendar. The upside is that when it does happen there most likely will be an outdoor exhibit as well.

Studio Visits: At our last meeting, we talked about wanting to visit some of our member's studios. We could make a day of it and visit several studios in one area. Please contact me if you are interested in opening your studio for a few hours -- susan@mudgrrl.com.

Have you looked on the **PRSG website** lately? Our online resource page (link near the top of the page) has a lot of good information. Check it out: <http://pacificrimsculptorsgroup.org/2005/01/online-resources.html>. If you have any favorite suppliers, please send me the link: susan@mudgrrl.com

14th Annual Ruth Bancroft Garden Sculpture Show: A Fun Sales Event Father's Day Weekend

Over the years, many Pacific Rim Sculptors Group members have been involved in this annual show hosted in a lovely Walnut Creek garden and, as one of those people who have returned year after year, I can tell you that it is a fun weekend and a great sales opportunity. Last year was the best sculpture show to date for the Ruth Bancroft Garden with sales exceeding \$32,000, and we hope to do as well this year.

While some large works do sell, it has been our experience that the majority of sales are under \$1,000. Please don't let this discourage your decision about whether you would be interested in showing your work here. The event is a popular fundraiser for the garden, attendance is good and you never know when a new collector is going to walk through the gate!

The Garden has invited last year's participants to return this year but there is still some limited space available for new sculptors. In 2007, 32 sculptors displayed their work and we hope to increase that number slightly to fill out the garden this year.

If you are unfamiliar with The Ruth Bancroft Garden and would like additional information, check out the Garden at www.ruthbancroftgarden.org or contact me, **Mary Bayer**, at **510-527-8644** or bayerm@comcast.net. In addition, private tours can be arranged if you would like to check out the exhibit area in advance of the show.

If you are interested in joining this year's group of sculptors Father's Day weekend, please let me know by **April 7, 2008**. The Garden's planning committee will review the work of interested new artists after we have confirmation of participation from last year's sculptors. So, if you would like to exhibit this year, please contact me at the phone number or e-mail address listed above and I will forward a "Call for Artist" form to you at that time.

Mary Bayer

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Russell Herrman

I would like to thank the hardy members who braved the elements and attended the last meeting held at the Hunters' Point Shipyard. Everyone I talked with said it was a worthwhile meeting and there were plenty of comments and discourse at the end of the two speakers' presentations. I will get more information from Tonia MacNeil, Project Manager at the San Francisco Arts Commission, on when proposals will be available on art for the new central subway in San Francisco, as well as the possibility of adding the Percent for the Arts for the Shipyard to bring in future art. I also received an email from Tonia discussing how the new Director of the Arts Commission is taking a very strong position on providing low cost housing for artists to keep us in San Francisco. I will be including further details in the PRSG May Newsletter. Also in the May Newsletter, I will have more information on possible outdoor sculpture venues, especially for temporary installations in San Francisco parks, Pier 70, and the possibility of art placement in the redeveloped parking lot of the Giants Baseball Park. All this was brought up by Corinne Woods, Program Manager of the Neighborhood Parks Council (415-621-3260; email cwoods@SFNPC.org) who would like artists to contact her with ideas for temporary sculpture installations throughout San Francisco.

The speaker for the April general meeting will be the famous dancer Muriel Maffre, who left the San Francisco Ballet at the end of the 2007 season as a principal dancer to pursue her many artistic passions. Ms. Maffre has had a unique dance career. To begin with, her height caused her to approach ballet differently by using her body to "shape space." She has worked on a number of art projects, and her newest venture will be on view in the San Francisco Opera House during the SF Ballet's *New Works Festival*, which will be showcasing new contemporary choreography from around the world. The biography and story of Muriel Maffre and her connection to the greater art world is presented in the article below by Ruth Geos, our former Chair.

MURIEL MAFFRE, WORLD CLASS DANCER AND VISUAL ARTS CURATOR

by RUTH G/RUTH GEOS

I invited Muriel Maffre, former principal dancer of the San Francisco Ballet, to speak to PacRim last year when I was Chair. I sent a flower to her dressing room, with an invitation to consider addressing our group. She had danced the *Artifact Suite*, by the contemporary choreographer William Forsythe, and had opened a new world of space and form to me as she danced, a dimension as much of sculpture as music. Even thinking about it now -- and I saw it multiple times -- brings back those mental goosebumps of the dance and her singular performance: fury and control that marks all art. The San Francisco Chronicle considers her dancing "dazzling," and her artistic focus "a stunning study in kinesthetic logic."

Muriel Maffre was honored by the SF Ballet and arts community in May 2007, with a sold out evening at the Opera House, and extended ovations from the audience, when she formally left the company after 17 years to pursue other interests. She continues to perform as a guest artist in Europe and San Francisco and has also taken on other projects in the arts. She is currently the visual arts curator for an exhibit opening in April 2008 at the San Francisco Opera House for the New Works Festival at the San Francisco Ballet. As part of the New Works Festival, she will also be a panelist in a symposium at the Herbst Theater on the emerging role of technology in creating, experiencing, and communicating dance. Muriel has also collaborated on a multi-media production of Stravinsky's "The Rite of Spring" (2004) and a dance and puppetry staging of his "Soldier's Tale" (2006) presented at the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival. In April 2006, she collaborated with UC Berkeley professor and conceptual artist Ken Goldberg on a solo danced to the movement of the earth; and most recently, she has been involved in dance education and visual culture through curatorial practice. She has been invited to be Visiting Fellow at Cornell

University in March 2008.

For all these reasons and more, I am truly thrilled that Muriel Maffre has been able to now accept our invitation to speak to us as an artist. Having initiated the process, I offered to work with our current chair, Russell Herrman, to help plan the details of what will surely be a wondrous PacRim evening. Maybe you are still thinking, dance? and Pac Rim. Think back, instead, to Diaghilev, the magician who put together Picasso and Braque and Matisse, Redon, Roualt and Naum Gabo, with composers like Debussy and Ravel, and designers like Leon Bakst and Chanel, the ultimate recognition that one art ignites the next. For further information, call Ruth at (415) 995-2837 or email ruthstudiosf@aol.com.

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I received this email from PacRim member Nancy Ziegler-Nodelman -- "I moved away to New Mexico and your communication skills have motivated me to maintain my membership. When people do not bother to read the newsletter they are missing out. There is a tendency to skip over things, surely there are many of us who appreciate your interest and efforts to keep us informed and connected."
Nikki



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