

# Women's Caucus for Art of Georgia Newsletter



July 2010

## Message Driven Work: How Art Can Start Dialogue and Make a Difference

By Flora Rosefsky

Call it "life interruptions", serendipity, or maybe random coincidences – but often we, as visual artists, find that certain opportunities to create new work are thrust upon us without specifically seeking them.

This past winter, through a friend's recommendation, I received an impassioned phone call from Linda Johnson of Binghamton, New York – a photographer and artist who was organizing an art exhibition at the Binghamton City Hall Plaza Gallery called "Earthstewards" to raise consciousness about the dire environmental and health issues for gas "fracturing" drilling, poised to begin in the Upstate New York area of Binghamton. As a former Binghamtonian, and as an artist, she asked if I could participate in that show. After doing my own research on the subject at places like the GA Tech Library and the Internet, I created a small installation piece called "The Chemicals Are Safe" to express the idea that the public was being given the wrong information. It was the first time I explored an issue like this with my art. I found that 3-D objects would work best versus a drawing or using other media. That exhibition ended up traveling to other venues, making an impact on communities across New York State and might even have made a difference in the political landscape, as the decision to start the drilling is now on hold. Note that HBO Documentaries just showed the award winning film on this subject, "GASLAND".

It wasn't long after "Earthstewards" that I got an e-mail to participate in another message driven show at the same City Hall gallery. This time the issue was the "Cost of War". For exhibitions like this, it took more time thinking and reflecting on how to express the theme, narrowing it down to one work. Taking inspiration from my work for Cecilia Kane's "Hand 2 Hand" project documenting the Iraq War with gloves, I took my H2H week's usage of twigs as metaphor for the toll of amputees, and translated the media into the new work, which I titled "Limbs". When I came across a ready made frame with 12 squares, like a quilt grid, I knew I found the right support for a series of broken limbs, snapped off brittle twigs, that I found by my studio in Decatur.

Other WCA-GA artists like Cecelia Kane, whose work on the Hands 2 Hands Glove project documenting the Iraq War brings political messages to the forefront, where conversation about challenging current issues need to take place. Work by Chris Lewis, with her powerful recent series about her son's addiction and his recovery impacted on all those who saw her work exhibited at the GA Perimeter Duhwoody campus gallery. The installation work of Mona Waterhouse at the Athica WCA-GA Show in Athens, GA, curated by Ann Rowles a couple of years ago, also made its own powerful statement about war. Mona's work poignantly expressed the theme with dried red roses hanging by transparent wire from the ceiling. I remember feeling the impact of seeing Linda Armstrong's work at a show at the Dalton Gallery, Agnes Scott College where rows of plastic water pistols were lined up in rows, I think the title was "Water Wars". It made the viewer think. There is still room in my heart to create other thematic work that tells stories with icons, symbols and other metaphor materials. However, I have to admit that after creating my two message installation pieces, a new creative journey path is taking place. Where this will all lead, I'm not so sure. But the process has begun.

To see the "Earthstewards" work: <http://www.florageart.com/gallery/assemblage/chemicals-are-safe.html>

And for the Cost of War show: <http://www.florageart.com/gallery/assemblage/limbs.html>

More news coverage about the Cost of War show-

["Cost of War" art display opens to crowds](#) | YNN | June 6, 2010

*Flora Rosefsky was recently installed as president of The American Guild of Judaic Art, an international organization whose members include individual artists, museum directors and curators, educators and other art professionals. [www.jewishart.org](http://www.jewishart.org)*

## WORKSHOPS

**Class Title:** Encaustic Painting

**Instructor:** Helen DeRamus

**Location:** The Art School in Sandy Springs

**Dates/Time:** Six weeks, Fridays 10AM to 1PM, Beginning July 16th-August 20, 2010

**For more info contact:** <http://www.theartschoolinsandyspring.com> or email [deramusstudio@att.net](mailto:deramusstudio@att.net)

**Brief synopsis:** A class for all levels, this course covers making mediums and paint, preparation of surfaces, the use of photography including transfer techniques, encaustic monotypes and so much more.

Don't forget to send your news by the 25th of every month, email Yosafa Deutsch at [yosafaleah@yahoo.com](mailto:yosafaleah@yahoo.com)

## BOOK SALON

**Next gathering:** August 24

**Reading:** "Originals: American Women Artists", by Eleanor Munro

You can acquire a modestly priced copy, of this originally pricey book, online by hunting down used copies at these sites: Amazon (where you can read parts of the book), Barnes and Noble, Powell's Books, and EBay.

This can be great summer reading due to the chapter format. It is a very long book, so we will focus on the section, "Women of the Fourth Wave." The site: <http://www.eleanormonroe.com/work1.htm> has a wonderful statement about the author's intent for writing the book.

**Location:** The location for this meeting has not yet been decided. If you are interested in hosting this gathering at your home please contact Gerry at [gerrysattele@gmail.com](mailto:gerrysattele@gmail.com).

It is never required that you have read the book to come join in the discussion. We call the gathering a "salon" because it better describes what we do: artists meeting socially at someone's home for discussion.

The other 2010 scheduled Book Salon meeting will be October 26th.

### Do you have something good to discuss?

We are looking for folks to facilitate our book salon. If you have a book, chapter, article, or artist that you would like to lead a discussion about please email [gerrysattele@gmail.com](mailto:gerrysattele@gmail.com).

## ART SHARE

We are looking for artists and members interested in hosting Art Share in the months of September and October (or early November). Please contact Susan Ker-Seymer at [susanks@gmail.com](mailto:susanks@gmail.com) if you would like to host an evening in your studio or home, or facilitate our discussion, or be involved with art share in some way. Art Share is a wonderful way to meet with other artists and art professionals for the purpose of constructive feedback and also fellowship and sharing.

The program, ART SHARE, is a forum for members of WCAGA to show their work for the purpose of gaining feedback and insight, and to network with other artists and art professionals. Please email me if you would like to host an ART SHARE, have a suggestion for a venue or format, or would like to be involved in hosting in some way.

Susan Ker-Seymer,  
[susanks@gmail.com](mailto:susanks@gmail.com)

## Call to Artists

### Western Carolina University Outdoor Sculpture Competition 2010

Deadline for entries (not postmark): August 6, 210

Notification of Acceptance/Decline: August 13, 2010

Install Accepted Sculptures: September 27-30, 2010

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS?

Denise Drury, Curatorial Specialist – Fine Art Museum

Phone: 828.227.3591 Email: [ddrury@wcu.edu](mailto:ddrury@wcu.edu)

### GOING GREEN - SUMMER 2010

San Diego Women's Caucus for Art is launching an on-line gallery and exhibition space.

In a refreshing departure from traditional gallery operations, artists will not have to play the who-knows-who, elitist game to be featured in this gallery. They will be selected for their talent. Our online art gallery will be dedicated to helping contemporary artists display their original art while making it easier for the public to find them. The public can use the online gallery to search or browse for original art, then contact the artists or their galleries. We simply highlight the artists and their art. We provide a way to find art, artists, and galleries and help artists promote their contemporary art.

All WCA members are invited to participate in juried and non-juried exhibitions. The SDWCA juried show website is directly linked to our WCA chapter website.

For more information go to their website [www.sdwca.org](http://www.sdwca.org) and click on the "on-line shows" tab

### From Our Perspectives: A National Women's Art Exhibition

Entry Deadline: July 31, 2010

The Womencenter's national annual women's juried art show, From Our Perspectives: A National Women's Art Exhibition, will be held September 16 - October 8, 2010 in the Smith Theatre Gallery at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus. We look forward to a successful and powerful exhibit again this year!

For more info go to <http://www.oaklandcc.edu/womencenter/artshow.htm>

### IT'S ABOUT TIME For You Join Us For A One-Of-A-Kind Event!

Join Jane Fonda, Victoria Rowell, and Radcliffe Bailey and other celebrities and artists October 26 at 7:00 p.m. for G-CAPP's 3rd Annual It's About Time art auction and cocktail party sponsored by IKEA. The event, which is as spectacular as it is unique, takes place at IKEA October 26 at 7:00 p.m. Up for auction will be 100 clocks and other timepieces that have been transformed into amazing works of art by celebrities and artists.

For more information and entry forms go to <http://gcapp.org/its-about-time-2010>

## WCA News

### National WCA Website

- Get the latest information on National activities and benefits at <http://www.nationalwca.org>
- You may also link your website to the Member's Gallery Page by emailing our National Administrator, Karin Luner at [info@nationalwca.org](mailto:info@nationalwca.org)
- To enter the members' only area you must have your member number and password. If you have lost this or haven't received it, contact Ann Rowles [annrowles@comcast.net](mailto:annrowles@comcast.net)

### General Chapter Info

**Check out WCA-GA's website:** <http://www.wcaga.org>. If you want us to include a link to your website. Notify Helen DeRamus at [deramusstudio@att.net](mailto:deramusstudio@att.net). WCA-GA has a group page on Facebook! Please join us and encourage your friends to do so, too. We will be posting notices of upcoming events and offering the chance to comment and discuss related topics.

### Send Your Photos and Invites

Send photos and your exhibit invitations to Archives, P.O. Box 8033, Atlanta, GA 31106. Please label your CD with your name, date and title for the content. If sending a jpeg attachment, convert it a low-res image (max 300 dpi) and email it to Angie Dachs [angiedachs@yahoo.com](mailto:angiedachs@yahoo.com).

### Visit WCA-GA Blog <http://wcageorgia.blogspot.com/>

This is a great way to communicate all month long. Check out members' postings on our activities and add your comments! To learn how to post to this blog contact Ann Rowles, [annrowles@comcast.net](mailto:annrowles@comcast.net). She can issue invitations to anyone who requests one.

Volunteers needed! If anyone is interested in taking charge of the blog we would love your help. Please contact Ann Rowles, [annrowles@comcast.net](mailto:annrowles@comcast.net) if you are interested.