

THE CAMILLE AND ERIC DURAND DOCENT COUNCIL

Orange COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART

Docent Doings

February 2017

President's Message

Dear Docents,

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY. I hope whatever you have planned will be special.

Docents have been busy touring since the opening of *Pop Art Design*. Lindzy has done a terrific job of booking both school and private tours, and you have responded to the call. It's not over yet, but I did not want this month to go by without saying thank you. Thank you for the many hours you have contributed to ensuring a quality experience to all of our visitors.

I hope to see many of you at the February 13th General Council meeting. Program Chair Valerie Greeley has arranged for us to view a remastered version of the very clever Beatles film, *The Yellow Submarine*, which artist Peter Max was involved with. In addition, Sandy Simar, Parliamentarian, will be asking for four docents who are not Board members to serve on this year's Nominating Committee. Also, please think of a fellow docent (or yourself) whom you would like to recommend to fill a position on the Board.

Please mark your calendars – there will be at least one last exhibition to fill

out the year. Cassandra is curating, writing a catalogue, and generally managing the upcoming *2017 California Pacific Triennial*. Cassandra will be giving us a briefing at the **March 13th General Council** meeting, and I know you'll not want to miss it. What better way to get information than from the curator herself? Additionally, Cassandra is looking for hosts to house various artists participating in the exhibition. If you are interested or would like more information, please let her know.

Don't forget the March 10th field trip to Palm Springs and Palm Desert. Merle has planned an outstanding day. While in Denver I viewed the exhibition that's now at the Palm Springs Art Museum, *Women of Abstract Expressionism*. It's wonderful, beautifully curated, and not to be missed.

Best Regards,

Joyce Rosenblum
President

Important Dates to Remember

2.9.17 – 12:00 pm
Pop Art Design brainstorming session in the Pavilion. Please bring your lunch, and the Day Mentors will provide desert, coffee, and water.

2.13.17 – 10:00 am

Docent Council General Meeting
Viewing of The Beatles “pop art masterpiece,” *Yellow Submarine*.

3.6.17 – 10:00 am

Docent Council Board Meeting
Nominating Committee to meet afterwards

3.10.17 – 8:00 am

Field Trip: *The Desert Rich with Art*
Heather James Gallery and Palm Springs Art Museum
(Please see email from Merle Stern for more information)

3.13.17 – 10:00 am

Docent Council General Meeting and briefing on *2017 California Pacific Triennial* by Cassandra. **Attendance is strongly encouraged** at this important opportunity to be introduced to the exhibition by the curator herself.

** Please see the attached calendar for a brief listing of important dates in the coming year **

**Education Department –
Public Programs**

2.10.17 – 7:00 pm

Cinema Orange: *Strike A Pose*
<https://www.ocma.net/event/cinema-orange-strike-pose>

2.26.17 – 2:00 pm

Cecile Whiting: Pop Goes the 60s
Art historian Cecile Whiting examines how and why Pop artists incorporated commercial imagery and techniques into their artworks, and what impact they had on pop culture during the 1960s.

3.5.17 – 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Free Family Day

3.10.17 – 7:00 pm

Cinema Orange: *Graphic Means*
<https://www.ocma.net/event/cinema-orange-graphic-means>

3.17.17 – 6:00 pm

Fields, Flags, and Forms
A kaleidoscopic array of improvisations on and with analog synthesizers will be preserved in response to *Pop Art Design*. Organized by Lukas Ligeti in collaboration with UCI’s Integrated Composition Improvisation and Technology program.

**February General Council
Meeting Teaser**

The February program for the Docent Council is quite exciting. We will have a brief overview of a newly published novel, *Helen*, authored by our very own Anita Mistook.

Following that we will be seeing a newly redigitalized version of the movie, *Yellow Submarine*. Artist Peter Max worked on this project, and it is a perfect compliment to our current exhibition.

We hope to see you there.

Valerie Greeley
Program Chairman

Touring Reminders

I hope everyone has enjoyed touring the exhibit. Here are just a few things to keep in mind when touring **school groups**.

Touring Docents:

- Please be sure to point out where the stanchions are (when appropriate) to you group as to avoid accidents (yes, we have had one).

- When your tour is over, walk your group out of the admissions area in an orderly fashion and stay with them until their teacher arrives (yes, an accident did happen).
- Remind your chaperones to assist you with this.
- If life happens and you find yourself running late, please notify your Tour Captain on their cell phone of your estimated time of arrival.

Tour Captains:

- Please keep your cell phone with you and on until your tour starts.
- Please include your cell number when you initially contact your touring team. That way they can call you if they are delayed.
- If you haven't heard from or seen a team member in the Docent Lounge by 9:45, call them (a roster with cell phone numbers is located on the bulletin board in the lounge).
- Remind your team to be in the lounge to gather materials before 9:45. And try to be in the museum by 9:45.
- Remind everyone that their first stop is where they do their intros, not in Zone 5.

Thanks for all that you do.

Patricia Jorgensen
VP Education

Remembrance of First Tour

It was January 2005, and after four months of training, I was scheduled to tour the Orange County Museum of Art's exhibit of the Surrealism and Modernism collection of the prestigious Wadsworth Athenaeum Museum of Hartford, Connecticut entitled *From Picasso to Pollock*.

Imagine!! 59 works of some of the greatest 20th Century artists - five Picassos AND Mondrian, Rothko, Matisse, Calder, deChirico, Chagall, Cornell, Kirchner, Munch, deKooning, Georgia O'Keefe, Magritte, Ernst, Dove, Sheeler, Diego Rivera, Miro...etc. Included (and in my memory) the most impressive was the painting by Salvador Dali entitled "Apparition of Face and Fruit Dish on a Beach." A large canvas, 3 3/4 feet by 4 2/3 feet, it was roped off for security reasons.

During the months of the exhibit, I gazed endlessly at the painting to absorb Dali's masterful surrealism. In my research I learned that the painting was a tribute to Dali's friend, the famous Spanish poet, Federico Garcia Lorca, who was murdered at the beginning of the Spanish civil war. The stem of the fruit bowl was Lorca's facial profile, while the fruit bowl represented his head, the fruit morphing into the hair on its crown. I retained the vision of this painting.

Fast forward to January 2017. After 12 years of touring exhibits at the Orange County Museum of Art, I journeyed to Madrid. At the Reina Sofia Museum, I was attracted to a gallery, #206, where a video of an old Dali movie was screening (yes, Dali made a movie, probably during his stay in Hollywood). It should be noted that Dali was multi-talented – he designed jewelry, created sculptures, and built his house in Portlligat-Cadaques, Spain. In a case of Dali memorabilia in the gallery was a copy of a poem that Federico Garcia Lorca had written to his friend Dali: "...Oh Salvador Dali of the olive-colored voice!
I speak of what your person and your painting tell me..."

I have come full circle in these past 12 years of my association and experience at the Orange County Museum of Art.

Doris Felman
Docent 2004-2017

Docents Explore Venice on the First Field Trip of 2017.

Our January foray to Venice, Ca., led us first to the studio of Laddie John Dill, a world-traveling veteran of California's Light and Space Movement. After a lunch at Hal's Bar and Grill, a restaurant much more elegant than its name, we toured Mosaic House, a dazzling display of exuberant energy, led by creators Cheri Pann and Gonzalo Duran.

Laddie John, called Ladd by his assistant, greeted us with the Scottish charm that led to enduring friendships with Robert Rauschenberg, Claus Oldenberg, and Jasper Johns, whom he met when he worked at Gemini in LA in the early 1970s. Through those connections, he won his first one-man show at Sonnabend Gallery in NYC. Working with Jasper Johns during those early years, he was exposed to a wide variety of artists and artistic processes.



Laddie John Dill

Today, his spacious studio is crowded with works from every decade of his long career. "I never throw anything away," he told us. His "light sentences," narrow glass tubes, piped with layers of color like DNA in neon, vied for space with monumental slabs combining naturally tinted glass, carved cement and polymer resins reminiscent of relief maps. Rippled aluminum, reflecting a profusion of colors, highlighted other pieces. Early in his career Rauschenberg told him that, "materials have their own identity." Creating his art in his own studio is a point of pride.



Inside Laddie John Dill's Studio

Dill's work has been shown around the world. His "Light and Sand Installation" is currently on view at MOMA in NYC. Another work, an array of glass and resin panels, is at Cielo Stelatto in Naples, Italy. As an American artist exhibiting abroad, Ladd has had his adventures. Anti-American vandals smashed his installation in Berlin during Vietnam War protests. When asked how the work should be repaired, Dill said it should be left as is, as historical record.



Karen Evarts, Diane Cherniss, Merle Stern

Anything goes as well at Mosaic House, which was a simple stucco bungalow until Cheri Pann came along in 1994. Looking to embellish a boring wall, Cheri and her husband Gonzalo Duran, both fine artists, started gluing colorful ceramic shards in random perfusion and never stopped.



Mosaic House Exterior – Girafaroo by Front Door

The first mosaics came from garage sale knick-knacks and decorative pottery. As time went on, Cheri created her own tiles and ceramic pieces in every color of the rainbow. Gonzalo's fanciful Chagall-like drawings embellish her tiles and many walls, both inside and out. Their cozy Mexico-inspired kitchen features a pink and purple antique stove, red microwave and a wall decorated with Beanie Babies.



Mosaic House Interior

Behind the original house is a spacious studio where Gonzalo works on his automatons, flipbooks, welded gates, and painting. Cheri's kiln is there as well. One charmingly colorful mural tells the story of their courtship and marriage. Loving partners, they hugged us goodbye at the end of our tour.



Group reflection at the Mosaic House

The house has been likened to Watts Tower or Gaudi's Sagrada Familia Cathedral in Barcelona, other

monuments to artistic exuberance. Cheri hopes to win landmark status for their creation so it can be preserved for future generations to enjoy. See www.mosaictilehouse.com for more information.



Mary Blacker, Cheri Pann



Gonzalo Duran

Many thanks to Merle Stern for arranging such a special day. Surely some of us will be inspired by Cheri and Gonzalo to spruce up our own abodes creatively.

Barbara De Groot

March Reading Group Selection

The March 6th meeting of the reading group will discuss Helen, the newly released book by our very own Anita Mishook.

Upcoming Birthdays

February:

Claudia Christensen – 2/3
Phyllis Mandel – 2/7
Marilyn Gould – 2/12
Lillian Friedlander – 2/16
Kathe Katz – 2/17
Jennifer Condas – 2/29

March:

Tara Rashid – 3/8
Jenny Hsu – 3/17
Lois Jacobs – 3/25
Edie Levin – 3/25
Betsy Ginter – 3/31

Deadline for the next *Docent Doings*

Monday, February 27th, 2017

Submit all copy to:

desiree.glenn@gmail.com

OCMA – Docent Council Calendar 2016-2017

February:

- 6th – 10:00 am Board Meeting
 - Form Nominating Committee
 - BC *At the Existentialist Café*
- 13th – Council Meeting
 - Select additional members for Nominating Committee
- 22nd – Field Trip Museum of Latin American Art

March:

- 5th - Family Day at OCMA
- 6th – 10:00 am Board Meeting
 - Nominating Committee meets to select Slate of Officers for 2017-2018
- 10th – Field Trip - The Desert: Palm Springs Art Museum & Heather James Gallery
- 13th – 10:00 am Council Meeting - Briefing for *2017 California Pacific Triennial?*

April

- 2nd – *Pop Art and Design* exhibition ends
- 3rd – 10:00 am Board Meeting
 - Nominating Committee chair presents Slate of Officers for Board approval
- 10th or 17th – 10:00 am Council Meeting (Passover?)
 - Approved Slate for 2017-2018 is presented to membership

May:

- 1st 10:00 am – Board Meeting
 - Board VP's & Committee Chairs prepare their final reports (due at June Meeting)
- 6th - *2017 California – Pacific Triennial* exhibition opens (ends September 3, 2017)
- 8th – 10:00 am Council Meeting
 - Vote to approve new Board

June:

- 5th – 10:00 am Old/New Board Meeting
 - Year End Board reports due from VP's & Committee Chairs
- 12th – End of Year Luncheon - date and time to be determined