

The Cutting Edge

Collage Artists of America Newsletter

March 2010

Volume 1, Issue 2



President's Message: CAA's Future, Near and Far

by Nicki Newfield

CAA's fiscal year is winding down and we have some events for you to take note of. On March 26 we have the pleasure of Katherine Chang Liu giving an informative presentation on collage. We are all very excited about that. Also, April 26 will be the take-in for our next exhibit at VIVA, titled "SNIPPETS, A Newsworthy Exhibit." You'll find the prospectus in this newsletter.

It is also almost time for elections; the votes will be taken at our last meeting on May 28. All members can nominate themselves or others for all positions on the Board of Directors. We are looking for young and new blood to take Collage Artists of America into the 21st century. One does not need to be a rocket scientist to take on a position, but creativity and some computer assets are a must. Here is a list of board positions for you to consider:

OFFICERS: President, 1st VP Membership, 2nd VP Programs, 3rd VP Exhibits, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Recording Secretary.

CHAIRS: Graphics, Newsletter Editor, Opportunity, Publicity, and Workshops.

Do not feel that these positions are already filled because they are not. Most of them are waiting for YOU to step up and do your bit for CAA. You can't rely on the same people to keep this group running year after year. Now it's your turn!

—Nicki



CALENDAR

March 26	CAA Meeting
April 26	Snippets Take-in
April 28-May 15	Snippets Show
May 2	Snippets Reception
May 28	CAA Meeting
June 13	Chatsworth Depot Show
June 30-July 17	VIVA All-Group Show
October 8	CAA Meeting
December 3	CAA Meeting

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All colors are the friends of their neighbors and the lovers of their opposites.

—Marc Chagall

Welcome, New Members

Young Yun Summers

Dorothy Goulah

Jacqueline Simon

Member Spotlight

Teri Dryden, Betty Green, and Nancy Goodman Lawrence have an exhibit at Gallery Western, 210 N. Western Ave. #201, Los Angeles 90004, (323) 962-0008. Show runs March 19-31; reception is March 20, 6-8:30 p.m. See www.gallerywestern.com.

Susanne Belcher, Donna Geist Buch, Darlene Mellein, and Loraine Veeck are exhibiting at La Galeria Gitana, 120 N. Maclay Ave., San Fernando in *Urban Spaces: The San Fernando Valley*, through March 20. For more information, visit www.galeriagitana.com.

Marjorie Sarnat had a work reprinted in the Jerry's Art-a-Rama Catalog.

Susanne Belcher, Donna Geist Buch, Darlene Mellein, Crystal Michaelson, Marge Rheuban, and Susan Rosman all have works featured in the Encino Terrace Center, 15821 Ventura Blvd., Encino, through May 14.

Donna Geist Buch has work featured at Fins Seafood Grill, 982 S. Westlake Blvd., Westlake, through March 13.

Art News and Workshops

by Judi Birnberg

The Chatsworth Fine Arts Council's Annual Depot Art Show is on Sunday, June 13 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Chatsworth Metrolink Depot. It offers two opportunities for artists to participate: an outdoor 10' x 10' individual artist space and an indoor, single-entry, themed exhibit. *A Western View*, the themed exhibit, will award cash prizes. Artists in the main outdoor show are eligible for a People's Choice Favorite Artist Award. Entry deadline for the indoor themed exhibit is May 31. The outdoor show is open until full. To request a prospectus, contact them at (818) 772-1639.

Events online: artLANow has a blog/art news section that includes a nationwide list of competitive exhibitions with deadline dates and entry contact information. See artlanow.com/Blog.html and scroll down to juried competitions and events.

Member Phyllis Doyon offers workshops, one-day or evening classes, three hours each, on Chine-Collé printmaking. She has three presses—small, medium, and large—in a 2,700-square-foot studio. Contact Phyllis at Doyon Studio & Gallery, (805) 987-0291.

Editor's Note: Beware of Art Scams

by Judi Birnberg

More and more of us are getting e-mails from people gushing over work of ours they've seen online or have heard about from "a friend" (always unnamed), and expressing interest in buying our art.

These people will not speak to you over the telephone but want to do everything by e-mail. That alone is not necessarily a tip-off, but when complications arise

about how many checks will be sent and when they ask you to pay the shipper from a check they will send, chances are you are being scammed.

These people assume you will deposit their check and pay the "shipper," who will leave with your money and your art. The check will either bounce or never clear.

Do not release your artwork until the money clears your account. If you are leery about a transaction, better to err on the side of caution.

For more tips on protecting yourself from art scams, see www.artscams.com.

—Judi



Susanne Belcher's "Pretty in Pink" is featured at La Galeria Gitana.

MARCH PROGRAM Katherine Chang Liu: Abstract Acrylics

Born in China and raised in Taiwan, Katherine Chang Liu received a full scholarship to UC Berkeley, where she obtained an M.S. in science. After moving to Virginia with her husband, she rekindled her love of art and the brush painting she had practiced as a child. Her work, focusing on abstract painting, printmaking, and collage, has been featured in 26 books and over 70 magazine articles. Since 1978 she has taught at many museums and art groups. She now teaches three to four workshops each year.

“The content of my work,” Liu once said, “has to do with my feeling that in this information age, our senses are saturated daily with visual, literary, musical and verbal information. I am mapping this emotional state with autobiographical marks and a reference to the urban environment in which I live and work.”

This internationally renowned painter, teacher, curator, and exhibition juror still devotes time to her studio work, and shows nationally and worldwide.



Solo shows include Lyon, France; Hong Kong; Finland; Copenhagen, Denmark; and the U.S. She has received NEA and Virginia Commission of Arts and Humanities grants, and is listed in *Who's Who (America, American Art, and American Women)*. Her work is held in hundreds of private and corporate collections. She is represented by galleries in San Francisco, New York, Santa Fe, and Rome. She currently lives in Westlake Village.

Don't miss the opportunity to attend this enlightening program with one of America's most highly respected artists. Strong attendance is

anticipated, so plan to arrive early to claim a seat. Be sure to buy plenty of raffle tickets: Katherine has generously offered a poster of her art to be raffled at the meeting.



Painting held in collection of Beverly and Felix Grossman. Photo of artist by Felix Grossman. Quote sourced from LewAllenGalleries (artist biography).

MARCH MEETING

Friday, March 26, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. at Bernard Milken Jewish Community Campus Auditorium, 22622 Vanowen Street, West Hills, California 91307, (818) 464-3300.

◆ Don't forget upcoming presentations including Franklyn Leigel (October 8) and Gerald Brommer (December 3).



RESOURCE OUTLET

■ Well-known collage artist and teacher Jonathan Talbot has launched a new site, www.theartsmap.com, showing artists, studios, museums, art organizations, and more—worldwide.

You can list yourself—it's free for the first year and won't be higher than \$20 per year after that. It will always be free for not-for-profit art organizations such as CAA. Check out this resourceful site.

Art is what you can get away with. —Andy Warhol



Collage Artists of America

established 1988

www.collageartists.org

3706 Stone Canyon Avenue
Sherman Oaks, California 91403

President Nicki Newfield

1st VP Membership (open)

2nd VP Programs Ben Goldman

3rd VP Exhibits Nicki Newfield, pro tem

Parliamentarian Dorothy Tate

Recording Secretary Helen Merken

Treasurer Jeanne Zinniker

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Member-at-Large Betty Beam

Newsletter Editor Judi Birnberg

Opportunity Chair Sandra Rooney

Publicity Chair Barbara Jones

Scholarship Chair Dorothy Tate

Workshop Chair Marjorie Sarnat



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Collage Artists of America

3706 Stone Canyon Ave

Sherman Oaks CA 91403

Parking at the JCC

If you go out to lunch after CAA meetings at the JCC, you cannot leave your car in the parking lot after the meeting. You must move it onto the street. JCC is very strict about this policy for security reasons. Thank you for your cooperation.

Opportunity Report

Please bring things for the second-chance table. We need your old magazines—*National Geographics*, foreign, decorating and home style books—as well as papers, wall-paper samples, old photographs, etc.

—Sandy

Treasurer's Report

Cash on hand as of March 3, 2010: \$11,993.03.

—Ben

Before You Call...

Before you call for info, our newsletter is always available on the CAA website:

www.collageartists.org



Prospectus ■ Spring Juried Exhibit

SNIPPETS,

A Newsworthy Collage Exhibit

VIVA ART CENTER 13261 Moorpark Street, Sherman Oaks, California 91423 (corner of Fulton Avenue), (818) 385-0080
Exhibit April 28–May 15, 2010 Artists' Reception and Awards Sunday, May 2, 2010, 2-4 p.m.

RULES OF ENTRY

Eligibility

2-D or 3-D collage or assemblage. All current paid members of Collage Artists of America may enter. Entries limited to a maximum of two works. Diptychs and triptychs must be mounted in a single frame. Any works derived from copyrighted material or done under the supervision of an instructor are ineligible. Work cannot have been shown at VIVA Art Center during the past 12-month period or in *any* previous CAA show anywhere.

Specifications

- All works on paper must be framed under acrylic. Glass acceptable only for pastels and pieces up to 14" x 14" (framed).
- Neutral matting, if used, must be clean and undamaged.
- Gallery-quality frames, undamaged and wired to support the weight of the piece. Sawtooth hangers acceptable only for pieces up to 14" x 14". Ends of wires must be wrapped with tape.
- Maximum dimensions: 50"H x 40"W (including the frame). NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Unframed, stretched canvas is acceptable if the sides are painted and no fasteners are visible.
- 3-D freestanding work is acceptable. Pedestal must be furnished by the artist.
- Special installation requires prior approval of Exhibit Chair.

Entry Fee

\$25 for one or two pieces. Make checks payable to Collage Artists of America. Entry fee is non-refundable.

No labels accompany this prospectus. CAA now uses card-stock entry forms, which will be available at the March 26 meeting, at VIVA on the hall shelf, and at take-in. Please complete forms and checks before getting in the take-in line, so as not to delay others in line or block gallery access during busy periods.

Sales

Exhibited works will be for sale at the price indicated on your entry form. Works not for sale must be designated NFS. VIVA retains a 30% commission on all sales, so price your work accordingly.

Calendar

Hand-deliver artwork: Monday, April 26, 2010, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Pickup non-accepted work: Monday, April 26, 2010, 2–3 p.m.

Show opens: Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Reception: Sunday, May 2, 2010, 2–4 p.m.

Show closes: Saturday, May 15, 2010

Artwork pickup: Saturday, May 15, 2010, 4–5 p.m.

Work may not be removed before the end of the show.

Artists whose works are accepted will be asked to sit the gallery; a sign-up calendar will be available.

Liability

Artworks will be handled with utmost care. Neither VIVA, CAA, nor any agent, employee or volunteer will be held responsible for loss or damage to any artworks submitted. Any work that arrives damaged or does not adhere to the rules of entry will be disqualified at the door. CAA is not responsible for non-accepted work left after the take-in or for any accepted work left after May 15, 2010, 5 p.m., and will charge a fee for each day the work is held after the close of the show.

Juror of Selection and Awards Roy Dowell

Roy Dowell is a New York-born, Los Angeles-based artist best known for hybrid compositions that mix collage and painting, which over 25 years have drawn frequently on billboard ads and textile design. Dowell is Chair of the Graduate Fine Arts Department at Otis College of Art and Design. See biography on reverse.

Awards

\$300 – CAA 1st Place

\$200 – CAA 2nd Place

\$100 – CAA 3rd Place

Merchandise Awards

For more information contact
Nicki Newfield, President
(818) 385-1748.

About the Juror: Roy Dowell

Roy Dowell was born in Bronxville, New York, in 1951. Raised in Northern California, Dowell attended high school in Los Angeles and took classes at the Pasadena Museum of Art. He obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees from California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, and also attended California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. Early influences included Joseph Cornell and Emerson Woelffer, with whom Dowell eventually became friends. At Cal Arts in the 1970s, he studied with Allan Kaprow and Yvonne Rainer. He has been exhibiting in group and solo shows in Los Angeles, New York, nationally and internationally since 1976.

Dowell's painted collages have been described as vibrant, exuberant, political, refreshing, and a "riff of optic jazz." They evoke modernism, Cubism, abstraction, and multi-cultural influences. He is known for his juxtaposition of pattern and color, and use of texture. Early on, Dowell collected billboard scraps from advertising companies by the pound, and found ways to use them in his art. More

recent works reveal his interest in ethnographic art of Mexico, Latin America, and Africa; they also showcase invented and painted elements as well as found materials. "I'm not interested in any kind of hierarchy of sources," he has said. "If someone makes something that I like, I'll use it. That's part of the reason I make the work: there's so much out there that's beautiful."

Reviewers of Roy Dowell's exhibitions have noted his "virtuosic command of the language of modern design," outsider graphic qualities, and "dense, sharp, fantastically dynamic" works. It has been said that throughout his work, "visual harmonies sing alongside atonal dissonances." His use of color and composition, and ability to make work evocative of many styles, are said to be dazzlingly fluid.

Of his process, Dowell explains that "A lot of the work starts with a reproduction of something: a little snippet of somebody else's work, or a decorative element off a piece of textile or ceramics. It's not important that people know it, but it's there."



Founder of the Graduate Fine Arts department at Otis College of Art and Design, Dowell has been its chair for more than 20 years. He teaches graduate studio courses and helps prepare students for their final-year exhibitions. He maintains a studio in Los Feliz and lives in La Crescenta. He has been a recipient of J. Paul Getty, Art Matters Inc., and Djerassi Artist Residency fellowships; and has lectured at colleges and museums throughout California. Dowell is also a regular artist-in-residence at Anderson Ranch Art Center in Snowmass, Colorado. His paintings, collages, and sculptures are collected extensively by corporations, private collectors, and museums including LACMA and MOCA (Los Angeles and San Diego). He has curated exhibits, and been the subject of a catalog of his own works spanning 1981 to 2005.

Roy Dowell is represented by Margo Leavin Gallery in Los Angeles and by Lennon, Weinberg, Inc. in New York.

—compiled from Otis, Margo Leavin, and Lennon, Weinberg media; Art Ltd. and Art in America magazines; and newspaper reviews.



Roy Dowell
Untitled (#982), 2009
Acrylic and collage on illustration board
16" x 20"
Photo: Brian Forrest
Courtesy of Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles