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Newsletter

April/May 2009

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Three New Artists Selected

The Torpedo Factory Artists' Association welcomed three new artists in March: a ceramic sculptor and two fiber artists. An outside panel of art experts made the selection from among 60 artists who applied during the [annual jury process](#).



The figurative work of ceramic sculptor **Carlos Beltrán Baldivezo** of Reston, Virginia, often incorporates a powerful gaze and subtle nuances of emotion. Each piece entices the viewer to "reflect, project, judge, and contemplate where you fall [upon its] spectrum."

Fiber artist **Jessica Beels** of Washington, DC, creates handmade paper pieces incorporating overbeaten flax and mulberry fiber shrunk over reed or wire armatures. As the paper dries, it becomes a taut, transparent skin. The resulting work stands alone as sculpture or is made into jewelry.



Fiber artist **Saaraliisa Yitalo** of Vienna, Virginia, incorporates handmade paper and stitching into sculpture and wall pieces. Drawing upon skills she learned from a master papermaker she worked with during her 5 years living in Japan, she creates paper from gampi, pineapple fibers, kozo, or abaca. The paper is often layered and used in combination with heat transfer prints, gold and copper leaf. Hand stitching finishes the work.



See photos from the reception on our [Facebook page](#).

[More about the Annual Jury process.](#)

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Target Gallery News

[Target Gallery](#) is the national and international exhibition space of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Read the latest [Target Gallery news](#) on their blog.

Reclaimed

April 1 - 26

Reception: Second Thursday Art Night, April 9, 6-8pm

Juror Talk: 7pm

This exhibition focuses on everyday common objects that are reclaimed, recycled, reinterpreted, and transformed into art. 34 pieces were selected from over 470 entries from around the country.

[View the Reclaimed artwork online.](#)



Join Us



Join the Torpedo Factory Facebook group and don't miss our FREE artist-led tour of the art center, every Wednesday at noon.

Featured Events

Second Thursday Art Night Spring has Sprung

Thursday, April 9
6-9pm - FREE

Get GREEN with eco-friendly exhibition receptions including [Reclaimed](#) in Target Gallery and a community art installation made from recycled objects. Enjoy refreshments as you visit open studios and galleries.

[Second Thursday Art Night information](#)



Two-Night Dance Invasion

Jane Franklin Dance

Friends of the Torpedo Factory Series
Wednesday, April 22
7pm - FREE

BosmaDance

Eternal Return Preview and More
Thursday, April 23
7:30pm - FREE

Two dance groups go toe-to-toe on consecutive nights! Performances include Jane Franklin dancers interacting with a life-size kinetic sculpture and BosmaDance's collaborative project with Torpedo Factory artist Rosemary Feit Covey.

[Dance Invasion information and video preview.](#)

FRESH

AN EXHIBITION OF URBAN CONTEMPORARY ART

Fresh: An Exhibition of Urban Contemporary Art

May 6 - 31

Reception: Second Thursday Art Night, May 14, 6-8pm
Gallery Talk: 7pm

From graffiti style to pop art surrealism and contemporary figurative painting to lowbrow, all areas of the urban contemporary art scene will be examined. The juror for this exhibition is acclaimed artist Clark V. Fox. Mr. Fox is known for founding the Museum of Contemporary Art in Washington, DC and continued its development for 14 years.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

In the Flesh II

Deadline for entries: May 11

Show Dates: July 22 - August 30

All-media exhibition of contemporary figurative art. Open to artists nationally and internationally.

[Click for more information and prospectus - Apply online for this show!](#)

Behind the Scenes: A Half Century of Plein Air Painting

By Margaret Huddy, Studio 203

Watercolor landscapes painted "en plein air"



I have been working *en plein air* for 50 years. Plein air painting means painting on location. It was not practical to paint outdoors in the landscape until the invention of tubes of paint which occurred in the mid 19th Century. As a watercolor landscape painter, I am now able to capture the color of light when I am working in my studio at the Torpedo Factory only because I have years of experience painting on location. All that observing and recording of the landscape has taught me that the camera lies. It does not have the ability to see and capture light the way the human eye can. Working from photographs alone gives a distorted picture of reality.

Actually, circumstances forced me to take up the practice of plein air painting. You see, I was a

military wife with four children. To say that our quarters were less than grand is an understatement. There never was room for a studio. However, I was blessed that many of those 27 years, while my husband was on active duty in the Marine Corps, were in places of great scenic beauty. Hawaii, Monterey and Santa Clara, California, coastal North Carolina and, yes, even Guantanamo Bay, Cuba held irresistible allure. Now that he is retired I continue painting on location at home in Virginia and around the world wherever our travels take us.



I take seriously John Singer Sargent's admonition "Never a day without a line". Therefore, wherever I travel on vacation anywhere in the world I carry a small watercolor set and take advantage of every spare minute by capturing what is around me as fast as I can. This enables me to see the local color and the essence of the landscape. I have done this on trains, boats, waiting for buses, even during lunch or coffee breaks. The paintings are little jewels, not sketches, but small finished paintings that speak to people's hearts.



Watercolor is the perfect medium for working outside. It dries in minutes (or seconds in the desert) and can go right back into my pack. I need not worry about whether I can carry turpentine or painting medium on airplanes or how to clean up a mess. All I need is water and a little bit of time. "Time flies when you're having fun!"

[More about artist Margaret Huddy.](#)



Spring Open House

Indoor Sidewalk Sale

Sunday, May 10

5-8pm - FREE

Spring cleaning gets a fresh new meaning as artists bring artwork out of their studios! Celebrate this Mother's Day event with live music, wine and hors d'oeuvres, a free prize drawing for artwork, and more. After dark, view a special artwork projection light show on the waterfront.

[Full Calendar of Shows and Events](#)

Friends of the Torpedo Factory



Batik Wearable Art Fashion Show, May 20 at 7pm

[Join the Friends.](#) Membership starts at just \$35.

The Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center present free evening programming in April and May as part of their Performance Art and Lecture Series. On April 22 at 7pm, Jane Franklin Dance will perform as part of the *Two-Night Dance Invasion*. On May 20 at 7pm, Malaysian artists will showcase Batik wearable art at the Friends' Annual Meeting.

The Friends continue to organize the Art at the Airport program in 2009. Currently there are 21 works by Torpedo Factory artists displayed at the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Terminal A.

[More information.](#)

The Art League News



In the School

Spring classes begin in April at [The Art League School](#)

In the Gallery

[The Art League Gallery](#) goes green in April with *Reused - Recycled* and Christine Giammichele's solo show *Roots & Wings*

Artists News



Jewelry Exhibition in Seoul, Korea



Torpedo Factory artists in Seoul, Korea

JEWELRY ARTISTS EXHIBIT IN SEOUL, KOREA

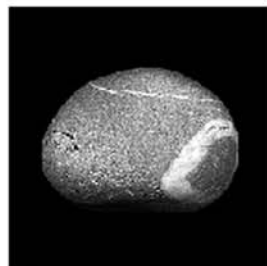
Four artists from the Torpedo Factory have been invited to participate in a group invitational exhibition in Seoul, Korea: Studio 201 artists **Barbro Eriksdotter Gendell**, **Gretchen Raber**, and **Lisa Vershbow**, and studio 206 artist **Susan Sanders**. The show will appear at Craft House Gallery March 19 - April 8 in Seoul. These four metalsmiths were joined by studio 8 artist **Lori Katz**, ceramics, when they traveled to Seoul in May 2008 to show their work and meet with Korean artists to present a lecture based on the Torpedo Factory called "A Community of Artists."

PHOTOGRAPHERS EXHIBIT IN SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

Grace Taylor and **Laurie Sand**, two members of Multiple Exposures Gallery, are among six American photographers in the international exhibit *Beyond the Pond*. Both women are showing bodies of work developed under the guidance of Mark L. Power, writer, critic, and professor of photography. Power teaches "Beyond the Image" and invited five of his students to exhibit with him in England from May 1 - July 26. Taylor will be exhibiting images from *Stone Portraits* and Sand will be showing portraits from *The Americans*. These are ongoing and evolving personal projects for both Taylor and Sand. The exhibition will appear at the Beyond the Image Photographer's Gallery, Suffolk, England.



Florence Frazier by Laurie Sand



Stone LXIII by Grace Taylor

Three new educational displays were installed in the Torpedo Factory at the beginning of March for the period of March through June 2009. The featured displays were created by artists **Jamaliah Morais**, sumi-e watercolors, **Alison Sigethy**, glass, and **Felicia Belair-Rigdon**, collage.



Strong Colors oil painting by Caroline Emmet Heald

Strong Colors: Ceremony and Daily Life in Northern India, an exhibit of oil paintings by **Caroline Emmet Heald** of scenes from Northern India, will be on display in the Gandhi Memorial Center April 4 - 26. After the opening, the exhibit may be viewed on Fridays and Saturdays from 10am to 4pm and by appointment. Caroline Emmet Heald paints rural and urban scenes in oil, using transparent layers of brilliant color. This collection of 100 paintings of northern India incorporates collage materials, gold leaf, and oil pastel. She also paints Washington, DC area landscapes, and images of low country South Carolina, Minnesota, Maine, and Argentina. More information: www.gandhimemorialcenter.org.

During month of May, **Susan Makara** presents a show of her newest *Stone Paintings* at Glave Kocen Galley in Richmond, Virginia. With the addition of metallic leaf to the textural acrylic pastels and gels, the new work has abstracted compositions inspired by close-up segments of cairns.

Rosemary Luckett's collage painting *Crossroads at Sea* is included in the Union of Concerned Scientists *Earth in the Balance* exhibit, 1825 K St., NW, Washington, DC, through October. Her sculpture *Weapons of Mass Consumption* appears in the Target Gallery *Reclaimed* exhibit April 1 - 28. Two works are included in the Torpedo Factory traveling exhibition *From Here 2 There* through August 2009.



Weapons of Mass Consumption by Rosemary Luckett



Vertical Sunset by JoAnn Clayton

JoAnn Clayton will have a solo exhibit at the River Road Unitarian Church in Bethesda from May 1 - 31. All are invited to the reception on May 3 from 3-5pm. For details visit www.ruuc.org.

In May 2009, **Carol Dupré** embarks on studies for the doctorate in visual arts. She was accepted into the graduate program at the *Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts*: "The admissions committee especially appreciated your wide range of interests . . . You submitted an impressive application and we look forward to helping you build toward the ideas you so eloquently describe . . ." Her residency begins in Italy during May and June. She'll be back in time for a reception in Target Gallery for her Torpedo Factory Artist of the Year exhibition on July 9.

Work by **Abby Schindler Goldblatt** has been included in the newly released *500 Enameled Objects* from Lark Books.

Alexia Scott presented a solo show of her work in February at the College of Southern Maryland called *Color Studies: Recent work by Alexia Scott*. Scott gave a lecture on February 3 to the faculty, Dean, and approximately 70 students about her art, landscape painting, and the Torpedo Factory Art Center.



Risk Cycle by Marcia Dullum

Marcia Dullum and **Laurie Fields** will be exhibiting at The Red Door Gallery in Richmond, Virginia. The show opens with a reception on May 29 and runs through July 5.

Alison Sigethy and her glass work were featured in an extensive article in *elan* magazine's February issue. View a PDF of the article *Frozen in Time* at http://www.elanmagazine.com/featured_artists/sigethy.html

TORPEDO FACTORY ARTISTS IN ARTOMATIC

Several Torpedo Factory artists are presenting work at the 10th annual *Artomatic*, a month-long multimedia arts event like no other. This year it will be held in Washington, DC's Capitol Riverfront neighborhood May 29 - July 5. As always, the event is free to the public. Exhibiting artists include:

- **Jeanne Garant** with *Recycled*, a series of small assemblages from bits and pieces of found street materials framed in 16" x 20" wood frames.
- Photographer **Goknur Olguner**, with a recent series named *close-d company* which tells the stories of couples next to each other but so far away.
- Fiber artist **Deb Jansen**, with an installation in the form of a cautionary fairy tale about a woman named Elaine. It will include many morals to the story including "Don't mess with someone who has a venue like Artomatic to hand you a whole wall of karmic whoopass in front of tens of thousands of viewers"... and the little 3rd floor Factory artist and her dog lived happily ever after.
- **Alison Sigethy** and **Lisa Schumaier** will also be participating but you'll just have to go to Artomatic (or the online show catalog) to see their work.

The story of Artomatic sounds very much like the early days of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Artomatic began in 1999 in the historic Manhattan Laundry building. A dozen or so artists toured the empty building and within a month, three hundred and fifty artists had cleaned, lit, painted and took over the 100,000 square foot space. Visual artists, musicians, and an assortment of performers thrilled 20,000 visitors during that first run.

The event has grown from there. Last year, over 1,500 artists, including several from the Factory, took part and presented their work for more than 52,000 visitors. This year, Artomatic's 10th anniversary, promises to be even bigger.

More information at www.artomatic.org.



Abby Schindler Goldblatt

