



West Adams Matters

The Art Issue

Galleries and Artists Find A Home In West Adams

by *Laura Meyers*

Somewhere on the road to becoming one of Los Angeles' premier locales for historic preservation buffs, West Adams has also quietly become a hotbed for art and artists.

West Adams has always seemed to attract creative types. But these days, it's not all that unusual to be invited to a private artist's reception and sale in a West Adams home, or at a temporary exhibition space set up for the occasion. Dozens of artists — including painters, ceramicists, sculptors, and printmakers — now call West Adams and its environs home. And — shhh! — there are even a few artist loft colonies somewhat secretly occupying some of West Adams' pre-World War II commercial and warehouse buildings.

This special issue of *West Adams Matters* celebrates art and all things artistic in the District. Inside, you will read about a new local art gallery, a famous sculptor and the new home for one of his works, and a Norman Rockwell painting that was created right here in West Adams. Plus, we profile several of the artists who are part of West Adams' growing community of the arts.

Indeed, the road to West Adams is becoming increasingly well-traveled by artists. Let's join them in the journey. ●



WAHA artist Jennifer Cunningham painted this portrait of a residence in Lafayette Square

Celebrate Historic Preservation

WAHA General Meeting, Saturday, May 31

WAHA is celebrating Preservation Week on May 31st at the home of Board Member Jean Cade. Jean's home, at 1821 Victoria Avenue, is a 1924 Regency Revival home originally designed by Emmett G. Martin which was remodeled in 1939 by noted Architect Paul Williams; it is a Contributor to the Lafayette Square HPOZ.

Our guest speaker will be Ken Breisch, adjunct associate professor in the School of Architecture at the University of Southern California and director of its graduate program in Historic Preservation. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and has taught at the Universities of Texas and Delaware and the Southern California Institute of Architecture, and served as the director of survey and planning for the Texas State Office of Historic Preservation.

Ken will speak about the Historic Preservation Program at USC and some of the projects they have been working on, particularly in the West Adams neighborhood. Please join us. (It is the weekend *after* Memorial Day Weekend.) To volunteer to help with the meeting, contact Jean Frost at 213-748-1656.

Location: 1821 Victoria Avenue, in Lafayette Square (enter Lafayette Square from Crenshaw Boulevard via St. Charles Place; St. Charles Place is between Venice and Washington Boulevards, off Crenshaw.)

Time: 11 A.M. to 1 P.M.

11:00 Continental Breakfast (Note: not a pot luck)

11:30 Guest Speaker: Ken Breisch, director of USC's graduate program in Historic Preservation ●

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Mid-City PAC Update

By Corinne Pleger, WAHA Representative,
Mid City PAC

Wow! A lot happened at the April Mid City PAC meeting.

Updates on current projects:

1. Washington Boulevard Performing Arts Center - Since the name "Ebony Showcase" is owned by the Stewart family and they have retained the rights to the name, an official name is needed for the Center. "Washington Boulevard Performing Arts Center" was just one of the working project names. Jackie Dupont Walker proposed the name of the center to be "The Nate Holden Performing Arts Center" due to his efforts in the completion of this project as well as acknowledgement of Holden's contributions to the community over the years. The PAC, after discussions pro and con, voted in favor of The Nate Holden Performing Arts Center as the name. This vote/recommendation will be given to the CRA for them to accept since they own the center.

2. Adams/La Brea - Old proposal process has come to a close. The CRA and PAC are exploring new options for development or redevelopment for this site.

3. MidTown Plaza - Costco has taken over ownership of the project but is stalled waiting for HUD loan approval for Section 108 funds.

4. Pico Blvd Commercial Facade & Signage Program - Phase I with 20 store fronts is ready to go. We saw designs, colors and materials to be used. Construction to start September or October and last 4-5 months.

5. West Angeles Plaza - new potential development with Union Bank and West Angeles CDC initial design concepts were shown. Three stories, 45 ft. tall, 45,000 sq feet - retail/ coffee shop or restaurant in renovated bank building and bank moves to corner of Crenshaw in a newly constructed building.

6. Proposed work budget/objectives for the next year. No funds allocated until after June.

- Residential rehabilitation
- Mid City Family Rental housing sites
- Commercial facade programs continuing
- PAC communication
- General resources
- Monitor and finalize Washington Boulevard (Nate Holden) Performing Arts Center and parking sites
- Pico/Gramercy 71 units and community center
- Mid Town Plaza
- Adams/La Brea ●

Newsletter Staff

Laura Meyers, Editor and Layout, ph: 323-737-6146, e-mail: Lauramink@aol.com

Anna Marie Brooks, Director of Publications, ph: 323-735-3960,
e-mail: wallsrags@aol.com

Hilary Lentini, Art Director, ph: 323-766-8090, e-mail: hlentini@pobox.com

Linda Joshua, Bolts and Nuts, ph: 323-733-8500, e-mail: linda_joshua@hotmail.com

Steve Rowe, The Garden Guy, ph: 323-733-9600, e-mail rowesb@aol.com

Dorrie Popovich, Resources, popovich22@aol.com

Tom Gracyk, Circulation, ph: 323-731-0987

Lisa Schoening, Advertising, ph: 323-666-8617, e-mail: wahaclassifieds@yahoo.com

Illegal Demolition On Bunker Hill: Councilmember Reyes Calls for Penalties

by Jean Frost

In an all too familiar scenario, the 1887 Geise Residence, the last remaining historic building from what was Bunker Hill, was demolished without permits on April 19. The home had been identified as a historic resource within the Chinatown Redevelopment Area by the CRA historic survey and was eligible for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources. When the developer, G.H. Palmer Associates, applied for a demolition permit in 2002, after an initial study and public comment, it was determined by CRA that an EIR was required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Bunker Hill had been an elegant Victorian residential enclave during the 1880s where residents took Angel's Flight from their homes to the business district below (now known as the Historic Core.) The Geise Residence was the single remaining residence from that era. There had been several other residences from the period on the site, at 840 W. Cesar Chavez Boulevard, and it is unclear at this time how their demolition and removal occurred.

What is particularly disappointing is that the demolition followed efforts by Council District 1, representatives from Palmer Associates, city interagency representatives and a willing buyer to relocate the Geise Residence to a vacant lot within the Angelino Heights HPOZ. Palmer Associates is known for its market rate developments such as the Medici at 7th and Bixel Street. Peter Novak, Vice President of Palmer Associates has responded, according to the May 5 issue of the Downtown News, that the demolition was "an accident."

Councilmember Ed Reyes of the 1st District called a press conference at the site, 840 W. Cesar Chavez Boulevard, on Tuesday, May 6. As Chair of the University Park HPOZ, I attended the press conference during which Councilmember Reyes called for use of the "scorched earth ordinance," created after the 1990 demolition of the McKinley Mansion located at Lafayette Park and 3rd.

Councilmember Reyes, who also represents significant portions of Historic West Adams, noted this demolition was "the last straw. It was a complete disregard for this neighborhood and is something we will not take lightly." Later that day, Councilman Reyes introduced before City Council a motion to direct the appropriate authorities to undertake all civil and criminal measures available to the City under various statutes and Codes including the "scorched earth" ordinance which would prevent development on the site for five years. ●

"This demolition was the last straw. It was a complete disregard for this neighborhood and is something we will not take lightly" — Ed Reyes, Councilmember, 1st District

HPOZ REVISIONS SLATED FOR HEARING

Please mark your calendars for June 12, at 9:30 a.m. That's the day the L.A. City Planning Commission will conduct a hearing on (1) the proposed changes to the HPOZ Ordinance and (2) the draft Preservation Plan.

Most of the changes to the ordinance involve basic legislative housekeeping, and are intended to streamline the process for applicants who want to do projects in areas that have been designated as historic preservation overlay zones. However, a key proposed change, which would assign responsibility to appoint an HPOZ Board's fifth member to the local neighborhood council and/or the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, drew heated opposition at a recent hearing at the Planning Department itself. Currently, the four appointed members of an HPOZ Board themselves select the fifth member. At press time, it was unknown whether staff would change this recommendation before sending the ordinance forward to the Planning Commission.

The draft Preservation Plan is intended as a guideline and roadmap for HPOZs to prepare their own specific preservation plans.

"I can't emphasize enough how important it is to have a strong contingent of HPOZ supporters present," said Michael Olecki, who is active in his own HPOZ as well as the HPOZ Alliance. "At the recent Planning Department hearing, the anti-HPOZ [forces] were in attendance and spewing all sorts of anti-HPOZ rhetoric. While we had a decent turnout, it was nowhere near the number of people that we need to attend the June 12th hearing."

Catherine Barrier, WAHA member and a preservation officer for the Los Angeles Conservancy, added: "If you cannot attend, please comment in writing! Remember, it is vital, even if you disagree with some changes to the ordinance, that you make sure to state in your letter or comments that you are in general support of the changes to the ordinance and the preservation plan, and then state your reservations." Please contact Barrier at 213-430-4211 with questions or to talk strategy.

Around the House

Bolts and Nutz *by Linda Joshua*

Hello and welcome to "Bolts and Nutz" – a column dedicated to matters of home renovation, beautification and the art of restoration within the WAHA community. If you have a question, or you have an area of expertise and would be interested in sharing your knowledge by answering the questions, please contact me at Linda_Joshua@hotmail.com

Q. What is the best paint I can use on the bathroom ceiling? I have no exhaust fan in that room, and I the ceiling gets wet. *Laura, Pasadena*

A. Paint will not stop the dripping, which is condensation of moisture from when the shower is used. Ventilating the bathroom will reduce or eliminate the problem. An exhaust fan, venting to the outside, will do the job even better without the hassle of opening and closing windows for ventilation. As for the paint, a latex ceiling paint is as good as any. It will resist the ravages of water and may stick to the ceiling better.

Q. Every time the furnace starts or the dishwasher or washing machine starts the lights in the house dim. Any suggestions? *Sean, Los Angeles*

A. In a modern home, you will never find a washing machine, a furnace, and the lights on the same circuit. This is one of the quirks of living in an older house designed for a simpler time. The reason is just as you cite: a motorized appliance like a furnace or a washing machine needs to each be on their own dedicated circuit shared with nothing else. Motorized appliances require too much draw of electricity to operate and therefore do not allow enough to service other things on the same circuit. You need to find an electrician who can examine your current circuitry in the house and separate the furnace, the washing machine and the lights each to their own circuit.

Q. I've just moved into the area from a state that doesn't have earthquakes. What do I need to do to prepare for if not the big one, then the big enough one to freak me out? *Sam, Los Angeles*

A. It's easy to be complacent about these things, but all of us should have the following kit ready to go in case of a trembler of some magnitude.

- ☛ Flashlights
- ☛ Batteries & transistor radio
- ☛ A-B-C rated fire extinguisher
- ☛ Battery-operated radio
- ☛ Cash or travelers checks
- ☛ Bottled water
- ☛ Adequate supply of canned/perishable food
- ☛ Non-electric can opener
- ☛ First aid kit & handbook
- ☛ Food & water supplies
- ☛ Warm clothes & sturdy shoes
- ☛ Gloves
- ☛ Any medications you may need

In addition, ask yourself the following questions:

- ☛ Have you ensured your house is secured to its foundations?
- ☛ Are your hot water heater tanks restrained so they can't fall?
- ☛ Have you checked for objects that could fall and cause injury?
- ☛ Have you secured precious items against falling and breaking?
- ☛ Are your cabinet door latches secure?
- ☛ Does every household member know where the emergency kit is kept?
- ☛ Do you know where to turn off the gas, the electricity and the water?
- ☛ Do you know where to meet up with, or leave messages for, any household member who is not at home at the time of the quake?

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Spanish 20's ranch 3 BD, 2 BA - 2510 W. 73rd St. Asking \$275,000 - Congratulations, Coco and Kevin Allen

Craftsman Bungalow - Great river rock porch. W. 42nd Pl. Asking \$235,000 - Congratulations, Carlos Alvarado and Alta Gracia Perez

Classic Craftsman on huge lot - 221 S. St. Andrews. Asking \$749,900 - Congratulations, Jennifer and David Cunningham

Letter to the Editor

I was sorry to hear that my referral of painter Gary Hall to Diane Weiss did not work out well for her. Gary did an outstanding job on our house, from completely resurfacing the interior walls, to refinishing all the internal woodwork, to creating and applying a beautiful 10-color scheme for the outside of the house. Although the original job was finished nearly 2 years ago, Gary is still giving me excellent service on catching up with new work (for example, coming back to refinish a bunch of new doors to match the existing ones) as well as in fixing some problems from the original job (the outside frame of the attic window got painted the wrong color). I would still highly recommend him to anyone who wants a top-quality paint job. He can be reached at 323-935-6428.

— Roberta Quiroz

PAINTING AND GARDENING AWARDS NOMINATIONS

It's time to view the gardens and exterior paint jobs that have been nominated for WAHA's annual contest. We will vote at the June Gardens event, scheduled for Saturday, June 22.

Nominations for the garden contest:

Dan Gaby and Carlos, 2159 W. 20th St.
Peace Awareness Labyrinth and Meditation Gardens,
3500 West Adams Blvd.
Doug Bland and Ann Zumwinkle, 1811 Cimarron St.
Clayton de Leon, 2523 4th Ave.
Nick Mercado and Craig Bartelt, 1751 Buckingham Rd.

Nominations for the paint contest:

Natalie Neith and Ken Catbagan, 2173 W. 20th
Donald Pemrick, 2090 South Harvard Boulevard
Lauren Schlau and Lana Sorocco, 2228 Cambridge
Johnny Green, 2057 S. Oxford Avenue
Suzanne Lloyd-Simmons and Jose Morales, 2650 S.
Kenwood Ave
Stephen Pallrand and Kim Kahn, 1746 S. Hobart
Boulevard
Jane Harrington, 3027 LaSalle and 3107 Brighton
Stevie Stern Lazarus and Tom Lazarus, 2298 W. 20th

Around the Blocks

Wellington Square

Our huge, annual Wellington Square yard sale event is all day, Saturday, June 14th. We'll be open for business at 8 am. Look for our banners on Washington Blvd and West Blvd. Many homes participate each year, offering housewares, furniture, antiques, collectibles, clothes, computer stuff, electronics, clothes, jewelry, glass, books, sporting equipment, lamps, bicycles, building supplies, tools—the works.

Budlong, Juliet and Catalina Block Club

Budlong Tunnel Update - For more than 15 years residents of West Adams have been combating the illegal dumping at a location that is commonly called the Budlong Tunnel. It is an underpass under the Santa Monica (10) Freeway located at Budlong and 22nd Street. Violators would regularly dump furniture, car parts, mattresses, water heaters, clothing and lots of other debris at this location.

On April 23, through the efforts of the Budlong, Juliet and Catalina Block Club, the City Attorneys Office, Los Angeles Southwest Police Department, and Councilman Ed Reyes' Office, Q-Star Flashcams Cameras were mounted the under the tunnel. The cameras are motion activated and within moments the violator hears an audible recorded warning similar to this "Stop, this is the LAPD...We have just taken your photograph. We will use this photograph to prosecute you. Leave now."

We feel this is a tool that will allow communities to take a proactive role in keeping their neighborhoods clean and graffiti free.

Special thanks to Kevin Gilliam and Stacey Anthony of the City Attorneys Office, Southwest Senior Lead Officer Sgt. Sergio Sanchez and Sgt. Julie Vincent, Armida Olguin-Flores of Councilman Reyes' Office and to all the area residents and supporting block clubs specifically the Adams Normandie Neighborhood Association and Van Buren Neighborhood Associations, and those who were in support of this effort by writing letters and praying for a miracle. You made this happen. THANK YOU!

Yvette Jones, BJC Block Club President

Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association

The Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association is still looking for those within its boundaries who would like to join and support it. Our boundaries include the 10 freeway to the south, Crenshaw to the west, Arlington to the east and Pico to the north. We are looking for more members so that we can establish an effective and productive organization that will address the needs of our Arlington Heights community. Those interested in joining the association please call either Alex and Linda Frost at 323-735-9639 or Steve Rowe at 323-733-9600 or e-mail alex@sunflowerproduction.com or Rowesb@aol.com ●



The Mosquito-Free Garden by Anna Marie Brooks

You've set up your easel, the wine is fine and just as you touch brush to canvas you hear it, "zehzeh-zeit-zeh." Swack! Eeeww—right in the paint. A friend stops by and you whip up some luscious sandwiches and settle in. "Zehzeh-zeit-z..." Swat! Oops, tuna and arugula with crumpled multi-legged wing-ed thing on the side. Finally, it's peaceful. You settle on the chaise under a light blanket for a sleep-out. The moon is lovely. The fountain burbles. The trees etch a lyric, slowly wafting filigree against the city's night sky. "Zehzeh-zeit." Swack! Another romantic ideal brutishly transformed by mosquito infidels.

According to Bob Saviskas, Executive Director of LA County West Vector Control District, this summer heralds the arrival of mosquitoes bearing West Nile Virus in Southern California. With that less-than-romantic image etched in our brains, this month we reverse the direction of the food chain in the garden. We're focusing on how to prevent you—the human—from becoming breakfast, lunch, dinner, yummy snack or vintage elixir for the mosquitoes of West Adams.

Yes, your yard can become mosquito-free without the aid of, "better living through chemicals." If there is an area of your yard that remains boggy after it rains or you irrigate, call Vector Control. A technician will appear bearing a European bacillus to be applied to the area. It will do in the mosquito larvae and suffocate any pupae. The technician will return for repeat treatments until the area dries up and your property's mosquito breeding days are past. The cost: FREE. OK—now what's your excuse? Call 310-915-7370 and do your duty.

Should you think the mosquito isn't your concern contemplate this. One female mosquito, over a three-week period will, on her own, be responsible for one-million offspring. Judging from the swarm of mini-helicopter/mosquitoes in my bedroom, she has friends. Do the math. Make the call.

There is an interesting side note here. A male mosquito is a herbivore with a sweet tooth. The male satisfies himself with plant nectar while the Mrs. forages a gory path from one live protein source to the next—blood sucking her way through her active breeding life.

If you have standing water, flowing water, a watercourse or fountain on your property there's a way to keep the mosquitoes at bay. Enter the Vector Control technician, this time bearing mosquito fish, or *Gambusi affinis* for Latin aficionados. The tiny fish and the services of the technician bearing them are FREE. The fish will take up residence in your water. The one-and-a-half inch fish, which sometimes grow to three inches, feed on the larvae of mosquitoes. They prevent you from becoming mosquito food.

Gambusi affinis are innately intelligent in their breeding habits. Mosquito fish breed only as many of their kind as can comfortably live and dine in whatever vessel or body of water you've provided. They are the ultimate low maintenance educational project. They forage for and feed on mosquito larvae, so Mom need not remember to serve up yet more dinners when Junior opts out. The fish spawn live offspring, about a quarter-inch in length. The babies emerge from Momma ready to consume three squares of mosquito larvae a day. Install this educational project in your waters and your property will have organically PC itsy-conversation starters. Your human guests will not be eaten on the hoof.

Our Southern California Victorian and Craftsman forebearers did not have these mosquito fighting tools at their disposal. Mosquito fish were brought here from South America in the 1950s. The European bacillus is a more recent import. Together they have the power to keep the food chain operating properly and to render your summer safer and far more comfortable than that of our forebearers.

Vector Control makes only one request when you receive mosquito fish. If you reach a point where you have more than you need or you decide you no longer wish to be a mosquito fish host, please call Vector Control. They will collect and relocate your tiny saviors—for FREE. Be responsible—do not release your tiny guests into the wild.

For more information on *Gambusi affinis*, mosquito control, bee control, tick control, control of other flying invaders—and to discover educational projects for the kids click on <http://www.lawestvector.org>. Alternatively, you may call LA County West Vector Control District at 310-915-7370.

What — no recipe? Hmmm — brined *Gambusi affinis* with caper garnish artistically packed in a diminutive yet fashionable container might become the next trendy West Adams hostess gift. At one-dollar per mosquito fish when obtained from garden supply specialty web-sites this should be a highly-prized gift. Should you decide to run with the concept, please leave me a sample of your endeavors at the office. ●

In the Garden

The Garden Guy by Steve Rowe

Greetings gardeners! We are in the middle of the spring gardening season and now is the perfect time to start planting those flower beds. Before planting the beds remember to add organic mulch and supplement the beds with a good nitrogen-based fertilizer. A granular or water-soluble fertilizer will effectively accomplish the task.

Now comes the fun part, what flowers to choose. What I recommend is to go down to your local garden center and look over what they have to offer. Remember that it is important to figure out how much or how little sun your garden bed is going to receive throughout the day. Certain flowers need more sun than others. Always remember to read the accompanying tag to each flower and plant accordingly. The tag will also state the planting zone that is appropriate. If you live in West Adams proper, your zone is 9 or 10 on all those tags (Sunset Western Gardens Guide area 22-23). Try not to plant anything labeled zone 3 - 7 — it will need more winter cold and less summer heat than the plant will get here.

When planting a bed one needs to decide if that bed will be more formal or informal. Choose those plants and flowers that grow taller and plant them to the rear of the bed to showcase their blooms so they do not obscure those that are shorter.

For the formal bed I recommend that when planting the flowers plant them in geometric patterns. A square, rectangle, circle, and or triangle pattern will create a really nice pattern. One can also follow the outline of the bed in consecutive rows of flowers, this will create an attractive looking formal flower bed.

What flowers to choose? Well, what flowers do you like? Use your imagination. Some of my favorite flowers to use in a flower bed include zinnias, marigolds, nasturtiums, violas, poppies, cosmos, portulaca, salvia, begonias, agapanthus. Many of these are annuals, which are a good way to start a flower bed while you are mulling over your longterm plans. Remember that if you want a certain color scheme to your garden, pick those flowers that will complement each other.

Above all have fun in your garden. If you want to attract butterflies and hummingbirds, plant those flowers and plants that will draw them in.

OK, gardeners, get out there and let's make our beautiful West Adams gardens the envy of everyone in Los Angeles. ●

Brentwood Historical Society's Garden Tour, Sunday, May 18

The Brentwood Historical Society is sponsoring a tour of five gardens, plus a plant sale, on Sunday, May 18. Tickets (\$25) are on sale starting April 13 at the following locations:

Hashimoto Nursery, 1935 Sawtelle, West Los Angeles

Great Shape Health Club, 11980 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood

Next! Hair Salon, on Main Street in Santa Monica

Tickets may also be purchased on the day of the event at 627 S. Saltair Avenue, in Brentwood. For more information, call Barbara Smith, 310-820-5070, or Gloria Smith, 310-472-8034 ●

We support preservation of the West Adams community's architectural heritage and beautification activities, and seek to educate Los Angeles' citizens and others about cultural heritage and restoration techniques.



2263 S. Harvard Boulevard
Historic West Adams
Los Angeles California 90018
323-735-WAHA (323-735-9242)
www.neighborhoodlink.com/la/westadams

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WAHA COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND STANDING MEETINGS

All WAHA members are encouraged to join a committee.
(All committee meetings begin at 7 pm on the days noted below.)

Community Relations

Contact Jennifer Charnofsky if you'd like to get involved with this activity 323-734-7391

Historic Preservation

Chairs: Eric Bronson 323-737-1163, Jean Frost 323-748-1656, Colleen Davis 323-733-0446

Zoning & Planning

Chair: Jim Dugan 323-732-7233. Meets third Mondays at City Living Realty 2316 1/2 South Union

Newsletter

Newsletter Committee Chair: Laura Meyers

323-737-6146. Publications Director: Anna Marie Brooks 323-735-3960. Meets second Mondays

Holiday Tour

Chair: Jacqueline Sharps 323-766-8842

Membership

Chair: John Kurtz 323-732-2990. Meets Wednesday before the WAHA Board Meeting

Fundraising

Catherine Barrier 323-732-7233

Web Site

Clayton de Leon 323-734-0660

By-Laws

Thomas Florio 213-749-8464

Programs and Events

SeEly Caldwell 323-291-7484 and Clayton de Leon 323-734-0660

The WAHA Board meets on the fourth Thursday of each month. Contact Jacqueline Sharps for location.

The Art Issue

Art's the Thing for this West Adams Gallery

by Laura Meyers

After tattooing Chicago with their unique aesthetic vision, art business veterans Caryn Coleman and Sean Bonner moved west to Los Angeles in 2002 and set up shop in a renovated former textile warehouse on the edge of West Adams.

sixspace gallery, located at 549 West 23rd Street at Figueroa, has 23-foot ceilings, cement floors and concrete beams. "It's a very New York type of space, unique in Los Angeles," says Bonner. Aesthetically, the gallery features cutting edge art created by both established and emerging artists who are pushing at traditional art boundaries, from anime, graffiti, illustration and underground art to more traditional representational art.

Bonner and Coleman located their gallery near Downtown Los Angeles and away from art colonies in Chinatown, Wilshire Center, La Brea and Santa Monica. "We purposely chose not to go where other galleries were clustered because we are doing something distinctly different," explains Bonner. "When we decided that we wanted to open a space, we drove all around downtown, the artists' district. Before we even got into the building, we were in love with the neighborhood. We like the downtown feel." Adds Coleman, "This is an up-and-coming area. I like being in on something that's new."

Their landlord, Daryoush Dayan, hopes to attract more creative types and visionaries his way. Dayan is restoring a pair of warehouse buildings, including the one that houses sixspace, on the square block bounded by Flower, Figueroa, 23rd and 22nd streets. He is looking at building a revenue-generating, mixed-use complex that includes 30 luxury loft units, creative office space, and first-floor retail including boutiques, eateries and perhaps a coffee house. "We want to have nighttime activity. We want you to have dinner here before going to a game at Staples," says Dayan, who told the Downtown News that he sees the Figueroa Corridor developing along the lines of an Old Town Pasadena.

In the meantime, sixspace is drawing fans from all over Los Angeles as well as the West Adams area. "Because of who we are, we have a clientele that will come to us no matter what - our fan base," says Bonner. "We are getting a local visitor base, though not necessarily USC-related. Very few students just walk by."

Inaugurated last November with an acclaimed exhibit of photographs of skateboarding, hip hop and rock icons by Glen E. Friedman, sixspace then debuted gallery artist Seonna Hong's first solo exhibition in January 2003; it sold out a week prior to the opening reception. Now sixspace has scheduled "Girls, Girls, Girls." The show, which opens June 7 and remains on view through July 12, marks New York-based artist Kirsten Ulve's first U.S. gallery exhibition and will present significant large-scale digital works on canvas for the first time. Ulve is premiering fifteen works ranging on a large scale that will utilize the preciseness of graphic design she has as an Illustrator. It is also the West Coast debut exhibition for French graffiti artist Fafi. With a feminine touch, Fafi is a rising force on the graffiti scene. For this exhibition she will present new drawings, paintings, and wall projects of her socially and sexually liberated girls.

sixspace, 549 West 23rd Street, 213-765-0248. Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 12 - 6 p.m. ●



sixspace gallery's inaugural exhibit showcased photographs by Glen Friedman.

SALE OF INMATE ART

WAHA resident Leah Joki, the Artist Facilitator at California State Prison - Los Angeles County, is facilitating a sale of inmate artwork to benefit the Children's Center of the Antelope Valley. Approximately 300 paintings and 200 pieces of pottery created by male inmates have been donated to the Children's Center. The artwork was produced in the Arts in Corrections program, which due to the state budget crisis has been cancelled. This is the last time that such a sale from the only LA County prison will take place. The event is scheduled as follows:

Saturday, June 21, 2003 5:00pm - 8:00pm Wine and cheese reception with live auction & sale

Sunday, June 22, 2003 11:00am - 5:00pm Sale

Both days are open to the public. It takes place at Saint James' School at 625 S. St. Andrew's Place. The purchase of any artwork is tax deductible and benefits the Children's Center of the Antelope Valley. Any questions may be directed to Leah Joki (661) 729-2000 ext. 5615.

The Face of Copernicus at the William Andrews Clark, Jr., Memorial Library

Jeffrey Garner, son of sculptor Archibald Garner, tells why he donated a casting of his father's Griffith Observatory statue to the Clark Library

By Jeffrey Garner

The Face of Copernicus, recently installed at the William Andrews Clark, Jr. Memorial Library in Historic West Adams, is a casting of the face of the full figure of Copernicus on the Astronomers Monument at the Griffith Observatory overlooking Hollywood. The following is the story of its creation, and how this casting came to be at the Clark Library.

The Astronomers Monument was commissioned in March of 1934 under the U.S. Treasury Department's Public Works of Art Project (PWAP) and completed in November of that year. Its commission was awarded by means of a competition in which local sculptors were invited to submit designs in a theme appropriate to the observatory setting. The design chosen by the regional committee (made up of local intelligentsia) was that submitted by my father, Archibald Garner (1904-1969). Archie, as he was known at the time, had graduated from Long Beach High School in 1922, and had taken up a career in commercial art, studying with Los Angeles artists before taking a job as an illustrator for the San Francisco Examiner.

While in San Francisco, he had become interested in sculpting, and had studied with Ralph Stackpole and Ruth Cravath at the California School of Fine Arts. He returned to Los Angeles in 1927 and began his career as a sculptor, primarily in portraiture as well as working for 20th Century Fox making statuary and miniatures. The Astronomers Monument was his first monumental public work. The monument's design is a six-pointed conical spire, forty feet in height, with an astrolabe at the tip, and the figures of historical leaders of astronomy, Hipparchus, Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Newton, and Herschel arranged around the hexagonal spire, set in the angles formed by its six-pointed star shape. The figures are nine feet in height.

The PWAP, a pilot project for the Treasury Department's Section of Fine Arts which would provide public art in federal buildings for decades to come, paid the salary of the artists, and the City of Los Angeles paid for the materials, mostly from funds raised by the Women's Community Service Auxiliary of the Chamber of Commerce. Five of the other sculptors who had submitted designs to the competition were hired to work with Garner on the monument, both to provide jobs and to have the monument be completed quickly. These were: Gordon Newell (1905-1998), Djey El Djey (a.k.a. Djey Owens, 1905-1980), George Stanley (1903-1977), Roger Noble Burnham (1876-1962), and Arnold Foerster (1878-1943).

Garner sculpted Copernicus, Newell sculpted Kepler, Stanley sculpted Newton, and Burnham sculpted Herschel, the other two figures being done by the remaining two sculptors. (I have not been able to determine which with sufficient certainty. The Griffith Observatory web site lists the sculptors and which figure was done by each, but the listings I know to be incorrect in at least two cases, and thus the information is rendered less than certain. Based on style, I suspect that Djey did Hipparchus. If I am correct, then Foerster would have sculpted Galileo.) In order to create a stylistically consistent work, they were instructed (and of course agreed) to follow the style set forth by Garner's design.

Garner was, as noted, primarily a portrait artist. Newell was a direct-carver, mostly of stone, whose work tended toward the abstract. Stanley, who had sculpted the "Oscar" for the Motion Picture Academy Awards in 1927, had worked for several years in a modern style closer to that of the Astronomers Monument than perhaps even Garner. Burnham worked in the classical tradition. He was Harvard-educated, and had taught sculpture and architecture there. In the 1930s, he taught sculpture at the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, and was locally renowned for his sculpture of the Trojan (now dubbed Tommy Trojan) at the University of Southern California in 1930. Djey sculpted in a realistic

"The historical leaders of astronomy, Hipparchus, Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Newton, and Herschel, are arranged around the hexagonal spire."

continued on next page

The Art Issue

Copernicus at the Clark Library

continued from page 9



representational style, though not as traditional as the styles of Burnham or Foerster. Foerster was also a traditional bronze sculptor, having done the twelve-foot statue of Beethoven in Pershing square in 1932, and also a bust of Col. Griffith for the Observatory in 1935. His greater experience in the making of large scale works made him the one who was relied on for the engineering of the casting of the Astronomers Monument.

In recognition of their individual styles, which were quite diverse, each sculptor was free to execute the face of his figure as he chose. At the completion of the monument, several, if not all, of the sculptors made a plaster casting of the face of his figure to be exhibited at a show in the book-store gallery of Jake Zeitlin in downtown Los Angeles.

Garner's face of Copernicus, which was given a faux finish of dark green enamel and rottenstone to mimic weathered bronze, was shown at Zeitlin's (at a different location) again in 1940. In 1941, when Garner moved to Mexico City, the face was left with his friend Gordon Newell. Gordon kept the work all his life, and in the late 1980s or early 1990s, he had a mold made from it, intending to have it cast in bronze. A bronze was never made, however, and Gordon passed away in 1998. In 2001, on a visit to Darwin, CA, where Gordon had lived and worked the last years of his life, I asked his son Hal about the face. He wasn't sure about it, but he searched through the old studio and found it, and gave it to me. I have been casting copies of it in white concrete, which was the material of the monument. Some of the castings have been made using crushed marble as the aggregate in the concrete, which has no historical significance, but was suggested by Hal as a good material for such a piece. In addition to castings from the mold, I have restored the finish on the original plaster face.

Why a Casting of the Face of Copernicus at the Clark Library?

The gift of the face of Copernicus to the William Andrews Clark, Jr. Memorial Library was made in loving memory of my father, and in honor of his friendship with Gordon Newell and Ward Ritchie. While working on the Astronomers Monument in 1934, he had become close friends with Newell, and Ritchie had been friends with Newell since their days at Occidental College. Thus, Garner was initiated into the remarkable circle of artists and intellectuals who gathered at Ritchie's

print shop on Griffith Park Boulevard. The group included the sculptor George Stanley (noted above), wood engraver Paul Landacre, songwriter Leigh Harline (When You Wish Upon a Star, and My Prince Will Come), painter Fletcher Martin, impresario Merle Armitage, Los Angeles Times art critic Arthur Millier, bookseller and promoter of the arts Jake Zeitlin, and Ritchie's friend since childhood, Lawrence Clark Powell, for whom Powell

Library at UCLA is named, to name but a few. The camaraderie and the exchange of creative ideas among them was to spawn what Ritchie would call "the flowering of Los Angeles."

Ritchie and Powell, instrumental as they were in the world of books, literature, and libraries in Los Angeles, were closely associated with the Clark Library. Thus, art works of their close friends are appropriate to the setting. We have placed the Face of Copernicus in the garden courtyard where a casting of Newell's sculpture Sapphic Echo (1931) is also mounted in the masonry. In its way, the Face of Copernicus here at the Clark traces historical connections between key components of what Jake Zeitlin would call "a small renaissance, Southern California style"... from the Public Works of Art Project that sponsored the Astronomers Monument to dealers and collectors of books and prints, and along the way including the composers and cartoonists of Disney Studios, the California painters of Chouinard and Otis Art Institutes, script writers, architects, poets, photographers, designers of every sort, and many others in the professions and academe who were collectors, patrons, and critics. Fitting company for a Polish astronomer, if you take a California Southland point of view. ●

"Garner was initiated into the remarkable circle of artists and intellectuals who gathered at Ward Ritchie's print shop."

The Art Gallery Scene

There are a handful of gallery and artist spaces in West Adams which mount occasional exhibits. Here are two galleries in or near the West Adams area which regularly present public shows of artists' works:

FDG Gallery

4470 W. Adams Blvd.

Tues.-Sat., 10am-5pm

Director: Eugene Humphries. **Cultural Center Director:** Claude Lewis

Multicultural and educational fine art gallery located in the heart of the old Adams Historic District. Representing local, national and international master artists, as well as emerging artists. Originals, limited editions, Shona sculptures from Zimbabwe, Africa; and sculptures by various artists in a variety of styles and media.

Showing:

Through May 18: "Cultural Transitions and Figurative Expressions" Group Exhibition and collaboration between William Grant Still Art Center and FDG Fine Art Gallery. The exhibition will be held at both gallery locations. Primary emphasis is on the works of African American contemporary figurative artists in Southern California. The exhibit takes you on a journey from past to present to depict the beauty and richness of the African Culture in America.

Representing:

Samuel Baray, Philip Capriota, Dr. Yvonne Cole-Meo, Jenik Cook, Varnette Honeywood, Dr. Samella Lewis, Eddie Orr, Larry Richardson, C.M. Thomas.

Works available by:

Romare Bearden, Charles Bibbs, Nathaniel Bustion, Elizabeth Catlett, Neville Garrick, Jacob Lawrence, Kathleen Wilson, and Shona Sculpture Artists of Zimbabwe.

Nuartz Gallery

2871 W. 7th St. (between Vermont and Hoover, just south of Wilshire) Tel/Fax, (213) 383-8043

Sat., Sun., 11am-4pm



Directors: Patrick Lewis, James Landres, Nola Lunstedt, David Deutsch

Gallery Description:

A diverse group of freshly emerging contemporary artists and photographers.

Representing:

Mary Brooks, David Crocker, David Deutsch, Gary Harkins, Sonia Keshishian, James Landres, Cristopher Lapp, Patrick Lewis, Nola Lunstedt, Laura Nugent, Danny Nunez, Adam Tullie.

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The Art Issue

A Sampler of West Adams Artists

We have dozens of artists pursuing their muses in the West Adams area. Now you can meet a select few:

Art Curtis and the Real World *by Shelley Adler*

Everywhere that you look in the Adler/Curtis house you see artwork: botanically accurate flower paintings, slyly humorous images of dirigibles crashing into the sand, trains that seem to be spouting smoke from thousands of smokestacks a lovely watercolor still life of fruit. Does that suited figure in the frame on the wall next to the stairwell have a brush for a head? Are those lightning strikes coming out of Ben Franklin's hair? Is that thing a colorful sculpture or a three-dimensional version of a toy freeway? Welcome to the Art Curtis world.

Art has been making art for all his adult life. He can't help it. He tries to restrain himself, but it is no use. During the Vietnam war, others were shooting in the jungle. Art was the bomb wing illustrator for his squadron in the Air Force. He drew the airplanes and the Colonels who visited the air base in Grand Forks, North Dakota where he was stationed. He designed the fanciful, warlike images that decorate fighter jets.

Afterward he trained and worked successfully as an illustrator. But he was also building, painting and drawing from his imagination. Images that run the gamut from absurd and hilarious to lovely and beautiful. He has had many group and one-man shows and has been written up in a variety of venues.

Art was born in Los Angeles and has lived in North University Park since 1978. He has restored the house that he and I live in. For many years we worked together in a graphic design business that we ran from our third floor studio.

Real life has intervened at times and Art has found that he is able to sell ice cubes to the Eskimoes. The work of selling is what he does now or whenever necessary. But the real work for Art is art. ●

A Booster for Historic Buildings *by Laura Meyers*

"I love the idea of documenting places that are historic. It honors the city, and let's people see the beauty in everyday buildings. But, basically I'm a cheerleader for Downtown L.A.," notes Jennifer Cunningham, an artist, a mom, and a longtime WAHA member.

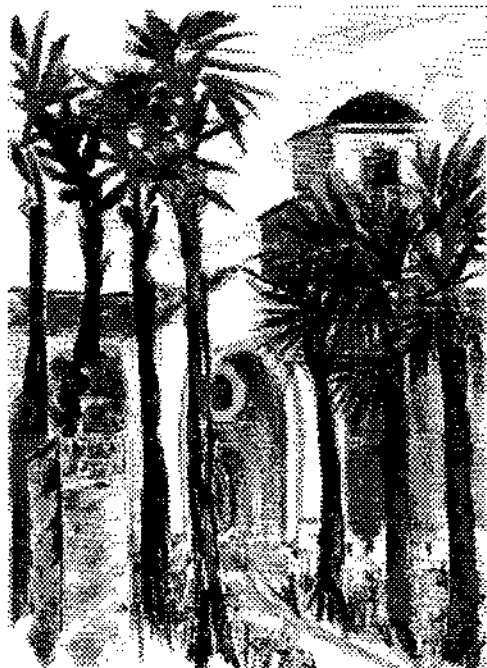
Cunningham's loose, painterly watercolors depict some of her favorite Los Angeles haunts like the Grand Central Market, the Bradbury Building, and the Library Tower, among other landmarks. "I started painting Downtown after 9-11 — I just felt that I wanted to paint these historic treasures." She also has painted a number of Historic West Adams residences, including several Lafayette Square homes. For last year's WAHA Holiday Tour, Jennifer merged together elements from several

Lafayette Square properties to create the Mediterranean Revival villa that was used on the postcard and tour brochure cover.

Educated at the Massachusetts College of Art, where she received a bachelors of fine arts with an emphasis in printmaking, Cunningham teaches watercolor painting at the Arboretum and shows at the Brewery Open Studios. Still, she says, "I would really say I'm an emerging artist. It's really an exciting time for me."

Jennifer knew she wanted to be an artist at an early age. While still in high school, she did pen and ink, and watercolor, house portraits. "I would knock on my neighbors' doors with the portraits, and offer to sell them," she laughs. But after college graduation, she gave up (temporarily, as it turned out) the dream of being an artist. She and husband David bought a different dream — a Craftsman bungalow in West Adams, and they proceeded to start a family. After her daughter Abigail's birth, though, Jennifer started taking art classes again, this time at Otis, concentrating on watercolor techniques. Four years ago, she participated in a group show, and sold a few pieces. Three years ago, she got a painting studio. "And then, David offered me up to WAHA."

In joining WAHA's publications committee, Cunningham met fellow volunteer and fellow artiste Hilary Lentini, who encouraged her to put her art career in high gear. "Hilary was a major force. She made flyers for me to start teaching art, and to pursue commissions." Now she is focusing on "corporate portraits." Her most recent commission: Wells Fargo Corp. has hired her to paint their iconic Downtown tower. ●



Bernard Stanley Hoyes' Art Lifts the Spirits

by Makeda Smith

When Bernard Stanley Hoyes paints.... we listen. Yes listen, because his work calls to our inner spirit, piercing spaces deep within, beckoning us to worlds and regions holy, sacred and sanctified. A creator of art, symbols and ancestral echoes, this Jamaican native possesses the power to make colors dance, leap, shout and vibrate on canvas. Ancient becomes contemporary, ceremony rings eternal and tradition manifests as revelation.

And so it is with Hoyes. His paintings call to us, speak to us, sing to us, whisper to us. The life force pulses through them.

Hoyes lives and works in a house and studio on Westchester Place, on the edge of Country Club Park and West Adams. He occasionally holds "African marketplace" open studio events for collectors at his home.

A true product of his environment, Hoyes' art pays significant homage to Jamaican revival culture and the "backyard" religions he knew as a child. As he mines the traditions of an old and complex culture, he lays it before us like a feast. His celebration of traditional African religions has found universal appeal however, stunning audiences worldwide with their depth-compelling lure. It is no wonder that Oprah Winfrey, Natalie Cole, Richard Pryor, Capitol Records and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture are all amongst his private collectors.

"My images stand as praise to our existence- past, present and future. My challenge is to master unique compositions of spiritual significance. I desire to visually engross the viewer through powerful expressive works. I paint from an intuitive point of view. During this process, the 'spirits take possession' and a ritual theme become dominant. I attained my insight through my Jamaican heritage. My paternal membership in the 'revival cults' provides clues as to why these paintings are perceived as authentic revelations," cites Hoyes.

Hoyes' work is vividly displayed on his website, at www.bernardhoyes.com. From his Rag Series, to the Revival Series, we can view evidence of a visionary who paints pictures that we hear.

"This is about reclamation. I don't plan my work; I just follow it around," concludes Hoyes. ●



When a Snapshot is Not Enough *by Shelley Adler*

Old photographs, taken of our grandparents, parents and aunts and uncles in the 1920s, '30s and '40s, are a wonderful way to remember the past. We all have such memorabilia. But sometimes the small black and white snapshots don't do justice to the scene. We wish we had a more immediate sense of those times as well as a more permanent record of those moments and people.

I paint pictures from these scenes. I transform the tiny black and white photographs into colorful images. Paintings in oil on gesso-board that seize the moment caught by the camera. Paintings that enhance the scenes and capture the likenesses of the persons portrayed.

Painting is something I have come back to after many years of work in other art-related fields. When I first started painting as a 20-something I had not a clue about how to have a life in art, nor what it was that I wanted or needed to paint.

About two years ago with a sudden insight I fused together my affection for small Dutch genre paintings, my attachment to the boxes of old family photos that I have stored for years and my preference for realism in art and I knew exactly what I needed to paint. It took months to ratchet up the courage to try.

After a bout of illness which required that I take a leave of absence from my job, I had time to give it a shot. I discovered I could do it. So now that is what I do. I am striving to be a working artist, showing in galleries and being commissioned to paint the relatives of others. I am definitely having fun reviving the dead. ●

The Art Issue

A Sampler of West Adams Artists continued

An Abstract Sense of Art *by Anna Marie Brooks*

One of the perks of working as a writer is foraging in the corners of your subjects' lives. Donald Ferguson, like many West Adams residents, lives in a fabulous Craftsman house. The walls of his home are covered with art. Components of numerous collections lurk happily in niches throughout. But, it's the attic you want to penetrate. No run-of-the-mill garret this. It crowns his home—a pulsing brain never envisioned by the architect.

Flat files in one corner archive the artist's works. Small test sheets bear witness to early trials. Full imperial sheets offer up rich, deliciously sensual textures as fully realized monoprints. These one-of-a-kind prints emerge as Ferguson individually inks and presses multiple, deeply textured plates on the same sheet utilizing an etching press.

It's difficult to keep your hands off these prints. Their deep textures beckon your fingers to embed in the contour of a depression, gliding along until its color segues into another. You can almost feel the color temperature change. Ferguson's visceral works engage you: come, explore, experience.

Ferguson revels in their making. This, for him, is the ultimate meditative form. Donald waited years to unleash this experience. Armed with a University of Texas B.A. in Spanish language and lit, he embraced the teaching of Spanish. The allure was the languid summer hiatus that indulged his travel passions. He experienced Europe, South America and Mexico—pausing to live in New York, Mexico City and Guadalajara within the community of artists.

He settled in West Adams, near the University of Southern California, several decades ago, before most of us pursued our passion for restoring old houses. Ferguson was involved with West Adams Heritage Association at its inception, and served in the organization's early years as its Preservation Chair. Rewarded with early retirement, Ferguson indulged his developing art passion. He courted several media—finally embracing the monoprint. His love melded the visceral qualities of oil paints/inks with the sensual, deeply embedded textures of etching and embossing. Ferguson daily achieves nirvana.

His sensual non-objective geometric abstractions enhance collections in the US, Europe and Latin America. Ferguson regularly exhibits in Los Angeles and Southern California. He is a member of Gallery 825/Los Angeles Art Association. Currently his works may be enjoyed at Santé La Brea. Inquiries: <http://dfergusonart.home.attbi.com> ●

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Catherine Opie and Julie Burleigh Focus on Community *by Laura Meyers*

When artists Catherine Opie and Julie Burleigh wanted to purchase a home together in Los Angeles, they looked no farther than West Adams as the perfect place to raise their son, Oliver Hill Opie. Opie and Burleigh discovered, as many West Adams residents do, that they thought they were just buying a great house and property, but they really were buying a neighborhood and a lifestyle.

"It's incredibly centrally located. We were able to purchase a nice, big old house, and, because the property is so large, we were both able to build [artist] studios in the backyard," says Opie, an internationally-known fine art photographer who teaches at UCLA. She adds, "The art scene has moved from Silver Lake, and I have a feeling that it will be coming more and more to this neighborhood."



Indeed, echoes Burleigh, a contemporary abstract painter who has taught at Art Center and currently teaches at U.C. Irvine, "[West Adams] has a home and community environment that's really conducive to artists. I like how mixed it is, ethnically and

economically. I like all the pupusa stands and dollar stores."

Opie rose to prominence in the 1990s with a series of lush and unflinching color portraits of her friends in the Los Angeles leather community, including transvestites and drag queens, exploring the idea of body decoration. "I wanted to push the whole realm of beauty and elegance," she once explained.

Born in 1961, Opie grew up in Sandusky, Ohio, and has been making photographs since the age of nine. She studied photography at San Francisco Art Institute and at CalArts, and now lives and works in Los Angeles and New York. She has exhibited widely with solo shows at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles in 1997 and has been included in important group exhibitions such as "Sunshine and Noir," which was presented locally as well as at several worldwide venues.

Her more recent photographic series, examining buildings, and the urban landscape, include portraits of middle-class suburban residences, mini-malls, and the freeways photographed at dawn when they are devoid of vehicles and people.

"My work is always close to home. It's always about my surroundings and the way I wander through the world," she described. "It is about how communities begin to form and how people try to change themselves."

A few years ago, Opie traveled 9,000 miles across the U.S. in an RV., photographing lesbian couples and families along the way. These images in this "Domestic" series explored family ties that prosper in the privacy of the home, while questioning the American dream of what constitutes an ideal family. In his catalog essay for an exhibition of Opie's work at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Douglas Fogel wrote that her "entire artistic career can be seen as one long road trip across this continent in search not of the American dream but rather a dream of an idea of American community."

Opie met Burleigh two years ago, at Washington University in St. Louis, where Burleigh taught painting and Opie had a short-term appointment as a visiting artist-in-residence. ●

An Animated Friend to West Adams *by Linda Joshua*

If you have small children, or collect Disneyana yourself, you probably know the work of David Pacheco, an active volunteer and participant in the West Adams community. He is responsible for the design and look of Disney's famous characters that are transformed into various fine art forms such as paintings, sculptures and jewelry.

Pacheco works for the Walt Disney Company, and is currently Creative Art Director for the Walt Disney Art Classics Collection. David has been with Disney for over twenty years as an animator, illustrator and art book author. As an animator, he contributed to such films as "Mickey's Christmas Carol," "The Fox and the Hound," and "Who Framed Roger Rabbit." Pacheco was the character animator for Ariel in the film, "The Little Mermaid."

David has also served as art director for Disney Publishing, overseeing all domestic and international publications. He uses his extensive knowledge of Disney animation to translate Disney characters from two-dimensional drawings into gallery-quality artwork and three-dimensional porcelain sculptures, ensuring the sculpture captures the realism of the character and is true to the Disney film. ●

The Art Issue

Norman Rockwell Painting Depicts Old West Adams *by Francisco George*

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has a painting by Norman Rockwell in its permanent collection that has recently rotated into public view, and which West Adams residents might find interesting.

The painting, entitled "The New Television Set," was painted by Rockwell in 1949 when he was wintering in Los Angeles and serving as a professor in residence at Otis Art Institute. The image ran as the cover of the *Saturday Evening Post* on November 5, 1949, and Rockwell gave the original painting to his friend (and Los Angeles resident) Ned Crowell, the West Coast district manager for Curtis Publishing, owner of the *Saturday Evening Post*. Eventually Crowell donated the painting to LACMA.

So, what's the big deal for WAHA? Well, this painting is about the installation of new technology (the TV antenna) on top of the roof in an old Victorian home. The image is a reference to the new and modern world juxtaposed to the old America.

A book on LACMA's collection, *American Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art*, describes the work further: "By setting the new television set on the roof of a house, Rockwell used architecture not only to structure the composition but also to convey the contrast of the old, the house, with the new, the television. The scene epitomizes the rapid modernization of America."

The book continues, "the house was one of the many large Victorian structures characteristic of the district around Adams Street in Los Angeles, where this was painted."

Yes, the painting was painted in West Adams, and the house was located here. It would be interesting for WAHA to find out if the house is still there or where it was. I also find it interesting to see in the painting, done in the forties, the deterioration of the house at the time. This house was already "old" 60 years ago, or maybe Rockwell painted it that way to point out the difference and contrast between the old house and the new TV antenna.

You can view the painting in the American Art Galleries on the Plaza level of the Ahmanson Building at the museum. ●

Francisco George is an active Harvard Heights resident and WAHA member who also is a volunteer docent at LACMA.

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A New Theater Bows

The cultural landscape in and near the West Adams area is expanding by another venue. WAHA members James Carey and Carrie Dolin are opening a new theatre, The Attic Theatre Center, at 5429 W. Washington Blvd., between Fairfax and Hauser. The theatre center is opening on May 16 with an original show called "Friends Like These," running Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through June 21. Cost: \$15. Reservations @ 323-734-8977.

James is also offering a Summer Youth Drama Workshop for Ages 12 - 17. The workshop is a 10-week session starting on June 14th. The workshop will meet on Saturday mornings for three hours each Saturday from about 10 to 1 (not locked in as of yet) in the afternoon. During that time the workshop will cover things like basic stage technique, acting for the camera (a fun day because for many it is the first time on camera) and theatre improv and games - but the real focus of the group is to talk and develop a story, then a monologue and then to put those monologues together in a 20 to 25 minute original play that they have written, developed and will perform on the stage of the Attic Studios.

"The young people need not have any experience - just be a kid," says Dolin. "During this process the students will learn about themselves, develop some self-esteem, and learn the basics of team work and interaction to accomplish a goal. It will be fun - yet very educational without them being so aware of it." The final day is the presentation of the show for the families and friends of the group. Cost of the session is \$150.

For more information please call the office at 323-734-8977. ●

ASIA SOCIETY'S ASIA PACIFIC FUSION FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

Los Angeles' renowned chefs and restaurateurs will pair Asian flavors with wines from California, Oregon, Washington State, Australia & New Zealand at the fifth **Asia Pacific Fusion Food & Wine Festival**. The afternoon celebration will be held at the landmark 20th Century Fox Studios on Sunday, June 22, from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

The Festival will present continuous entertainment from regions of the Asia Pacific, demonstrations by the California Sushi Academy and walking tours of the historic Fox Studios back-lot.

Foodies can pair merlots with tandooris, savor pinots with dim sum and sip chardonnays with sushi as Los Angeles' renowned chefs and restaurateurs gather at the landmark 20th Century Fox Studios to whip up gourmet delights. Robert Rubino, Executive Chef at Fox Studios will be joined by such participants as Chinois on Main, Crustacean, Michelia, A Thousand Cranes, Chan Dara, Monsoon, Ganga Din, The Clay Pit, Natalee Thai, Flavor of India, among many others.

These Asian flavors will be paired with wines from wineries in Napa and Sonoma, Santa Barbara and the Central Coast, the Mendocino region, and Oregon. The Pacific Rim experience will be heightened with the addition of wines from Australia's Adelaide Hills and Yarra Valley, New Zealand's Marlborough region.

Ticket Prices: \$75 Single; \$120 Couple; Special Group rate available. Reservations are REQUIRED - No one will be allowed on the studio lot without a ticket. Call - 213-624-0945 ●


Opera in the Neighborhood

The Los Angeles Opera's special program in West Adams continues at the Washington Irving Library, 4117 West Washington Blvd. (323-734-6303). The series will culminate in a Friday evening concert performed by Los Angeles Opera artists.

May 20 - Don Giovanni


June 20 (FRIDAY!) - Community Concert

All programs begin at 6:30 p.m. ●



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- Individual \$ 25.00
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- Senior/Student \$ 17.00
- Newsletter only \$ 17.00

Please make check payable to WAHA.

Return to: WAHA
2263 S. Harvard Blvd
Historic West Adams
Los Angeles, CA 90018

____ Please DO NOT include my name, address or telephone number in the WAHA membership directory.



MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The following companies and organizations offer discounts to WAHA members. Remember to show your WAHA membership card when you make your purchase

Best Lock and Safe Service contact: David Kim
2203 W. Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, 323-733-7716
10% discount on lock and safe labor and materials

Washington Dog & Cat Hospital
1692 W. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007, 323-795-0291
50% off office exams

Meyers Roofing
5048 W. Jefferson Blvd., 323-733-0188
10% discount

Lighthouse Stained Glass
5155 Melrose, 323-465-4475
20% discount off regular class prices with WAHA membership card

Cafe Club Fais Do Do
5257 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016, 323-954-8080
No cover charge at door

Lady Effie's Tea Parlor Contact: Jacqueline Westlund
459 East Adams Boulevard, Los Angeles, 213-749-1437
10% discount on all food purchases

Lucky Chimney Sweep Contact: Susan and Alfredo Johnson
249 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale, CA 91203, 888-62lucky (888-625-8259)

Magic Care Termite Service
1840 W. 220th St., Suite 320, Torrance CA 90501, 910-320-6700
(fax 310/320-6794)
15% discount

Sherwin-Williams
1367 Venice Blvd. L.A. 90006, 213-365-2471
20% discount off regular product price
(you must have a special discount card)

Washington Tire & Wheel
1951 W. Washington Blvd. Los Angeles, 323-731-0781
Dealer's pricing on all tires and full line of custom wheels
(See Bill Fuqua, Jr. for this discount)

Papa Cristo's Taverna
2771 West Pico Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90006, 323-737-2970
10% discount on catered food orders

Vintage Plumbing Bathroom Antiques
9939 Canoga Avenue, Chatsworth, CA, 818-772-1721
(hours: by appointment only)
10% discount on purchases at Chatsworth facility

Boulevard Vacuum & Sewing Machine Company
5086 W. Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA90019, 323-938-2661
10% discount on sale of new vacuums, and vacuum service & repair

Wholesale Carpet Liquidators
1225 E. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90021, 213-747-7474
e-mail: Wholesalecarpetla@yahoo.com, Contact Linda or Parisa
Discount of between 5-10% on the purchase of 150 square yards or more of carpet, ceramic tile, wood flooring and/or vinyl floor covering

A CALL TO MEMBERS

If you frequent a local business — retail store, restaurant, service provider, etc. — ask them if they would like to offer a discount to WAHA members. Explain that they would benefit from the increased exposure to many local consumers, and would be listed monthly in the WAHA newsletter. Or, call me at 323-733-6869 and I would be happy to contact them.
— Steve Wallis

ADVERTISE HERE!

To place a display ad, call Lisa Schoening 323-666-8617. WAHA classifieds are free to paid members. If you can, please e-mail your classified ad to wahaclassifieds@yahoo.com. Classifieds will be for one month only. If you wish to repeat your ad, please call Lisa Schoening by deadline. After 3 issues for the same ad, the charge is \$.25 per word.

ADVERTISING RATES

FOR DISPLAY ADS

This Newsletter is published 11 times a year
Full Page: \$175 monthly; \$1,800 annually
Half Page: \$90 monthly; \$950 annually
1/4 Page (4 1/2 x 4 1/2): \$48 monthly; \$500 annually
Business Card (2 3/4 x 2 3/4): \$25 monthly, \$260 annually
The deadline for ad content is the 1st of the prior month.

Please Note: WAHA does not endorse or claim responsibility for any of the services, products or items for sale that advertisers have listed in these pages.

WAHA CLASSIFIEDS

WAHA has a new e-mail address for all your classifieds! If you can, please send your classified ads to: wahaclassifieds@yahoo.com

Big Garage Sale! As the restoration progresses, we part with more stuff! Items will include vintage and collectible furniture, light fixtures, objects and other assorted goodies. There's sure to be something you need! Saturday, May 10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 1725 Wellington Road, in Lafayette Square.

Mills Act got you stumped? Call Los Angeles City recommended Mills Act tax application preparer Anna Marie Brooks. 323-735-3960.

If you need a lawyer, Jacqueline Sharps recommends Mark E. Mahler in Beverly Hills, at 310-288-1960*

100s of doors For sale - 500 antique doors, windows and house fragments. Call Roland at 310-392-1056

Housecleaner available; reliable and a good worker. Call Norma Reynolds for more information, 731-2010

Fabulous faux and texture finishing Call Lynda Reiss 323-735 2986

Roommate Wanted? Vintage Stove for Sale? Garden Plants in Search of New Home? Place your classified ad here to reach preservation-minded readers. Contact Advertising Director Lisa Schoening (wahaclassifieds@yahoo.com) NO LATER THAN the first of the prior month.

Jacqueline's Day Care/After School Care

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Jefferson Park Bungalows Tour

On **Saturday, June 7**, seven of Jefferson Park's Craftsman bungalows, all built between 1907 and 1912, will be featured in a self-guided tour co-sponsored by West Adams Heritage Association and Jefferson Park neighbors. The West Adams - Jefferson Park East Bungalows Tour takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the last ticket sale at 2:30 p.m.

How to get tickets

Order tickets in advance and save! Advance tickets are just \$12. Send your order, check payable to WAHA to: WAHA Tour, 2074 W. 29th Place, Los Angeles, CA 90018.

Tickets can also be purchased until 2:30 pm on the day of the event for \$15.

How it works

On the day of the tour, ticket holders and those wishing to purchase tickets, should check in at 2153 W. 30th St. for tour route and information. (This house has a restroom available—the others do not.) The houses are all within walking distance of each other, between Western and Arlington, and 31st St. and 27th St. The tour takes about 1 1/2 hours to 2 1/2 hours.

Who to contact

Tour info or questions: Adam Janeiro at 323-733-0446. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the tour also should call Adam.

To advertise in Tour Brochure contact Jim Lancaster at 323-373-1849 or jlancaster@foxcable.com

Don't miss this great opportunity to check out these beautiful bungalows!

Calendar ✓

WAHA May Calendar

Week 2:

Monday, May 12 - Newsletter Committee Meeting

Week 3:

Sunday, May 18 - Garden Tour

Monday, May 19 - Zoning & Planning Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 20 - Opera Talk at Washington Irving Library

Week 4:

Thursday, May 22 - Board Meeting

Saturday, May 31 - WAHA General Meeting

Upcoming

Celebrate Preservation

Saturday, May 31

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Story page 1

Jefferson Park Bungalow Tour

Saturday, June 7

Story page 19

West Adams Gardens

WAHA's Annual Garden Event

Hold the Date

Sunday, June 22

The WAHA Newsletter is a publication of the West Adams Heritage Association. Members and supporters of WAHA are invited to submit articles to the Newsletter. Letters will be published subject to space constraints and will be cut for length if necessary. Articles will be published subject to acceptance by the editors of the WAHA Board. Advertising is subject to the approval of the publishers. Although the Association appreciates its many fine advertisers, the Association does not accept responsibility for claims made by advertisers. Services and products are not tested and appearance of advertising does not imply, nor does it constitute, endorsement by the West Adams Heritage Association. Copyright 2003. All rights for graphic and written material appearing in the newsletter are reserved. Contact Director of Publications for permission.



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