

Musings...

MEMBER NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 2020

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

LIVING IN COLOR
HIGHER EDUCATION
ART GRAB EVENT
SUMMER ART CAMPS
WESTON COLLECTIVE
MCGIVES SUPPORT
DEBORAH FRIEDEN



Photo courtesy of Tom Birmingham.

Living in Color

Opening May 15, *Color Duets: Kaffe Fassett and Erin Lee Gafill* opens the door to the world of co-collaborators and uncle and niece pair—Kaffe and Erin. For two weeks each spring, they share an adobe and log cabin studio perched above the famous Nepenthe Restaurant. Here they set about creating paintings that reflect their individuality and commonality all at once. With their works reflecting the magic of Big Sur, Erin explains, “Nepenthe—and it’s extraordinary, eclectic, and creative milieu—influenced both Kaffe and me deeply, as it was his home during most of his teens, and where I grew up in the 60s and 70s.”

Kaffe Fassett has been accustomed to colorful forms of creative expression since his birth in San Francisco in

1937. Kaffe studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and soon after his studies, he moved to London. In 1964, Kaffe visited a Scottish wool mill, and it was on the train ride back to London that a fellow passenger taught Kaffe how to knit. Since, Kaffe’s color-infused textile works have been commissioned and collected by Barbra Streisand, Lauren Bacall, Shirley MacLaine, and others. He has also produced designs for companies such as Coach and Anthropologie. Fascinated by the natural world around him, Kaffe says “A sense of colour is not something that you automatically know about; you discover and rediscover its secrets by playing with it and, above all, by constantly looking.”

Erin Lee Gafill is an award-winning artist, teacher, and author, and her paintings are collected internationally. Like her uncle Kaffe, Erin also found creative expression through color and the power of place. During impressionable times in their lives, both Erin and Kaffe learned the importance of creativity and the pursuit of beauty in relationship with their home. Erin continues to live in Big Sur, and her work reflects its vast open spaces, dramatic coastline, and beauty. In talking about *Color Duets*, Erin says, “the paintings we do together will live within the context of all of this and more. The story we are telling is one of process as much as product.”



Learn more about *Color Duets: Kaffe Fassett and Erin Lee Gafill* at montereyart.org



From the Executive Director

Dear MMA Members and Friends,

Did you know there are more museums in the U.S. than Starbucks? However, museums, like other non-profit organizations, are not perceived as economic drivers for their communities. A 2017 American Alliance of Museums study revealed that for every dollar of revenue created at a museum, \$2.20 is generated in other areas of the economy. We provide positive impacts in so many arenas of our community. Our “business,” and its ripple effect, includes paying other small businesses such as local artists, framers, art galleries, insurance companies, building contractors, and even a boat works company when we had to refinish a sculpture in our collection. So while your latte goes a long way in supporting our local tax base, so does your community art museum. And that’s something we can all drink to.

Artfully yours,

Stuart A. Chase
Executive Director
schase@montereyart.org

The Arts in Higher Education

As an organization that supports lifelong learning, the Museum partners with many higher education institutions each year. Closing on April 5 at MMA Pacific Street, *The Ripple Effect: The Art of Education* features the work of artists and educators hired by Robynn Smith during her tenure at Monterey Peninsula College (1989 – 2018). MMA is honored to show the work of the Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) art community—a longstanding partner of the Museum.

A total of 24 different MPC artists and educators are featured in *The Ripple Effect: The Art of Education*. Over the years, these artists and educators have developed MPC’s Creative Arts Division, which offers

“**Monterey Peninsula College and the Monterey Museum of Art have always been entwined in their mission to provide a cultural nexus for the Monterey Bay Area.**”

– Robynn Smith



Photo: Moss Media Carmel

a wide array of quality art courses—such as Art Fundamentals, Ceramics, Sculpture, Art and Technology, Jewelry Making, Metal Arts, Graphic Arts, Photography, Art History, Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Book Arts, and more. With many options for study, MPC is a valuable higher education resource for arts learning in our community.

We look forward to future collaborations with MPC and other higher education institutions in the region in support of our mission to engage the community with the diversity of California art!



To learn more about classes at Monterey Peninsula College, visit mpc.edu

MMA VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JOHN A. GREENWALD



Author, Teacher, Researcher, Treasurer, Docent, Trustee—all roles fulfilled by one of MMA’s most extraordinary volunteers, John A. Greenwald. A native of the Monterey Peninsula, John has been involved at MMA since 2006 and has served the organization at almost every level since then. You can find him at nearly every Free Family Fun Day and exhibition opening at the Museum, and at the local library. His book “Wild Bird: The True Jazz Age Tale of Ruth Wightman Morris” brings to life the stories and secrets of MMA La Mirada when it was home to some of Hollywood’s elite in the 1920s. Next time you see John in the galleries, be sure to thank him for all he does for MMA.

Art Grab: Take Home an Objet D'Art

Art, like nature is circular. An idea, an image, or a performance springs forth to make an impression on others who, in turn, reinterpret those concepts in their own lives and expressions of art. This idea of life reimagined as art can be found in the pen and ink postcards, paintings, paper pulp shapes, ceramics, and painted LPs featured in *Stretched, Strung, and Strewn*—an exhibition of works by Robert Armstrong and Jennifer Brook-Kothlow (on view through April 26). Inspired by the world around them, their thought-provoking art and objects are evidence of their travels along many paths. Coming full circle, the artists will generously give away a hand-selected variety of works from the exhibition—

to be “grabbed” at our free community event on Wednesday, April 29 (5:30 to 7:30 pm). Enjoy local wine and small bites while you peruse the tables deciding which art piece you will grab when your ticket number is called. Art grab tickets are \$15 in advance or \$25 at the door. All ticket proceeds benefit the Museum.



Photo: Moss Media Carmel



For more information about *Stretched, Strung, and Strewn: Jennifer Brook-Kothlow and Robert Armstrong* and Art Grab tickets, visit montereyart.org

Have a Blast at Our Summer Art Camps!



Photo: Moss Media Carmel

Prevent summer brain drain and keep boredom at bay with MMA's summer camps! We handpick professional artists and art educators to design and lead fun, educational, and life-enriching activities for youth and families. While your kids are having a blast creating fantastic art in our multi-disciplinary camps, they are also learning about Science, History, Communications, Project Management, Critical Thinking, Creative Problem Solving, and so much more! Our art camps welcome kids ages 5-14 years old, and we have a family camp for parents or grandparents to take their kids on an adventure photography safari around the Monterey Peninsula with Zach Weston—of the world-renowned Weston Collective. We will also be offering our ever-popular LEGO® camps. Just in case you still aren't convinced, one week of art camp at MMA is only \$360 (full days), which is more affordable than child care. We hope to see you at camp!



For art camp details and to register, please visit montereyart.org/education/artcamp

Events Calendar

* Visit montereyart.org for the latest news and information regarding upcoming events. Please note programs may be subject to cancellation for reasons such as lack of pre-enrollment. All exhibitions and programs are at 559 Pacific Street unless otherwise indicated.

APR

AFTERNOON ART CLUB

Wednesdays, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29

3:30 – 5:00 pm

\$15 per student (per afternoon)

A weekly creative outlet Wednesday afternoons for children in grades 1- 4. This is a continuation of a series that explores the relationship between art and science! Ask about our Members' Punch Card for a discount.

1 AFTERNOON ART CLUB

Make Your Own Paints

3:30 – 5:00 pm

\$15 per student at the door

3 FIRST FRIDAY @ MMA

5:00 – 7:00 pm

\$5 Suggested Donation

Meet with artists, curators, and designers while celebrating new exhibitions. Enjoy art, live music, and cocktails.

5 CURRENTS: CYNTHIA SPILLMAN

Exhibition closes

8 AFTERNOON ART CLUB

Plaster Relief Sculptures

3:30 – 5:00 pm

\$15 per student at the door

10 CURRENTS+FLUX: TODD GILENS

Exhibition opens

12 JIM KASSON: CHRONOGRAPHY

Exhibition closes

15 AFTERNOON ART CLUB

Chromatography Weaving

3:30 – 5:00 pm

\$15 per student at the door

18 FREE FAMILY FUN DAY

Natural Wonders

11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Bring the whole family for "Natural Wonders" fun—featuring creative art projects inspired by nature!

19 THE RIPPLE EFFECT: THE ART OF EDUCATION

Exhibition closes

22 AFTERNOON ART CLUB

Design in Nature

3:30 – 5:00 pm

\$15 per student at the door

25 SPRING GALA

"A Secret Affair" Benefiting the Monterey Museum of Art (at La Mirada Cultural Center)

6:00 pm

Join us for an evening reminiscent of the Roaring '20s when Ruth and Gouverneur Morris hosted Rudolph Valentino and his Leading Ladies of the Silver Screen. Let the champagne flow as we recreate—and celebrate—the legacy that is La Mirada. For tickets visit montereyart.org

26 STRETCHED, STRUNG, AND STREWN: JENNIFER BROOK-KOTHLAW AND ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Exhibition closes

29 AFTERNOON ART CLUB

How High Skyscraper Sculpture

3:30 – 5:00 pm

\$15 per student at the door

➔ ART GRAB: A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Event Admission is Free

Art Grab Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$25 at the door

Enjoy local wine, small bites, and purchase tickets to take home hand-selected works of art from *Stretched, Strung, and Strewn: Jennifer Brook-Kothlow and Robert Armstrong!* All ticket proceeds benefit the Museum.



Photo courtesy of Tom Birmingham.

MAY

1 YOUTH ARTS COLLECTIVE & smART

Exhibitions open

FIRST FRIDAY @ MMA

5:00 – 7:00 pm

\$5 Suggested Donation

Meet with artists, curators, and designers while celebrating new exhibitions. Featuring Currents + FLUX Artist Todd Gilens, live music, and cocktails.

3 CURRENTS+FLUX: TODD GILENS

Exhibition closes

8 CURRENTS: STEPHEN GIANNETTI 2020 WESTON SCHOLARSHIP

Exhibitions open

2020 WESTON SCHOLARSHIP

Reception and Awards Ceremony

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Join us for a public reception in celebration of talented student photographers.

12 LECTURE

Color Duets: Kaffe Fassett and Erin Lee Gafill (at MIIS Irvine Auditorium)

6:30 – 8:00 pm

\$15 Members, \$20 Not-yet-Members, \$25 at the Door

Internationally-renowned textile artist Kaffe Fassett and his niece, award-winning artist, teacher, and author Erin Lee Gafill, invite you to join them on a whirlwind tour of their colorful and inspiring lives and work in anticipation of their upcoming exhibition. Space is limited.

14 COLOR DUETS: KAFFE FASSETT AND ERIN LEE GAFILL

Opening Reception

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Free for Members, \$15 for Not-yet-Members

15 COLOR DUETS: KAFFE FASSETT AND ERIN LEE GAFILL

Exhibition opens

15 MEMBERS' MORNING
Color Duets: Kaffe Fassett and Erin Lee Gafill
9:00 – 11:00 am
Sip some coffee and enjoy the exhibition during this special Members-only preview.

16 THE SENSATIONAL STILL LIFE
(at La Mirada Cultural Center)
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
\$375 Members, \$400 Not-yet-Members (Sold Out, Waitlist Only)
Join Kaffe Fassett for an immersive two-day workshop, where he will present his unique approach to painting the still life—focusing on arrangement, composition, drawing, and above all, color. Kaffe will offer daily demos as well as one-on-one critiques and feedback. He will demonstrate in acrylic paints, and participants can use oils or acrylics. Upon registration, a complete supplies list will be provided.

24 STITCH-N-BITCH
with Erin Lee Gafill and Kaffe Fassett
1:00 – 5:00 pm
\$5 Suggested Donation
Drop-in sewing, knitting, and more. Bring your textile projects from home and gather around for socializing and sharing!

31 STITCH-N-BITCH
with Erin Lee Gafill
1:00 – 5:00 pm
\$5 Suggested Donation
Drop-in sewing, knitting, and more. Bring your textile projects from home and gather around for socializing and sharing!

JUN

5 FIRST FRIDAY @ MMA
5:00 – 7:00 pm
\$5 Suggested Donation
Meet with artists, curators, and designers while celebrating new exhibitions. Featuring Currents Artist Stephen Giannetti, live music, and cocktails.

6 FREE FAMILY FUN DAY
Color Story
11:00 am – 5:00 pm
Join us for creative art projects inspired by the work of Kaffe Fassett and Erin Lee Gafill!

7 CURRENTS: STEPHEN GIANNETTI
Exhibition closes

12 CURRENTS: CYNTHIA ONA INNIS
Exhibition opens

14 STITCH-N-BITCH
with Erin Lee Gafill
1:00 – 5:00 pm
\$5 Suggested Donation
Drop-in sewing, knitting, and more. Bring your textile projects from home and gather around for socializing and sharing!

18 FAMILY FUN WORKSHOP
with Erin Lee Gafill
3:30 – 5:00 pm
\$5 per Child or \$10 per Family
Fun with color and collage! All supplies provided.

27 FERMENT EVENT
6:00 – 9:00 pm
\$5 General Admission
\$15 Punchcard pre-sale
\$20 at the door
Join us for our third annual Ferment Event showcasing emerging contemporary artists, zine makers, and fermented food and beverage purveyors to create an evening where live music, art, and community converge!

28 STITCH-N-BITCH
with Erin Lee Gafill
1:00 – 5:00 pm
\$5 Suggested Donation
Drop-in sewing, knitting, and more. Bring your textile projects from home and gather around for socializing and sharing!

2020 WESTON SCHOLARSHIP
Exhibition closes



Photo credits this page: Moss Media Carmel.

UPCOMING JULY

2 MARK TRUJILLO: FAST FOOD
Exhibition opens

4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
The Museum is open!
11:00 am – 5:00 pm

8 ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING AND BBQ
(at La Mirada Cultural Center)
5:00 – 7:00 pm

10 KAREN HALVERSON: TREES, CHAIRS, AND POWER LINES
Exhibition opens



Visit montereyart.org for additional details about the Museum's upcoming exhibitions and programs.



Community Partner Spotlight:

The Weston Collective Community Darkroom



Photos courtesy of Zach Weston.

The Weston Collective Community Darkroom is a valuable resource for photography in the local community. Located at the Weston Collective's headquarters at the Martin Luther King Jr. School of the Arts (MLKSOA) on Broadway Avenue in Seaside, the Community Darkroom features

a number of tools to encourage the development and processing of traditional black and white film photographs.

With five enlarger stations and two eight-foot sinks, there is plenty of room to create art in a comfortable space. The space includes a stand-alone developing room that is specifically designed for processing film, and here users are able to process black and white, color negative, and color slide film in 35mm, medium format, and 4x5 and 8x10 formats.

The studio space also contains everything necessary for post processing prints. There are three mount presses, a print cutter, and an array of large tables to work on. The setup also includes several printers—allowing for the ability to scan film from 35mm up to 4x5, and the production of beautiful archival digital prints up to 24 inches wide.

The Community Darkroom is also where the Weston Collective offers workshops including: Cyanotypes, Gum Bichromate, Na₂ Palladium, Photoshop Flow, Carbon Transfer, and Large Format Photography. Part of the Weston Collective's community outreach, Executive Director, Zach Weston also uses the Community Darkroom to teach MLKSOA 5th graders the art of creating silver gelatin prints. Visit thewestoncollective.org for more information about the Weston Collective's mission as well as Community Darkroom rental options and hours.



Join us at the Museum on May 8 for the 2020 *Weston Scholarship* Public Reception and Awards Ceremony (5:30 – 7:30 pm). The exhibition will be on view through June 28, 2020. For details, please visit montereyart.org

Thank you for your Monterey County Gives Support!



Photo: Moss Media Carmel

A big thank you to all of our 2019 Monterey County Gives supporters for their gifts towards making MMA exhibitions more interactive! Every donation made is helping the Museum offer hands-on engagement in the galleries to support diverse modes of learning. You helped us raise \$43,864.59 in donations and matching support, and we also received the "most young donors (18-35)" award!

Our special appreciation to those who were leading supporters of the Museum through the 2019 Gives campaign:

Judith and Thomas Archibald
Justin Braiker, Neumeier Poma
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Stuart A. Chase



BOARD SPOTLIGHT:

Adriana Hayward, Psy.D.

In addition to her role as President of the Board of Trustees, Adriana Hayward is a licensed clinical psychologist and consultant for Hayward Healthy Home. Her background in Art History (Wellesley College), dedication to the arts and community, and knowledge of the physical environment, makes her a valuable resource and advocate for the Museum and its mission.

TRIBUTES *December 1, 2019 – February 29, 2020*

In Honor of Christine Chin
by Carmel Realty Company

In Memory of Ned Dewey
by Shannon Damnavits

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and E. C. Fortune
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To learn more about how to support MMA or to make a gift, please contact Shannon Damnavits, Director of External Relations, at advancement@montereyart.org or call 831.372.5477 x105.



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Musings...

Musings is a quarterly publication for Members of the Monterey Museum of Art

OUR MISSION

The Monterey Museum of Art cultivates curiosity in the visual arts and engages community with the diversity of California art—past, present, and future.

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SPRING/SUMMER 2020

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Q&A

Deborah Frieden

ARTS AND CULTURE CONSULTANT



Q What role do you think cultural organizations should play in their communities?

A Cultural organizations, particularly museums, play an increasingly vital role in communities by providing authentic experiences that transcend and counter the impersonal digital world. They are respected and trusted sources for information at a time when few other sources are trusted. Museums and cultural organizations provide platforms to discuss or engage with issues that might be difficult to encounter in other settings—such as in the news, on television, or even discussions among friends.

Q: Are they an economic driver? How so?

Absolutely, and community leaders have long understood this. Museums and cultural organizations improve the quality of life and increase educational opportunities, which leads to a more creative workforce that can compete in the global economy. A great quality of life and educational opportunities also mean that more people want to live in that community. With that, businesses thrive because they can attract the employees they need and also find increased economic vitality from growing populations with good jobs.



Visit montereyart.org/blog to read the complete Q&A with Deborah Frieden.