
Types and Shadows

The Journal of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts

Issue # 45

Winter 2009/10

MY DREAM CONFERENCE

By Esther Murer

Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting

First, the accommodations:
The socially conscious wealthy
sleep in a boxcar with no mattresses
and draw their own water from a well.
I find a place in a dorm
for Bach lovers.

I've forgotten to bring my meds.
Someone is going to town.
I try to make a list,
but it seems that these days
all college-ruled paper comes
with automatic overwrite.

They're circulating a petition
printed on music paper;
but by the time I finish

composing my signature,
the petition has already
been delivered.

I check out the art exhibit.
All works containing a 4, 8, or 9
have been confiscated
under the Patriot Act.
The only thing on display
is a ratty old beach towel.

The day's activities conclude
with a guided meditation.
Given what I've seen so far
it comes as no surprise
that we are told to use the mantra:
"Odd ... odd ... odd"



Photo by Blair Seitz

SAVE THE DATES WE HAVE A LOT GOING ON!

March 26, 27, 28 – Annual Sessions and FQA Artists’
Gallery Show at Arch Street Meeting House

February 18th and 19th, 2011

Annual FQA Conference –

And for the first time, a two-day conference!

The artist knows something else, wordless, oftentimes, but he knows it deep within him: that if it were not for the struggle and the loneliness he undergoes in his search for integrity there would be no strength or beauty in his work. (And though art is not for the sake of beauty, beauty must be there or the profound revelation the artist makes would be unbearable.)

The artist in us knows, the poet in us knows: it is the mark not of ordeal but of mastered ordeal that gives a face, a life, a great event or a great work of art its style. The wound is there but the triumph also, the death and the birth, the pain and the deep satisfactions: it is all there in delicate equilibrium, speaking to us. Lillian Smith

Correction: Anne Haehl, featured artist in the Summer 2009 issue of *Types and Shadows*, was listed incorrectly. She is not from Evanston OH, but is from Oread Friends Meeting in Lawrence, Kansas!

FQA HAPPENINGS

by Maria Cattell, Clerk of FQA

FQA is happening! We had our *4th Arts Conference* at Pendle Hill in October 2009, then enjoyed an *artists' dinner* at Arch Street Meetinghouse in February 2010. We'll have another *art show* at PYM's March Sessions (with art for sale this year), an *artists' dinner* in May and another in the fall, and our *5th Arts Conference* in February 2011.

Happening: Supper with Jules—“listen for the song of the ink”

We didn't let the promise of snow stop us. A cheerful crowd of 27 Quaker artists and art appreciators enjoyed a catered meal at Arch Street Meetinghouse on February 24. Then we went to a different room to learn about printmaking from Jules. Prints by Jules were mounted on walls and tables were covered with various tools and materials.

Jules first asked her audience to come up with one word answers to this question: “What for me is the connection between the divine and creativity?” The list: unconscious, special consciousness, intuition, font (fountain), light, love, family, nature, visioning, fire, response, co-creating, renewal of energy, transformation, depth of emotion, the gift is unity through love. “You've just written my talk,” Jules told us, “I'll try to touch on these as I talk.” You may want to think about these ideas in relation to your own art!

Jules then took us through the process of printmaking, beginning with inspiration (such as a photo of the sea or an old tractor), then drawing the design and transferring the design to the plate (often linoleum or wood). Next is cutting the plate using a variety of sharp tools—“keep bandaids handy.” When drawing and cutting, “sometimes I just let my hands go” and let intuition take over. Finally, ink the plate—“you want to hear the right song of the ink”—and pull prints. Jules rarely uses a press, preferring hand rubbing, which is “like unity with love, like depth of emotion, like so many of those words.” She likes to print on cloth (such as muslin and silk) as well as on various kinds of paper including handmade. With printmaking, she said, “you're always thinking in reverse. A mirror is a good item to have in your studio.”

To see some of Jules' prints and learn more about her work, visit her website: www.heronpondstudio.com. I visited and learned that Jules is self-taught and that she makes relief prints, cutting out the design and pulling a number of prints from one plate, and more painterly monoprints, which add rather than take away (e.g., putting paint on a plate with brush or palette knife) and allow only one print per design (hence, monoprint).

Thanks, Jules, for a fun, creative and inspiring evening!

Happening: 5th Arts Conference, February 18-19, 2011

Yes, a two-day event! From Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, with overnight accommodations at Burlington Conference Center. We'll have an art show, reception, workshops, performers. Put it on your calendar now. More news will be coming your way as we develop the program.



Photo by Blair Seitz

The First Annual ArtsonArch Juried Gallery Show and Sale

Over 40 artists submitted work to the first annual ArtsonArch gallery show and sale at the Arch Street Meeting House in Philadelphia on November 5th. The works included paintings, wood and metal sculpture, printmaking, photography, and much more. An added treat was a concert with Livingston Taylor and Liz Longley that packed the Meeting House! The artist's reception on Friday evening was very well attended and a number of works were sold that evening. Entertainment was provided by Kathy Singer (Abington Meeting), Pamela Anderson (Haddonfield Meeting), and Larry Toto (Abington Meeting). Keith Calmes also delighted with his beautiful guitar music.



Report from the Annual FQA
Arts Conference
October 24, 2009

" Quaker Art Conference '09 "

by Doris Pulone
Mount Holly Meeting

Light rain, slippery leaves
Bright gold paint dabbed on silk
Spreading, spreading

Comfy warm Meeting Room
Stories of our lives as artists
Spreading, spreading

Familiar, new songs
One overwhelmed me, tears
Spreading, spreading

Beautiful guitar, backdrop of art
Friendships and support
Spreading, spreading



Sculpting Workshop with Carol Sexton

**All photos from the conference
by Blair Seitz**



Silk Painting Workshop with Judy Ballinger



Marti Rogers & Tom Levy Performing
Beautifully

In Memoriam: Narcissa Weatherbee

By Doris Pulone, Mount Holly Meeting

Narcissa Weatherbee, a member of Woodbury Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, studied at the Brooklyn Museum of Art School, the Fleisher Art Memorial and Cooper Union Art School. Her work had been exhibited regionally at Allens Lane Art Center, Philadelphia Art Alliance and Gloucester County College. She had taught at Paulsboro High School and Woodbury Friends School and was a member of The Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts. Narcissa died in December.

Narcissa was very active with FQA and we were so pleased that she showed and led a workshop on Painting for us at the first Quaker Arts Conference at Burlington Meetinghouse. About a decade earlier, she had been a featured artist at the Coffeehouses we had on Friday nights at Mount Holly Meeting (NJ). I knew her through these things.



Photo by Chuck Fager

In an interview, Narcissa stated, "At this stage of my life, I'm just happy to continue. I just do what I do," she said.

And she did it all so beautifully. We will miss her.



Sketch by Narcissa Weatherbee

GLINT

By Trudy Myrrh Reagan
Palo Alto, CA, Meeting

In a valley of carpenters
early autumn mornings
have the golden smell of sawn wood.
Today,
anticipation of the disk-saws whining
and the ring
of arrhythmic hammer falls on
the drums of joisted house frames
Echoing between ridges
make this silence
sing.

More news from the Conference...

The conference was well attended with over 30 artists and artwork. Keith Calmes, guitarist extraordinaire, performed at our reception and close of the day. If you have not attended one of our annual conferences, you should really make a point of marking the next date in your calendar – February 18th and 19th at Burlington Meeting House, Burlington, New Jersey.



Dance Workshop with Richard Jerram and Maria Cattell



Carol Sexton and clay workshop participants

EXTENDING FORGIVENESS

*By Trudy Myrrh Reagan
Palo Alto, CA, Meeting*

Can I extend my forgiveness
to those sworn to protect me
with
billy clubs
riot gear
tasers
pepper spray
sanctioned brutality
sharpshooter rifles
prison lockdowns
lethal injections
covert operations
low-intensity warfare
first strike attacks
patriot missiles
tank-piercing projectiles
nuclear weapons anthrax and all
the potential of genetic research?
Can I extend my forgiveness
to those I pay handsomely
to be paranoid?

At His Own Memorial Service
By Marian Kaplun Shapiro
Cambridge (New England) Meeting

To Adam Curle, 4 July 1916 – 28 September 2006

Imagine being there.

Tom Sawyer at his funeral hearing the tales
of his mischievous escapades, his pranks even funnier
in the retelling than he remembered. Best of all,
his cranky aunt breaking out in new felt tears.
Hiding in the balcony, Tom ate it up.
It was the moment closest to a mother's love
that he'd ever had. It would have been worth dying for,
tho it wasn't necessary in that case.

You are dead for real,
however. I imagine your listening
from the balcony, while your old friends replay
your old adventures, riding camels, donkeys, horses, in
pursuit of peace between whatever warring peoples (never
a lack of these). Some facts, you notice, are a little off -
a date, an episode colliding with another.
Do you mind? Do you yearn to leap out for just
a moment, to add a footnote of errata?

Never mind the details.

You were loved from the start. You're smiling,
your peaceful face in crannies of enjoyment. You're laughing
with us, remembering the princes, presidents, and kings,
ambassadors, and pirates, murderers and monks
you bantered with, the beer you brewed, the jokes you told,
the jokes you laughed at. The books. The music.
A siren rises, peaks. The room waits. Silence falls.
The string quartet begins: *Sheep Will Safely Graze*.

You're having a good time, I'm glad to say,
the time of your life.



“I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME, YOU ARE MINE”

By Maria Cattell, Lancaster Meeting

*Let me now call them by name,
the magical places
connecting me to earth, to life,
to mysteries of the universe;
to “Ma,” Mother Nature, Gaia, Zeus—
goddesses and gods of earth and sky,
rulers of the known and the unknown.
Magical places, sacred spaces.*

*Places lushly green:
Pennsylvania’s bluebottle field in spring time,
Persephone’s time,
the Susquehanna’s rolling river hills,
hills of home,
hills of cornfields and peach trees,
ravines and woods;
and far from home...
mossy damp of Ho Rain Forest
tree spirits of Hawaii’s Foster Garden
misty high hills of Natal.*

*Let me name places harshly dry,
in the arid zone:
lands of rivers without water,
of rocks twisted and brilliant—
Sedona, Bryce Canyon and Grand,
Painted Desert;
and high sagebrush plains—
Billings, Big Timber, Ishawooa.*

*Ancient sacred places:
the labyrinth at Knossos
olive-gnarled Delphic hills of the python goddess
tumbled rocks and ancient abbey in the Sinai
Westminster Abbey
Chartres.*

*Let me name cultivated places, gardens:
Longwood, Kew, Kirstenbosch,
Nairobi arboretum,*

*Durban Botanic, Chelsea Physick, Golden Gate,
Huntington, Filoli, Versailles...
the names roll off my tongue.
And yes,
Mount Cuba Center for the Study of
Piedmont Flora,
unpoetic name for a centering place
for native plant nuts like me;
and coming home again, our own
Hillside Haven Sculpture Gardens.*

*And the book places, come to life:
Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens,
Yorkshire’s moors and dales,
Brother Cadfael’s gardens and herbarium,
the Night Land where the Watchers watch
and, most magical of all, Rivendell.*

*And Africa,
dark and bright,
compelling and tragic,
let me name your places:
rainbow-splashed thunder of the Zambezi,
Musi-o-tunya, Victoria Falls;
the fynbos/“fine bush” of the Cape
Floral Kingdom, wind-whipped and
dancing with ericas, proteas, restios;
golden sweep of the dry season Serengeti Plain,
Lake Turkana’s austere shores...
and the people, the landscapes of people,
in Kenya,
in the grey blue hazy Samia Hills,
my other hills of home.*

*Yes, let me name these places,
magical places, sacred spaces—
let me call their names,
let me make them mine.*

Title quotation is from Isaiah 43:1.

NEWS FROM NEW ARTIST COMMUNITIES

Friends in the Arts (FITA), the Santa Fe, New Mexico, chapter of FQA, began in early 2009 and meets alternatively between our southside location and Canyon Road Meetinghouse in the heart of the city's well known art district.

We invite Friends from all directions to visit and perhaps stay in our guest apartment. Let some of us be your guides in Santa Fe and northern New Mexico – to share the grand countryside, rich history and multi-faceted creative activities: traditional, contemporary, secular and all sacred.

To celebrate our inauguration, we mounted an exhibit including origami, photography, poetry, weaving, watercolor and poetry. All mediums are welcome.

For more information contact Kathy Burke at kathyburke302@yahoo.com and/or for information about the guest apartment contact: guestapartment@yahoo.com

FQA News... *Types and Shadows* will be accepting classified ads from FQA members at no charge. Ads should be no larger than 2"x 4". Ads will be limited to art classes offered by members and upcoming shows that members are participating in, and similar items. Sales of artwork will not be accepted. Ads will be placed at the discretion of the Editor. Please email Elke at maureenelke@verizon.net



Waiting by Elke Muller

The Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts Board

The following FQA members currently serve on the Board of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts:

- * Maria Cattell, Clerk
mgcattell@aol.com
- * Carol Sexton – Assistant Clerk
CSexton@pendlehill.org
- * Doris Pulone, Treasurer
dpulone@comcast.net
- * Elke Muller, Editor T&S and Membership Care
maureenelke@verizon.net
- * Chuck Fager
chuckfager@aol.com
- * Blair Seitz
blair@blairseitz.com

If you are interested in taking a more active role in FQA, please send an e-mail to Maria Cattell at:
mgcattell@aol.com

If you have questions with regard to your FQA membership, please contact Elke Muller at
maureenelke@verizon.net

Visit our website at:

<http://www.quaker.org/fqa/>

Submissions Deadline for our next issue is
April 30th, 2010

Send a story, poem, photo or other artwork to
Elke Muller at:
maureenelke@verizon.net
or to the FQA address below.

If you have an arts conference, play, gallery opening, et cetera, send the information to me for publication in the next T&S!

Please note: Entries will not be returned and will be published at the Editor's discretion

Join FQA!

\$25 per year for individuals;
\$40 for families and
\$50 per year for groups.
Send membership dues &
your postal address to:

FQA c/o PYM
Street
1515 Cherry
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Please make check out to Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you wish to receive Types and Shadows online and save us postage and paper, please let Elke Muller know at
maureenelke@verizon.net

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Winter 2009-10 #45
In this Issue

My Dream Conference.....	1
Save the Dates.....	2
Clerk's Column.....	3
<u>Arts on Arch</u>	4
Report from FQA October Conference...	5
In Memoriam ~ Narcissa Weatherbee.....	6
At His Own Memorial Service.....	8
I Have Called You By Name.....	9
New Artist Community News.....	10

FQA Statement of Purpose

To nurture and showcase the literary, visual, musical and performing arts within the Religious Society of Friends, for purposes of Quaker expression, ministry, witness and outreach.

To these ends, we will offer spiritual, practical and financial support as way opens