

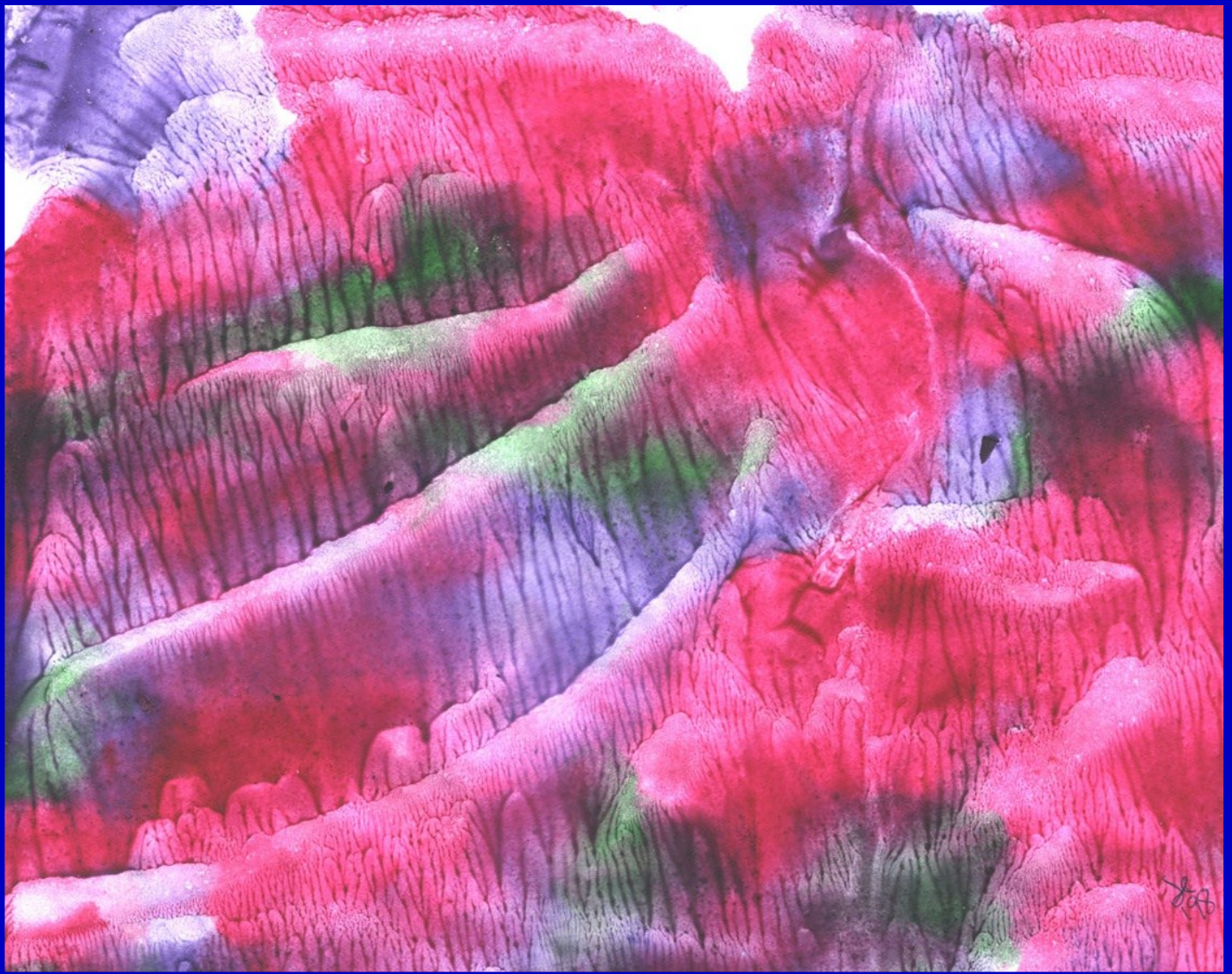


# *Types and Shadows*

Journal of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts

Issue # 51

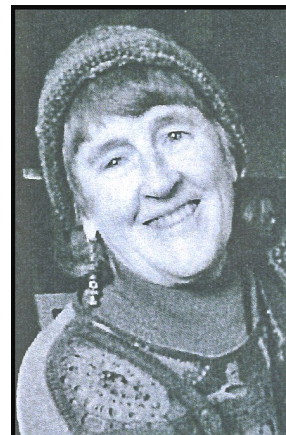
Spring 2012



*"My Angel Came"* acrylic on water color paper © Jennifer Elam

***In this Issue...*** View art from artists who live in New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania: Liz Di Giorgio, Winifred Keane, Jennifer Elam (front and back cover art), Sebastian Martinez and Terry Foss

# Our Clerk speaks...



Maria Cattell © Seitz

[www.fqa.quaker.org](http://www.fqa.quaker.org)

**T & S Editor**

**Blair Seitz**

blair@blairseitz.com  
109 N 3rd Avenue  
West Reading PA 19611  
610-743-3950

**FQA Board Members**

**Maria Cattell**

Clerk  
[mgcattell@aol.com](mailto:mgcattell@aol.com)

**Doris Pulone**

Treasurer  
[dpulone@comcast.net](mailto:dpulone@comcast.net)

**Chuck Fager**

[chuckfager@aol.com](mailto:chuckfager@aol.com)

**Adrian Martinez**

[asl.martinez@verizon.net](mailto:asl.martinez@verizon.net)

**Blair Seitz**

[blair@blairseitz.com](mailto:blair@blairseitz.com)

**Membership Care**

**Elke Muller**

[Maureenelke@verizon.net](mailto:Maureenelke@verizon.net)

*Types and Shadows* is published quarterly by the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts (FQA), c/o Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1515 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. FQA Membership is \$25 annually.

*Submission deadlines are:* Sept. 15, Dec. 15, March 15 and June 15.

FQA is under the care of Trenton Monthly Meeting.

I welcome everyone to the FQA ARTS CONFERENCE: Oct 19 -20 at the Burlington Conference Center, Burlington, NJ:

Friday; Register 4:30-6:30; Bring art to exhibit; Dinner 6:30

7:30 **ADRIAN MARTINEZ: "Where Two Worlds Meet: Quakers and Native Americans"** Adrian's paintings were featured in *Types & Shadows* #50. He will show slides and tell us how he accomplished this remarkable project about historical relationships among Quakers and Native Americans. Adrian studied art at the Maryland Institute College of Art, Purdue University and St. Martin's, London.

9:00 **Marianne and Tom Tucker** will use folk traditions and many instruments in this performance. 9:30 **Open mike:** a lot of fun at the 2011 conference, sure to be fun this year too. Music and readings.

*Saturday: breakfast, meeting for worship, workshops from 9:30 till 11:00, then membership meeting and lunch, with plenty of free time to converse and enjoy the art show. Workshops from 2:00 to 3:30.*

**Jack & Sharon Fanning: "Become One with Your Digital Camera"** (2 sessions, AM & PM) Bring your digital camera and learn how to get the best results. Jack has a photography studio in Philly and has photographed over 3,000 weddings. Sharon enjoys nature and macro photography and painting from the results. They teach photography at Gloucester County College and elsewhere.

**Jules: "What Would George Fox Say? An Improv Theater Experience"** (2 sessions, AM & PM) We'll use improvisational skills to think outside the box about the relevance today of the words of George Fox and other early Quakers and do an improv skit based on input from conference attendees. Jules is a printmaker who works with the after school program at Moses Brown Friends School.

**Liz Gates: "Working with Paper: Beyond a Simple Accordion"** (AM) Learn the trick to folding a perfect accordion and make a small photo album using a variation on the accordion fold to hold in the pages: no sewing, only simple tools. Liz is a hand bookbinder and a juried member of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen.

**Pat Reed Nute & Marilyn Morrison: "Clay: Naturally!"** (AM) Participants will hand build individual pieces (which can be brisqued and returned) and a group piece. Marilyn, specializing in wheel work, and Pat, specializing in hand building, head the clay studio at Lancaster County Art Association. They love teaching the joys and satisfactions of working with clay.

**Jennifer Elam: "Writing and Spirituality"** (PM) Jennifer will engage participants with experiences in writing and spirituality. She has published three books illustrated with her own paintings. Her latest is *My Angel Came*. Jennifer is a certified school psychologist.

**Marti Rogers: "Working with a Microphone"** (PM) For musicians, poets, speakers: learn how to work with a mike for best sound quality and select and set up a sound system. Bring instruments, a song or a short piece to try out. Marti is a song writer-singer.

4:00 **Marti Rogers & Tom Levy musical performance:** Marti accompanies her songs on auto-harp, guitar or lap dulcimer, Tom provides the beat on bass fiddle. Marti's folk music performances go back to her leadership in the 1960s anti-war movement. Marti and Tom will be playing during the reception for the art show.

We have wonderfully talented artists for the workshops and performances. See you there!

**For the arts, Maria Cattell**

## *A note from the Editor...*

I first viewed **Liz Di Giorgio**'s art at the FQA art conference in 2011. I was awed by its simplicity and fine detail. I only hope that our attention to good printing will do justice to her talent. **Jennifer Elam**'s free spirit seems to transfer into the lively, bright colors in her paintings. I'm happy to show several choice pieces in **T&S** from her prolific work. I'm pleased to meet accomplished music composer **Winifred Keane** again in her fine poetry and to introduce wordsmith **Sebastian Martinez**. You will need to look twice to comprehend the dramatic 360 degree photograph by **Terry Foss**. **Enjoy the Journal!** -Blair



**B. Seitz ©J. Ballinger**

## *Response from our readers...*

Dear Editor,

A friend recently expressed reluctance to contribute her professional level work to **T&S**. Professionals have every right to restrict their work to venues of their choice. However, losing her beautiful, deeply meaningful work would be a terrible loss. She might pull the less-skilled ahead and inspire them to grow in their own creative expression.

**Query 1:** How do we value the arts in the Society of Friends?

**Query 2:** Is amateur art as "real" as professional art?

**Query 3:** How do we measure artistic value?

Historically, the arts were rejected as the provenance of the wealthy, therefore counter to Quaker simplicity. They were tainted with heresy, graven images, and idols. When Friend Edward Hicks painted his many versions of "The Peaceable Kingdom," he supported himself and his family by sign-painting, and was eluded negatively for painting and framing "useless" art. However, I credit him with opening Quaker minds giving permission to use the arts, at least, to teach "good" moral values. One example of our progress may be IMYM's (Inter-Mountain Yearly Meeting) joy in receiving more focus on the arts.

As a registered art therapist, I know that the value of an art piece, poem, song, dance, or a performance is impossible to rate. The crudest-appearing product may inspire deep insight in its maker. The expertly-painted large canvas by a

"name" artist may be a facile toss-off just to sell.

But artists need food and shelter so they can continue to create. I believe that the conflict of art and commerce distorts the arts into commodities and challenges us as gifted Friends. Can we encourage and invite the Muse into our lives and meetings, rejoice in well-crafted and beautiful things without disdaining unschooled artistic expression?

I suspect that when queries about artistic quality, taste, meaning, utility and worth are shared and threshed, there can be no expectation of unity, but I invite others' thoughts.

-**Marybeth Webster**, Cochise Worship Group, McNeal, Arizona

## *72A artists in action...*

**Annabella Wood** was interviewed on "The Tenth Voice" on KKKFI 90.1, Kansas City, on March 17th. The program with host, Elizabeth Anderson, is an LGBT affairs prime time show. Also in March Annabella performed two Sundays at Circle of Miracles, an interdenominational church in New Britain, Pennsylvania. One fan of her album, "Truck Driving Mama" says, "Your CD needs a warning label—"This music is addictive."

**Trudy Myrrh Reagan** tells us, "See how artists have fun. Check out my new face book page, [www.facebook.com/pages/Myrrh/180695835350548](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Myrrh/180695835350548). If it gives you a chuckle, please 'like' the page. If I get enough 'likes' I can shorten my URL for facebook."

**Jennifer Elam** invites all to the 2nd Friday of each month sharing of creative endeavors at Springfield Friends Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Road, Springfield, PA. Potluck is at 6pm and sharing at 7pm.

**Come out to support Tibetans who suffer from human rights violations. Attend a fund raising concert on May 12, 2012, at 7pm, at Swarthmore Monthly Meeting, 12 Whittier Place, Swarthmore, PA. The concert is a result of Jennifer Elam's visit to Tibet when she "fell in love with their simple yet sustainable lifestyle..." At the concert Tibetans will dance and share of their Philadelphia activities. There will also be music by the Ridley Creek Band, Appalachian Cloggers and the Oak Womyn's Drumming Circle. Artist's will sell art. Bring a snack or drink to share. The cost is \$10 (more if you can afford it). Share this information and bring family and friends.**

### **T&S** When did you discover your artistic skills?

As a child, I had an amazing experience the first time I ever painted at an easel. I vividly remember painting alternating stripes of red and blue when I was suddenly astonished by a purple aura that seemed to emanate from the paper. I didn't know that red and blue always vibrate when placed adjacent to each other. To me, it just seemed extraordinary, and I understood from that moment that a painting could be a very powerful thing.

The elementary school that I attended didn't offer art classes, but I was fascinated by any mention of art that came up in our textbooks or in class. I remember seeing a reproduction of Albert Pinkham Ryder's *The Racetrack (Death on a Pale Horse)* in a textbook and being astounded by it. It reinforced my understanding of painting as being very powerful.

It wasn't until I attended the High School of Art and Design in New York that I had formal art classes and my first experience of oil painting. I realized at once that this was something I knew how to do. Studying at Cooper Union further developed my understanding of art and enabled me to discern the beginnings of an artistic direction; however, it wasn't until graduate school at Hunter College of the City University of New York that my personal aesthetic began to take shape. The beauty of painting is that, with every passing year, one's personal aesthetic becomes stronger and more deeply embedded with meaning.

### **T&S** Where do you find your inspiration?

Because I paint on a near daily basis, painting has become a kind of diary, representing my life in its entirety as well as what is currently occupying my thoughts. For example, the painting entitled *Still Life for 2009* was made with great sympathy for those losing their jobs, homes and pensions. The hand depicted appears to be making a calming gesture. It can also be interpreted as a universal gesture of blessing. At the same time, it holds great personal meaning for me because the small hand reminds me of my daughter's childhood. My favorite paintings are those that are dense with

many levels of meaning, none of which contradicts another.

### **T&S** Do you have venues to show or publish your art? Do you sell your art?

I am glad to note that one of my earliest exhibitions was among Friends in Philadelphia in 2000. From there I started exhibiting my work at the More Gallery in Philadelphia, and then moved on to the Jason McCoy Gallery in New York.



© Aaron Deetz

## **T&S interviews artist Liz Di Giorgio from Astoria, Queens, NYC**

### **T&S** Do you have an artists' group, coop, friends or a partner that you work with?

I haven't yet collaborated with other artists, but I am glad to have friends who are artists. We form a support network for each other, and yet we understand that our work requires long stretches in the studio when we may be out of touch with each other.



**"Still Life for 2009"**  
26"X 26" oil on linen  
2009 (original in color)  
© Liz Di Giorgio

### **What does being creative" mean for you?**

It means keeping oneself open to leadings, just as Friends are accustomed to doing.



Above: "Nineteenth Rondel" (#87) 31"x31"  
oil on linen 2010 Right: "Untitled" (#91)  
31"x31" oil on linen 2010 (Originals in color)  
© Liz Di Gorgio



**T&S Do Quaker values of peace, simplicity and integrity have relevance for your artistic expression?**

Quaker values are present in all my work. Peace is a central theme in terms of subjects and the very manner in which I paint, which seeks to unite all elements in harmony.

In 2010 I received a Professional Staff Congress-City University of New York Research Award to create a series of paintings entitled *Tea Vessels*. This series, featuring teapots from various cultures, symbolizes the idea that all cultures have the capacity to offer hospitality, sustenance and goodwill, the basic building blocks of peace. When seen from a conventional perspective, a teapot is simply a cozy domestic object, but, when seen from an aerial perspective, as in *Untitled (#91)*, it takes on a very powerful appearance and becomes, for me, a universal emblem of peace.

Simplicity is essential to me for all of the reasons that Friends value it. It is also central to my aesthetic sense, a

belief that simplicity increases our capacity to appreciate beauty. The paintings entitled *Nineteenth Rondel* and *Witness* feature rich nature-related imagery that I believe is greatly enhanced by the spare context.

Integrity is also a crucial concept in my work and it is symbolized by the strong, raking light that illuminates all of the objects depicted. This kind of light is the most revealing, so it is used as a metaphor for the truth, which we know can often be hidden and elusive in life. T&S

**Liz Di Giorgio is a member of Flushing Monthly Meeting, Flushing, Queens, New York City.**

**She is a graduate of Cooper Union School of Art, NYC and she did her graduate work at Hunter College, NYC. She “enjoys very much” teaching painting and drawing at Queens Borough Community College of the City University of New York. In addition to receiving the PSC-CUNY award (noted in her interview), Liz received two Krasner grants, in 2000 and 2004. Her daughter, Valerie Smosna, is a junior at Haverford College. Liz invites you to contact her to be on her mailing list. Her e-mail address is: lzdigiorgio@yahoo.com**



“Witness” oil on linen (original in color) © Liz Di Giorgio

# Jennifer Elam's paintings dance with

## prayer

The brilliant colors (see back and front cover) in Jennifer Elam's art are an outward expression of her prayer life. She says, "My art is about prayer, meditation and playfulness made visible." As a friend of Jennifer's who has participated in her workshops, I can attest to her freedom of expression—the fire in her belly—which she passes on to the workshop participants. For Jennifer art is all about expressing inner spiritual life and very little about technique.

Jennifer does not claim to be a professional artist, yet she is prolific with her art work. She is a psychologist with a Ph.D. in School Psychology from University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She has taught in colleges, has worked in residential treatment and has been a public school psychologist for all age groups at varying times. Over the last ten years she has been psychologist in Early Intervention with her most loved group—three and four year olds.

This year she has been granted a half year sabbatical to write. She says her deepest calling is writing. Jennifer has written books including *Dancing with God through the Storm: Mysticism and Mental Healing*, *Are You There God or Am I Going Crazy* and *My Angel Came*. Her exploration of art and spirituality began at Pendle Hill with Sally Palmer, at that time the arts director, as her mentor. Last year



"Paths through the Jungle," acrylic on watercolor paper (original in color) © Jennifer Elam

Jennifer was one of the presenters in the Pendle Hill series on artists and spirituality. Her title, "Art as Infused Mystical Spirituality," described her "desire to infuse the creative spirit into all of my life, to pray without ceasing. I live arts as basic to my spirituality. I drum. I dance. I paint. I write books. I teach. I write poetry—all as prayer. The creative response is there as I ride my bike or write psychological reports," she says.

In the Pendle Hill illustrated lecture Jennifer said she lives to be "connected to my Creator so that I can live the life I was intended to live and to do the work I was intended to do... to listen as the best that I can, following my Guide as best as I can without outrunning that Guide—to trust the goodness of my own heart as well as question the goodness of my heart. I desire to listen and follow the calling to co-create with my Creator."

Jennifer was born in Georgetown, Kentucky and has lived in the Virgin Islands and six states including her present residence in Media, Pennsylvania. She attends the Swarthmore (PA) Monthly Meeting and is a member of Berea MM (Kentucky). Jennifer's e-mail is [jenelam@aol.com](mailto:jenelam@aol.com).

—by the editor from Jennifer's notes

**Have you considered taking time out to focus on your art? The Minnie Jane Scholarship of FQA and Pendle Hill may be your perfect opportunity! The Scholarship provides full registration, room and board for one term at Pendle Hill. Ask now for an application. E-mail: [registrar@PendleHill.org](mailto:registrar@PendleHill.org)**

## *Sunset on the Pond*

© Winifred Keane, Wilton (CT) Monthly Meeting

*Leaves shimmer slightly in the gentle breeze-*

*Birds chirp their conversations while distant traffic drones quietly in the background.*

*I sit with back and arms supported on a green chair.*

*Watching the peaceful scene from my porch.*

*The tall trees are filled with golden leaves reflected by the sun descending-*

*A warm radiance stretches slowly across the long horizon.*

*The water below mirrors the silver grey sky framed by graceful lacy branches.*

*Here in my new home, I spend my twilight years in solitude and community.*

*With safeguards from my failing body, I am free to use my growing mind and spirit.*

*Serene and stable, I live my days fulfilled*

*Until the night engulfs me. June 2011*

## *Moments at Sunrise*

© Winifred Keane

*Pink ribbon flows across a spiderweb of empty trees*

*yellow glow beneath*

*Half moon is forest high above the pond*

*Tranquility of God's grace throughout a troubled world*

*Gratitude for my body well enough to stand*

*and spirit wide enough to see*

*Creative ventures continue to prevail as music bursts into fruition*

*Support from kindred souls prolongs my life and warms my intuition.*

*This moment is enough* January 2012

**E**lke Muller resigned from the board in January. She served FQA faithfully for nearly a decade as editor of *T&S*, conference coordinator, membership care person, and in other ways. We deeply appreciate her work, which was always energetic and enthusiastic. We miss her on the board. But she will continue to be our membership care person for a time, and she looks forward to coming to our 2012 Arts Conference as an "ordinary" member (now, Elke, could you ever be ordinary?). —Maria Cattell, Clerk

Notice: If you're going to the **FGC Gathering**, share your art in the **Lemonade Gallery**—started by FQA. FQA board member Chuck Fager is curating this year.



**Urgent Notice:** If you have not sent in your information for the FQA Directory, please send it now! Use the stamped envelop we sent. There is still time to get your information to FQA.

# Cloudy, Light Showers

© Sebastian Martinez  
Downtown (PA) MM

I wander out to the rain, life clinging to my face,  
I feel joy radiating like a dark bell from the sky.  
Grey clouds open new vistas of sight.

The air has freed my thoughts  
I peer into this creased lump that holds my existence,  
I watch it crunch and twist in my skull.

A Burning node turns at the center,  
Guarded by walls of undulating fog.  
Blank spaces made by secret sentiments.

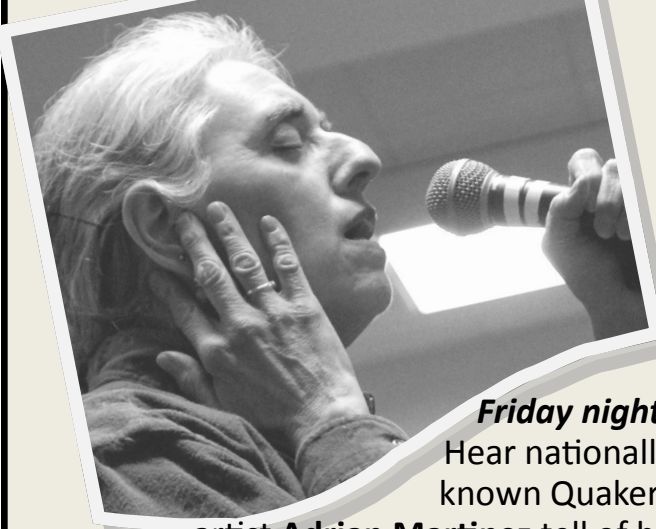
Yet the rain cuts through like a razor.  
The cool restores my center.  
I am myself again.

My soul soars in the low hanging wind  
Paralysis slips in the tears of rain.  
The candle of my mind illuminates the Earth.

It feels so good to move.  
I have merged into myself.  
Through flame and rain I hold on.

## Enjoy the Soul of Quaker Art

Marti Rogers



**Friday night:**

Hear nationally known Quaker

artist **Adrian Martinez** tell of his process with artifacts, costumes & models for his incredible paintings of Native Americans & Quakers including **John Woolman**.

at the FQA

**annual art conference**

Burlington Conference Center

340 High St. , Burlington, New Jersey

October 19-20 (register 4:30-6:30pm)

**Discuss** your art with other artists.

**Display** your art in the art show.

**Hear** talented musicians.

**Perform** at Open Mike.

**Learn** at workshops on drama, photography, writing, bookmaking, sound setup and clay work. (see T&S page two for details)

# Let it be the

Let it be the middle hour.  
The time between when the whole world  
Is frozen in amber spun from the eyes of God

Let us two, friends from much younger days,  
Stand and see the glory of our world,  
In this cracked stretch of suburbia.

Let you, who were never much of an artist,  
Be the first to say, "This is beautiful, this is real,"  
With the halting language of a young boy.



# Middle Hour

© Sebastian Martinez

Let the dark creep in on the exploding sun  
A moment, stately, drifts out of time.  
Our bodies ache, minds sinking with the light.

Let two children, not long awed by time,  
Return to their blanket of normalcy,  
Smiling a bit to themselves, for everything.

Let that single minute radiating  
A union in peace, a golden glow,  
Sit like a warm dream in my head.



"Maine," pages 10 and 11, special effects, 360 degree photograph © Terry Foss



*Types and Shadows*, Journal of  
Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts  
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting  
1515 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

**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.

*\*See featured artist interview and artwork, pages 4,5 and 6.*



*"Dancing wildly as Spring returns" acrylic on water color paper © Jennifer Elam*