

## what's on at mahon hall

**ARTCRAFT** runs until September 16th.  
Open daily 10am - 5pm

Continuing in September, Stagecoach School for the Performing Arts dance classes for children **Mondays & Wednesdays.**

On **Tuesdays** - Andrea Rabinovitch's Hip Hop dance classes 5 - 6pm; Sue Newman's adult/teen ballet & Jazz at 6:16 and adult swing at 7:30.

On **Wednesdays** - Sue's adult tap dance 6:15 - 7:15pm; Yab-Yum creative movement in the yogic tradition with Kristen. (call 538-9090 for information)

**Thursdays October 11 - November 1<sup>st</sup>** - Explorations in performance Art for new and experienced performers. call Kristen 538-9090

**Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>** - Firefly Lantern Festival, Workshops, procession and dance.

**Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>** - SS Jazz and Blues Society AGM

**Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**, 4 - 10pm - Stagecoach school Fund Raiser Event.

**Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**, 7pm - SOLID Live & Silent Auction with auctioneer Arvid Chalmers. SOLID is a local non-profit society dedicated to support HIV-AIDS affected communities in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Saturday November 24<sup>th</sup>** - SPCA Annual Goods & Services Auction.

## in the news

Gail Sibley was awarded 3rd prize at the 16th National Pastel Artists Canada Open Juried show that was held at ArtSpring in August.

Knitwear designer/author Leanne Dyck will be presenting a workshop, Sweater Bliss, at BC's Creative Expo ([www.bccreativeexpo.com](http://www.bccreativeexpo.com)) Leanne Dyck is passionate about knitting and designing sweaters. She invites you to join her in her "sweater bliss."

'Through a Pinhole Brightly' - a show of Murry Polson's photography including a camera obscura you can step into is on at Galleon's Lap Gallery from Sept. 7 to Sept. 22. Open Wed. - Sat. 11am - 5pm.



## salt spring arts council

september 2007 **newsletter**  
volume one. issue two

### see inside

On Sight is a regular column where Arts Council members can submit articles. Find out what other artists are up to.

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# Artists Look into Crystal Ball

The Board of the Salt Spring Arts Council met in August to celebrate successes and plan for the future. Creative ideas for where to focus our energies were bouncing around the room faster than our secretary could write them down. Here are some main points:

### Future Goals

**A completed web site** - is being done as I type and will be up this year.

**Salt Spring Arts School** - the Council is forming a committee to look at starting an arts school. The idea is not a new one, but we feel that NOW could be the right time for this project. Salt Spring is a desirable location for people to come to participate in workshops.

**Improve physical quality of the Hall** - making the Hall simpler to use by upgrading the facility will increase its appeal to users.

**Sound and new lighting system** - are some of the electrical upgrades already underway which will make the hall more user friendly.

**Complete kitchen planning** - a well-designed service kitchen would greatly increase rental potential during the shoulder seasons.

**Tree light-up ceremony** - Planned as part of the opening for Wintercraft 2007, we will deck the hall and our large heritage fir tree as part of the downtown "Light-up" event. Contact us to help. 537-0899

**Strengthen community ties** - the Council will become a more effective advocate in the community through gaining increased recognition of our economic impact. "To be part of the future, you need to step up to the plate!"

### **Create positive publicity** -

A communication plan is in the works including improved use of newsletter, advertising/press releases etc. We wish to be seen as an asset to the community, and have more people understand what we do. Community linkages will be created by acting effectively as a partner with other groups.

more on Arts ►  
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# PhotoSynthesis 2007 - "See Through Our Eyes" by Seth Berkowitz



To understand the common thread that tied the disparate images of the recent PhotoSynthesis show together, you have to look to the original Latin meaning of the word "amator: - lover, devoted friend, devotee, enthusiastic pursuer of an objective". Because of their love for the medium, a group of Salt Spring photographers have been creating this show for well over 10 years, with each show better than the last. Each art work is created by a Salt Spring photographer who is an enthusiastic devotee of the photographic medium - the artists were free to explore their vision.

With 24 artists and 91 pieces in the 2007 show, there were as many different techniques used as there was subject matter.

Janet Dwyer and Shari Macdonald each brought images of flowers to the show, however, their

technique and vision were as different as any two gardens can be. Janet's, a formally composed image created through scanography, while Shari brought her macro lens to bear and found her compositions within an existing floral arrangement. Chris Stackhouse and Theresa Mackey each printed their art on canvas, without glass - echoing the look of images created by painters. However, it was Ann Holt's and Brigit Bateman's studies of colour and texture that most resembled abstract paintings, blurring the traditional line between images made with light and those made with brush and pigment. For traditionalists, Billie Woods' black and white and white silver gelatin prints and Seth Berkowitz created a set of three portraits with rare 20 x 24 inch Polaroid instant print material. John Cameron's

monochrome metallic prints showed the details of a west coast beach, while Steven Friedman's black and white giclee of the Snake River canyon showed the immensity of the land, and had more than one viewer likening the image to something by Ansel Adams.

For those who think that photography is a serious art, one only needed to examine the work of Eric Klemm and Gillean Proctor to see that photographers with a sense of humour were at work. David Borrowman's exquisite images from the Grenadines were crowd favourites.

The opening in June saw an overflow crowd at ArtSpring with the outside deck being well used to accommodate those who were taking a break from the mash-up inside. Opening night sales were strong.

This photographers group is informally structured. Each of the many tasks required to put on this annual show are done by volunteers and decisions are made by consensus. Some members have participated since the original exhibitions in 1994 on Hereford Avenue.

The members of the PhotoSynthesis 2007 group are: Brigit Bateman, Seth Berkowitz, Alan Bibby, David Borrowman, John Cameron, Bobby Crichton, John Denniston, Janey Dwyer, Steven Friedman, Tamar Griggs, Diana Hayes, Ann Holt, Ken Ketchum, Eric Klemm, Kim Kornbacker, Alane Lalonde, Shari Macdonald, Theresa Mackey, Eric Onasick, Osman Phillips, Gillean Proctor, Chris Stackhouse, Kevin Steinke, Billie Woods.  
[www.saltspringphotographers.ca](http://www.saltspringphotographers.ca)

Look for PhotoSynthesis 2008 at ArtSpring next August.



## from the desk of Artcraft

by April Curtis, Manager

# ArtCraft 2007

## Stage Gallery Showcase

“XY Men at Work”

– three wildly diverse artistic visions.

Fri. 31 Aug – Sun. 16 Sept

## Showcase Selection

The Artcraft committee is accepting showcase proposals for the 2008 season. We are looking for strong proposals outlining concept, theme, mediums, and preferred dates from accomplished, committed artists, demonstrating excellence, imagination and inspiration.

The Arts Council sponsors the series in partnership with the artists. Successful applicants will be invited to participate.

Any artists may apply or be part of a group application and if selected are required to join the Council and fulfill the agreed upon responsibilities.

For further details, contact Artcraft manager: 537-0899 or [manager@artcraftgallery.ca](mailto:manager@artcraftgallery.ca)

Direct detailed proposals including names of participants to: Artcraft Committee, 114 Rainbow Road, S.S.I. V8K 2V5

## Christmas is coming!

WINTERCRAFT 2007 will take place from Friday December 7 to Saturday December 22nd - Collection of work will be on Sunday, Dec 23 or to be otherwise arranged. Lots of excitement is in the works. Opening festivities will include light up of our community Christmas Tree in front of Mahon Hall, music, and good cheer. We expect strong sales with our opportune timing, so plan to take part.

*“It will be showing on Salt Spring”*



*Gossamer Spirit -  
Ulrieke Benner*



*Hard Thoughts -  
Morley Myers*



saltspringisland  
**artcraft**

Photographs by: Megan Manning

## Call for entries

### artShots

Call for all Photographic artists in BC - to submit work for artShots, a juried Exhibition of photographic art in November, 2007 at the Tsawwassen Arts Centre.

**DEADLINE: Oct. 5th 2007**

Contact the Delta Arts Council for further information & entry form: (604) 943 9787 or visit the web site: [www.deltaartscouncil.com](http://www.deltaartscouncil.com)

### Wintercraft

Runs 7th to 22nd Dec.

**DEADLINE: Nov 8 2007**

(Discount for entries received by 18 Oct)  
Entrants must be residents of School Dist. #64 and members of Salt Spring Arts Council. Entry forms available at Mahon Hall, 114 Rainbow Road or by request: (250) 537 0899 or [manager@artcraftgallery.ca](mailto:manager@artcraftgallery.ca)



*April, Gary, Sue - at Artcraft Opening*



*Terry and Lisa-at Artcraft Opening*



Ralph digs the dirt



Gary's back, Anthony's front...

Photos: Megan Manning

**Volunteers & Committee Members Wanted:-**  
*Ask not what your Arts Council can do for you - ask what you can do for your Arts Council.*

**537-0899**

## Continued from front page **Arts...**

**Create an Arts Bank –** We want to explore the potential of making local art work available to loan out to banks, offices, hotels, restaurants, etc.

**Advance showcase planning –** The Stage Gallery exhibition schedule will move toward an annual plan as demand and quality is increasing.  
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**More committee members –** It takes person power to turn plans into reality - that could be YOU!

**Hire a professional fundraiser -** Grants and income will be needed to fund these plans.

**Review of 2006/7**  
**Successes:**

We changed our name from 'Gulf Islands Community Arts Council' to Salt Spring Arts Council. Along with the name change came a redesign of our logo, image, and re-vamp of our newsletter.

Membership has increased along with

board efficiency. Some of the projects have included re-painting the hall, completion of the first phase of electrical work and improved landscaping. Board members turned out to a planting day in May. (see photos - left) The Hall now looks more friendly and many people have commented on how much improved it is.

The quality of work and improved display in Artcraft has resulted in numerous compliments on the look of the show and we have sold more paintings this year than last season. This was greatly helped by volunteers who painted and blocked off the windows in the side room, creating a gallery space which set off the art work to great effect.

Other projects which raised our profile were,

a stunning Easter show of Diana Dean's paintings, utilising the main hall and stage which showed what a good space Mahon Hall could be for large paintings. An antiques sale & valuation generated interest and income for the Council.

The Arts Council supports & encourages the arts through partnership, advocacy, and facilitation.

***It is our mandate:***

***To encourage participation and excellence in the visual and performing arts;***

***To initiate and champion programmes, events and to use Mahon Hall as an asset to implement these;***

***To build on successes and use Mahon Hall to celebrate and communicate with the community.***



Photo: Megan Manning

# UP... and coming

by Anthony Matthews

A recent opening at the Morley Myers Gallery and Studio at #7-315 Upper Ganges Road was one I had looked forward to attending. A show of new work by Morley and a group of terracotta sculptures by Deborah T. Gainer, displayed prominently near the entrance. I whisked right by them all as I spotted Morley at the back of the gallery. We caught up and had a good close look at one of his new sculptures whose planes and features are selectively painted in pure primaries. This is new for Morley, something I hope he will continue to explore as it was very effective and I returned to it throughout my time there that evening and since.

Armed with a glass of wine, I ventured further into the gallery and right back to the entrance amid the most amazing group of terracotta sculptures I have seen. Yes, I remember seeing the wonderful modeling in terracotta of Morley's dog Matisse 37 x 79 cm (14.5" H x 31" L) on his sofa table at the gallery. But that early exposure had in no way prepared me for the work shown that evening. Numbering a dozen or so

in total, they included small, but not diminished figures, she titles ' Gestures of People', 20 - 28 cm (8"-11"). They were effectively displayed together as a group though they were available to buy individually.

There was a group of four life size portrait busts rendered so affectionately, so honestly, without even a whisper of kitsch. You can see the fingertips in the modeling, and you can see the effect of simple tools drawn through wet clay - a moment frozen. They were hung from the wall, above the visitors, looking indifferent, and one titled 'Seanna' was mesmerizing. I kept looking up at her, to see if she had turned my way. Alas.



*Gestures* - D. Gainer

A third group of pieces were and are the reason I came away so impressed. No romantic rendering here. Looking somehow wrapped or perhaps restrained by their own bulk, here were a group of figures in terracotta and hydro-stone. Hydro-stone is a gypsum cement employed in casting where an extremely hard surface is required. It has been stained and applied to the surface of the fired terracotta. In her hands it adds to the texture of the surface as well as masking what is underneath, producing something that is both constructed and deconstructed. One particularly large and fine sculpture 'Divesting' 2007 88.9cm (35" high) sits on an integrated plinth (as many of them do) having the appearance of great age, of long ago lost mortar with seams widening. Atop this stands a figure of a classical period, not Greece somehow, but another time and place. The details of the portrait busts are not present on these pieces, as this is pure form. There is stature, both solid and permanent. There is gesturing, a looking up and back so far as to fall over. It is stunning.



*Distracted* - D. Gainer

Upon meeting the artist, whom I instantly recognized upon seeing her as the only person in the room who could have been Deborah T. Gainer, I spouted romantic about the aesthetics, references, and history, in the work of this remarkable artist. Conjuring quips, I even referred to the Colossus of Rhodes. Good grief. But all aside, here was artist, gallery attendee, and (by the time 7:30 had arrived) client - engaged in a discussion about art. I came away impressed.

To see Deborah's work, call Morley's gallery at 250 537 4898 or visit [www.deborah.com](http://www.deborah.com). [www.morleymyersgallery.com](http://www.morleymyersgallery.com)

Photos by Megan Manning



**Salt Spring Chair** - by Megan Manning

## Chair-ity

The idea, a brain wave of Gail Sibley, is to have community artists use the retro wooden chairs in Mahon Hall as their 'canvas' and then auction the Art-chairs at an event in late October, Early November 2007. Funds raised for the Salt Spring Arts Council will go towards up-grading Mahon Hall.

If anyone is interested in doing a chair, please contact Wendy Hartnett at: [wendy@islandgourmetsafaris.com](mailto:wendy@islandgourmetsafaris.com)



The blank canvas...

## On Sight

-by Mark Lauckner

On a non-eventful day in July, the Mayne Island Glass Foundry poured it's 100,000th pound of recycled glass. It's well worth celebrating. Since May of 1996, I have recycled 100,000 pounds of glass. When I started melting glass, I was melting bottle glass in a small gas furnace in the back yard. I quickly realized that bottle glass melts at a higher temp. than window glass, so switched to window glass. Saving a bit of window glass from the landfill didn't seem to justify the 'carbon footprint' of running a gas blast furnace. I started experimenting with different electric furnace designs and realized that electric furnaces could be more efficient than gas because they can be closed up tight, with no chimney. After a few meltdowns and a steep learning curve, I arrived at a design for a small electric furnace that worked well and was running at one-tenth the cost of my gas furnace. In 1999 I decided to build a similar one, this time documenting the design & construction on video. I shared the video with other glass workers and was encouraged to package the video and sell it on the internet. I did so and quickly discovered that the glassblowing community

was ready for energy efficient do-it-yourself furnace designs. To date, I have produced 6 different videos and have two more to complete. Then I will have re-designed each piece of studio glass equipment to be super energy efficient and non-polluting. The whole project has become a 'ten year plan'. To date, my furnaces have been built, or are currently being built, in 17 countries around the world. The last two to join the list were Iran and South Africa. One fellow in Nigeria built several and they are operating, recycling glass in various communities in rural Africa. Here is an email I received from him a few months ago, "Dear Brother Mark Lauckner, I wish to say happy new year to you and may the good Lord bless you always. Your teachings to me are now feeding lots of unemployed youths and some families are now able to pay their children school fees and other bills of theirs happily. I can't forget all your wonderful help, thanks a million times. Thanks and God bless. Jeff" When people purchase one of my glass starfish or seahorses, they may not realize that they are enabling energy-efficient glass recycling world-wide. Currently I am recycling about 12,000 pounds of glass



Mayne Glass Starfish  
Photo: Megan Manning

each winter. I used to scrounge scrap window glass from Victoria glass shops and on Mayne. After a day running round Victoria in my truck, I would only bring back around 600 pounds which would only feed my furnace for 3 days. Now I get 12,000 pounds at a time from a large window factory that makes coloured and architectural sheet glass north of Seattle. This isn't exactly local recycling, but ecology knows no borders, right? I produce approximately 8000 cast glass items annually and wholesale to 68 shops and galleries across Canada and the USA. The Mayne Island Glass Foundry is a working example of a 'local manufacturing business that recycles and considers ecology'. During the last 7 years, numerous grade-school groups, academics, international development workers, and glass workers have toured the shop and heard various presentations about energy efficiency and ecologically-responsible glass recycling. Over 350 people have participated in classes and workshops including the summer 'glass camp'.

[www.mayneislandglass.com](http://www.mayneislandglass.com)

## Committee report:

# Artists in the Classroom

The Artist in the Classroom is a program run by the Salt Spring Arts Council which sponsors artists of various mediums to teach workshops in schools. Schools can request artists from a catalogue which is produced annually.

The AIC artists have done a terrific job teaching workshops in the schools this spring. Here are some comments the committee has received from teachers and students:-

“It was awesome - wish we could play music all day!” (student)

“The artist’s patience and enthusiasm encouraged students to try something out of their comfort zone.” (teacher)

”By having seniors come to the classroom and share their stories, the children were able to experience the power of the oral tradition and connect it to their literature and art.” (teacher)

“I loved everything about working with clay and the artist was a very nice person.” (student)

“The workshop enabled us to work from a different perspective.” (student)

“The artist was approachable, positive, realistic and meaningful - students had a variety of ways in which they could contribute.” (teacher)

“Students were engaged in a sophisticated dialogue with the artist.” (teacher)

“The artist taught us in shapes so it was easier to draw. (student)

Artists and schools who are interested in participating in this program can contact Gillian Kidd, 537-1948



AIC artist, Aaron Ableman teaching a mural painting workshop at Phoenix High this spring.

-by Linda Underwood

## Letter from the assistant editor- Megan Manning

Welcome to the autumn issue of the newsletter. It takes a lot of volunteer hours to put together a newsletter like this and this one has been a team effort! We always need more volunteers who would like to edit, publish, write. So all you budding writers out there, why not send in some articles for the next issue. I don't want to write them all and that would be boring for your readers! Any of you with an eye for detail, spelling experts, designers... come on down we need you.

**Tell us what you think or write an article:**  
**gicac@saltspring.com**  
**with 'newsletter' in the subject line.**



**Tree** - Megan Manning

## salt spring arts council

September **2007 newsletter**  
volume **one**.issue **two**

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WINTERCRAFT  
information -  
get your  
arts & crafts  
ready.  
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## Become a member

Enjoy this newsletter regularly and other great benefits by becoming a member of the Salt Spring Arts Council - Support the arts in your community and apply for membership - individual \$20, full time student \$15, supporting group or guild \$32.10, friend - up to \$99, contributor - \$100-249, sustainer - \$250-499, patron - \$500-999. Phone 250-537-0899 for assistance or visit our website [www.gulfislandsartscouncil.com](http://www.gulfislandsartscouncil.com) - New members are always welcome!

Salt Spring Arts Council  
114 Rainbow Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC  
V8K2V5

Publications mail agreement  
#1796224

Please submit to addressee:

The SSAC newsletter is published 4 times a year. Please submit your ideas and articles at least 3 weeks prior to publication date. Submit by email to: [gicac@saltspring.com](mailto:gicac@saltspring.com), headed "newsletter item"

### Arts Council Board

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### SSAC newsletter

Editor: Gail Sibley  
Issue layout: Megan Manning  
Assist. Editor: Megan Manning  
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Inc.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the BC Arts Council

### Welcome new and returning members:

Antonio Alonzo; Terri Bidy;  
Carl Borgstrom; Joan Carrigan;  
Carol Dodd; Judy Harper; Bly  
Kaye; Avril Kirby; Margie  
Korrison; Judy Levine; Heather  
Martin-McNab; Lisa Maxx; Larry  
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