



# THE WELL-CRAFTED WORD

news from del ray artisans' center

december 1992

## Photography Class Set

Del Ray Artisans' Center is pleased to announce that **Kathryn Brown** will be teaching a two - session **Introduction to 35 mm Photography** Class at the Center Wednesday, January 13 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and January 27 from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

The January 13th session will include a demonstration and question and answer period. Bring along your camera and the instruction manual, if you have it. Not only will this be a "get to know your equipment" session, but Kathryn will discuss subject and image composition. Over the two-week period between the two sessions, participants will be expected to

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## Offbeat Auction: Oh, What a Night!

Over 130 people packed the banquet room at Commonwealth Court Sunday December 6th to join in the spirited bidding for Live Auction furniture and nearly 100 Silent Auction items. The evening surpassed our wildest expectations. **Jim Dunning** was a star on the microphone and served as auctioneer. Who else could have chided us to bid on a Half Windsor Chair by saying..."if you care at all about Princess Di and her children, you will give me a bid of \$25"...? Great job, Jim. Also, our thanks go out to **Karen Helbrecht** and **Gordon Johnston** who performed along with their talented colleagues from the **Irish Breakfast Band** to provide festive musical fare. Also, hats off to **Rob Reuter** who may have had the most thankless job of the evening. He and **Dara Schumaier** took in over \$5000 at the cashier's table but they kept their cool in the face of the teeming masses and did it all gracefully. At this writing the total net profits from the event have surpassed \$6000, enough to cover our expenses into the third quarter of '93. Hurrah!

**Ann Campbell** and **Patsieann Misiti** co-chaired this, our most ambitious undertaking to date. Their vision and optimism inspired dozens of cooperative members to pitch in and contribute their time and talent to bring the Offbeat Auction to life. Thank you Ann and Patsieann for being the driving force behind the scenes.

Ann and Patsieann send their appreciation to an all-star crew of furniture re-builders: **Ron Blank, Walter Hock, Nick Bayus, Sarah Pearson** and **Rock of Gibraltar, Nancee Roberts**. This team worked diligently over many weeks to prepare the pieces for finishing. And to all

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## General Meeting & Party

Thursday, Jan. 7, 1993-7:30

Del Ray Artisans' Center

2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria

703-684-6549

Food & Beverages Provided





### Auction From Page 1

of our members who took pieces home and made flamboyant swans out of ugly ducklings....You amaze us! Congratulations and thank you. What a creative group of artisans we have. We also send out a much deserved thank you to **Lyndon Murray** at the Monroe Street YMCA for offering us work and storage space.

The Silent Auction started out to be a low-key addition to the event and snowballed into equal partnership with our Live Auction. **Lauren Smirniotopoulos** hit the ground running to solicit goods and services and a month later, when she got off the phone and out of her car, there were 94 items for sale! We offered everything from a 6 foot sub (Subway Sandwich Shop) to a handcrafted Nativity Scene (**Rina Saenz**), to a stay at the Radisson Mark Plaza. Lauren is particularly appreciative of the works of art that were donated by members and non-members. Some items were made especially for our sale. According to Lauren, "the tremendous success of the Silent Auction is a result of the efforts of our members who devoted their time to solicit

items, and donated their own items, as well as the overwhelming support from the community both in terms of donations of auction items and equipment loans for the event. Everyone should feel really good about their participation." She reports that she has already heard from several people interested in being on the committee for next year's auction!

Lauren sends special thank you's to **Mart Larson, Ellyn Ferguson, Ellen Johnson, Leslie Perkins, Susan Downs Prock, Susan Van Gilder, Ann Campbell, Nancee Roberts, Sue Debevec, Chris Penn, Peter Smirniotopoulos, John Curran, Tavia DeFelice** and **Bryan Leister**.

Among other behind-the-scenes types who made our auction a success are **Steve Campbell** and **Peter Smirniotopoulos** who put together the Offbeat Auction catalogue. Peter solicited ads and wrote the copy and Steve did the design and production. Peter was also responsible for the great publicity we

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### January 9th Clean Up Day

It's the New Year and time to spruce up the Center. Bring a bucket and cleaning supplies Saturday, January 9, anytime between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Your help is needed since our space has experienced some wear and tear over the past 6 months. It won't take long. Stop in. Coffee pot will be on. See you there.

### Art News Around Town

von Brahler Gallery- "Icon", a collection of old and new icons. Also showing waterscapes painted by Calivan, a missionary priest in the Amazon basin region of Colombia. Showing through mid-February. 2216 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. 683-7474

Perry House Galleries- "The Faces that you Meet", Opening January 15, a collection of Presidential portraits and others through February. 1017 Duke Street, Alexandria. Hours: M-F 10 - 6, Sat. & Sun. 12- 5. 836-5148

Please See Page 5 For Other Art News and Classes...





## The Architect As Artisan Exhibition in Planning Phase

Curating committee members **Patsieann Misiti, Ellen Johnson and Bob Larson** recently previewed projects produced by students at Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architectre Center. Selected works from the Materials Workshop, taught by graduate student, Michael Vallen, will be on display at Del Ray Artisans' Center in February. The exhibition will consist of models, prototypes, drawings, sketch journals etc. created by the architectural students in the workshop. If you'd like to get involved in helping to curate this show, please call Patsieann at 549-1094. This show promises to be a real eye opener...dynamic, idealistic, experimental. We need a large committee to do this show justice. Let us hear from you.

Photos from Page 1

shoot photographs and have them developed. The January 27 class will be a full two hour session so that the class can share their photographs and discuss problems and solutions in a critique session.

As many of you know, Kathryn is a professional photographer who has pursued her own freelance photography business in the Washington area for the past 9 years. She has also exhibited her fine art photography in many venues including a one person show for the Art League at the Torpedo Factory and a group show with New Visions Photography in the Rock Creek Art Barn.

### Photography Registration Form

Introduction to 35 mm Photography (two sessions)  
Instructor: Kathryn Brown

WHEN: Wed. Jan. 13, 1993 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and  
Wed. Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

WHERE: Del Ray Artisans' Center, 2210 Mt. Vernon Ave.,  
Alexandria, VA 22301

COST: \$10.00 Member \$12.50 Non-Member  
LIMITED ENROLLMENT. PLEASE REGISTER BY 1/8/93

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

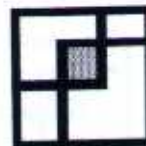
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Del Ray Artisans' Center and send to  
2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301  
For More Information Call: Kathryn Brown 549-5227.

### Some Bad News..

Goldsmith **David Martin's** sculpture "The Dancer" is missing from the Center. A police report has been made and our insurance company has been contacted. Any information you might have...last time you saw the piece etc. would be helpful in re-tracing our steps. We are not sure just when it was taken. It was in a room on the second floor with other art work that was waiting to be picked up by Neighborhood Highlights artists. Everyone needs to be alert to security concerns if we are to keep our insurance rates down.





## Auction From Page 2

received.

Many thanks for the artistic contributions of members, **Terry Atkin, Ellen Johnson and Leslie Perkins.** Terry designed the large posters on display at the Center and the night of the auction. Ellen designed the bid cards and Leslie produced them. Leslie also created auction graphics for use in the catalogue and auction certificates.

We know that the auction couldn't have been a success without the tremendous commitment of our members who promoted the auction to friends, family, and within the community. It is amazing what we can do when we work together.

### Arts and Crafts On the Avenue

The Mt. Vernon Avenue Block Party has tentatively been scheduled for Saturday May 22. This year Del Ray Artisans' Center has been given permission to run a one to two block-long Arts and Crafts Fair on Mt. Vernon Avenue. **Terry Atkin** has again agreed to serve as chairperson for this year's event and is forming a committee to discover crafters and set up a game plan. Terry urges all members who are "closet crafters" to enter. "This is an ideal opportunity for beginning crafters. You don't need to have sold your work before to enter." Please pass the word. This should be an excellent opportunity. Visibility will be excellent and we will have space for a large contingent of crafters. Please talk this up. Now is the time to get your crafty friends to sign on. To sign up for the planning committee please call Terry at 836-0264.

### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

**Nancee Roberts** offers this pearl of wisdom. "Make a New Year's Resolution to watch for curbside furniture ...". We actually have all year to get ready for next year's auction. Just imagine what artistry we can work with a little lead time. So snarf up that furniture now. It could insure the Cooperative's future later.

### Del Ray Artisans' Center Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type    ☐ Student/\$25    ☐ Individual/\$35  
                                  ☐ Household/\$50    ☐ Corporate/\$100

I am :    ☐ a fine artist  
           ☐ an artisan  
           ☐ interested in the arts

I'm interested in:    ☐ Classes/Lectures  
                                  ☐ Exhibitions/Programs  
                                  ☐ Events

Please make check payable to Del Ray Artisans' Center and send to 2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301

Attn: Terry Atkin, Membership Director.





**Classes:** offered through Georgetown University's School of Continuing Education. Registration Deadline is January 13. For more information call (202) 687-5942.

**In Search of the Avant Garde**

XARH-024-010, 8 sessions on Sat. mornings Feb. 6 - April 17. Tuition: \$65. An examination of the Avant Garde movement over the last 125 yrs.

**Masters of Photography: The 20th Century**

XARH-054-01, 5 sessions Thurs. evenings, Feb. 25 - April 1 Tuition: \$65

**Georgia O'Keefe: A 20th Century Artist**

XARH-029-01, 4 sessions on Tues. evenings March 2-30 plus a museum tour on Sat. March 27. Tuition \$55.

**Russian Art of the 19th and Early 20th Centuries**

XARH-040-01, 6 sessions Tues. evenings Feb. 2 - Mar. 16 Tuition: \$55

**Russian Icons**

XARH-041-01, 6 sessions Thurs. evenings Feb. 4 - Mar. 18. Tuition: \$55

**Oriental Carpets**

XARH-017-01, 5 sessions Tues. evenings Feb. 2 - Mar. 2 plus a field trip to be arranged. Tuition: \$65

**The Architecture of the Ancient Greeks**

XARH-005-01, 8 sessions Tues. Evenings Feb. 2 - Mar. 30. Tuition: \$65

**Masterpieces of French Architectural History**

XARH-045-01, 6 sessions on Mon. evenings, plus a field trip Feb. 1 - Mar. 22. Tuition: \$55

## **"From Temples to Teapots: The Architect as Artisan" Scheduled to Open at Del Ray Artisans' Center Tuesday, February 2, 1993**

The opening exhibition kicking off the 1993 calendar at Del Ray Artisans' Center will be **"From Temples to Teapots: The Architect as Artisan,"** featuring selected student projects from last semester's Materials Workshop at the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Consortium, an extension of the School of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia.

The student projects to be featured are "sources of illumination." Each student in the Materials Workshop was required to produce and present three items as part of this design and construction exercise: a scale model of the structure or environment to be illuminated, a light and shadow study of the source of illumination as it is envisioned within that structure or environment, and a full-scale, working prototype of the source of illumination.

These student projects - which were presented to the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center's faculty on December 10th - demonstrate the participating students' abundance of vision, imagination, and creativity in design and construction. The students did not shy away from the challenge of designing for less than user-friendly materials, as evidenced by the number of prototypes which incorporate metals.

This exhibition will be enlightening and inspiring to anyone who has ever marvelled at the apparent complexity of light fixtures but always assumed that they could be produced only by large lighting manufacturers. If these student projects are any indication, while the range of stock light fixtures may be limited, the boundaries of the creative designer are limitless.





Del Ray Artisans' Center  
2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria, Virginia 22301  
703-684-6549

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#### **IMPORTANT DATES....**

- January 7:** General Meeting and Party 7:30 p.m.
- January 8:** Registration Due for Photography Class
- January 9:** Center Clean Up Day between 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- January 13:** Introduction to 35 mm Photography Class 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- January 27:** Second Session of Photography Class 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- February 2:** From Temples to Teapots: The Architect as Artisan Exhibition