

*Celebrating
our 56th Year*

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Arts & Flowers Returns March 6-9, 2008

Please join us as the League's signature event, Arts & Flowers, returns to imbue Phoenix Art Museum's galleries with the scent of flowers. Dozens of Valley floral and garden club designers will interpret and illuminate the art collection for four days, from Thursday-Sunday, March 6-9, 2008.

While viewing Arts & Flowers is free with Museum admission, we encourage you to bring a friend and enjoy the luncheon or workshops that accompany the show. These ticketed events allow us to fulfill the League's mission to support Phoenix Art Museum. All events take place at the Museum.

A special Boutique and magnificent raffle prizes are also offered exclusively for Arts & Flowers.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2008

11:00 AM - Whiteman Auditorium.

\$75.00 per person

BEAUTY BEFORE YOUR EYES. Our event opens with a fabulous luncheon. Watch



Spring Flowers - In The Conservatory by Julius Stewart, 1890, Oil on canvas. Collection of Phoenix Art Museum. Gift of Citibank. Photo by Ken Howie.

award-winning floral designers, Karin Crawford, Tony Medlock, Ping Wei and Diane

Gonzales as they each create spectacularly different arrangements from similar selected materials. You will be amazed at their ingenuity and imagination! The created arrangements may be purchased. Luncheon at Noon, in Cummings Great Hall. Optional Docent guided tours of the Arts & Flowers Exhibition will follow lunch. Door prizes! Be a winner!

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2008

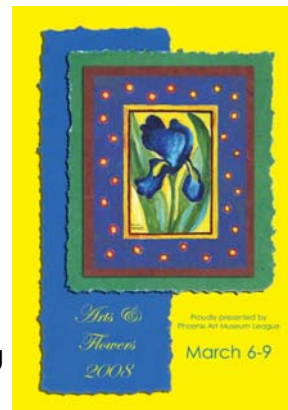
2:00 - 4:00 PM, Grossman Terrace.

\$40.00 per person

WORKSHOP - CONTAINER GARDENING.

Amy Carlile and Lynn Town, co-owners of Southwest Gardener, will demonstrate how easy it is to grow a complete herb garden in a six-pocket strawberry pot. They even have a trick for easy watering. A second demonstration will show you how a striking pot and pretty succulents become a work of living art. Succulents are drought-tolerant, hardy and amazingly sculptural. Refreshments provided.

Lynn and Amy left corporate jobs ten years ago to found Southwest Gardener, a Phoenix retail shop specializing in useful garden tools, creative garden art and garden-inspired home décor. They also hold artful gardening classes. Southwest Gardener was named "Best Garden Shop" by the Arizona Republic in a recent Annual Guide to the Best in the Valley.



From the President . . .

Dear Friends,

Join the Celebration! Visit the Phoenix Art Museum to see **Arts & Flowers 2008**. What a spectacular sight! What an opportunity to celebrate Spring! Over 40 floral designers from special florists and garden clubs throughout the Valley of the Sun will be displaying **their** artistic abilities for **you!** *A pleasure indeed!*

Please introduce your neighbors, friends, families, associates and colleagues on Thursday, March 6th to the Opening Gala Luncheon, Designers' Demonstration, and the very first sight of the completed floral presentations.

Activities continue through the weekend which are sure to appeal. Planting and potting, drawing and watercolor, and photography participation and presentations continue Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Details are in this newsletter. Pull out your pen and sign up for your reservation. Space is limited.

We have a wonderful trip planned in April to Tucson to visit the Center for Creative Photography at University of Arizona. In May, are you ready?....we are thrilled to announce that the recipient of the WIA Award is **Lila Harnett** as a national and local outstanding contributor to the visual arts. Lila is living a fascinating and fully contributing life and it is a pleasure to honor Lila. You must attend May 7 to learn so much more.

See you February 27 for our next WIA series, **Emerging Artists**, and election of our 2008-09 officers.

With warm regard,

Ginny Herring

Gherring4@cox.net
(602) 840-4959

PAML To Honor Lila Harnett With WIA Award

A journalist whose métier covered both science and art, friend to artists and founder of Art Table, a professional organization for women in the visual arts, Trustee of Phoenix Art Museum, and founding publisher of *Phoenix Home & Garden*...Can all these attributes be wrapped up in one person?

Yes, we have a treasure in Phoenix. Her name is Lila Harnett. Mark your calendars for May 7, when the League will honor Lila with the Phoenix Art Museum League **Women In Art Award**.

The Biennial Women In Art Award is given to a person who has contributed to the visual arts locally and/or nationally. Learn more about Lila and her remarkable achievements by attending the Awards Luncheon, to be held Wednesday, May 7 at Phoenix Art Museum.

Details will follow in the next few weeks. *Please save the date!*



Holiday Luncheon & Treasure Sale Draws Shoppers, Ballet Lovers

// "The best Holiday luncheon we've ever had," said Charlesa Feinstein. Charlesa, a long-time League member and Women In Art chair, echoed the thoughts of the 155 people who attended this annual League fundraiser.

The November 28th event began with a ballet performance by the students and dancers of Ballet Arizona. Heralding the holiday season, the performers danced scenes from *The Nutcracker* on a specially constructed



Mildred Starr, Carol Miller and Kathy Thomas enjoy the Holiday Affair.

portable stage. Tickets to Ballet Arizona's public "Nutcracker" show were among prizes at the Treasure Sale's live and silent auctions.

Prior to the performance, luncheon attendees browsed tables crowded with antiques from member and antiques dealer Tina

McEown, as well as collectibles donated from members and local businesses. This year, a large collection of framed artwork drew an audience.

Michael Dixon was Master of Ceremonies, Richard Brunk livened up the live auction as he wielded the gavel, and the Feeney-Winthrop Trio provided accompanying music.

Pat MacGillivray and Pat Emmert were chairs of the Holiday Luncheon and Treasure Sale. Helen Backer arranged for the dancers and for Michael Dixon's role in this very successful event. Many thanks are due to them.

—Margaret Spence



Caroline Farkas and Julie Saklou at the Holiday Affair.

Holly Jolly 2007 — A Picture Gallery



League members enjoyed coffee, conversation and carols at The University Club, Phoenix, on the morning of December 12.

Helen Backer played the piano at this popular annual event.

(Left, Janet Richter; Right, l to r. Robin Wright and Iris Wigal)



Women in Art - A Visit With Louise McCall

The League lunch and lecture series, *Women In Art* opened its 2007-08 season with a charming talk by Louise McCall on October 24. Louise, beloved member of the League and well-known painter, said that she preferred to visit with League members rather than lecture. So she handed prints of her paintings around, and answered questions from the audience.

Louise McCall was born in Oklahoma City and studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and the University of New Mexico. In 1961 she won first prize in a juried art show. She met her husband, artist Bob McCall, in New Mexico when he was in the Air Force in 1944, and they dated while painting together.

"We took horses and a picnic and both painted an old adobe house. Our paintings were so different," she recalled.

The McCalls married and lived in New York for 25 years, but Louise was glad to get back to the West. They worked for Disney studios for a while. Bob earned fame as

the painter of the U.S. space missions. Louise sold some of her paintings to the astronauts and their wives.

Louise McCall designed the window chapel at the Virginia Piper Cancer Center in Scottsdale, and in the Valley Presbyterian Church in Paradise Valley. Today, she paints mostly in acrylics after developing an allergy to the turpentine used in oil painting.

Asked who her favorite painter was, Louise replied that it was Matisse. Her work reflects his joyful approach to color, and she also admires Picasso and Frieda Kahlo and the Mexican painters.

"Given your sunny nature," a questioner asked, "Can you comment on today's artists who make a social statement?"

"It's a shame," replied McCall. "They are not enduring, because people respond to joy in painting." "As for me," McCall said, "I paint because I must."

—Margaret Spence

Public Art - Innovation in the Valley

Long gone is the idea that art is only viewed in museums. Public art installations, too, draw people—to sit, to contemplate or to interact. Happily, innovative art programs featuring both permanent and temporary artworks are flourishing in the Valley. To share their current projects, the League welcomed to its *Women In Art* series on January 16, Shelley Cohn, former Executive Director of the AZ Commission on the Arts, as moderator of a panel representing Phoenix, Glendale and Scottsdale's programs: Ed Lebow, Phoenix Public Art Program Director, Phoenix Office of Arts & Culture; M. B. Finnerty, Public Art Coordinator, Valley Metro Rail and Glendale; and Valerie Vadala-Homer, Director, Scottsdale Public Art Program.

In Phoenix, the people voted in the 1988 bond election to devote one cent of every dollar to public art. Today 71 projects are currently on the drawing board in Phoenix to include the Municipal Court Plaza, the Camelback Road

underpass, the Convention Center, as well as numerous bridges, transit shelters, trails and connectors.

M. B. Finnerty has been working with art installations for the light rail, as well as assisting in the city of Glendale's programs. Glendale's plan combines permanent art projects found in the new parking garage and the Main Library, along with temporary and performing arts featured in the upcoming Jazz & Blues Festival. Working with the light rail, the focus has been to involve the artists to create a poetic interface between the art and the specific site. An example is the sidewalk terrazzo inset of Sandra Day O'Connor's portrait at Washington & Central.

As the other cities, Scottsdale's vision is to use art to make the Valley a better place to live. As their budget is not as large as Phoenix, Valerie says their plan uses not only public, but private involvement from companies and developers. A survey of residents resulted in almost an even split between a preference for traditional and abstract art, so that's what they've set out to accomplish in a unified plan based on the site and the artists involved. Billboards will soon be totally gone, an integrated park system put in place and a commitment made to conservation and restoration of existing works. Valerie left us with a challenge—look for the Red Ball—a temporary fun art project that will be moving around Scottsdale during the coming weeks.

Women In Art resumes February 27 with **Emerging Artists** – a panel discussion moderated by Beth Ames Swartz, and on April 16 with a trip to Tucson's museums and galleries. Watch your mail for information!

—Janet Richter



L to R: M. B. Finnerty, Ed Lebow, Charlesa Feinstein, Valerie Vadala-Homer, Shelley Cohn.

Arts & Flowers Returns ... cont'd

Continued from page 1:

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2008

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM - Phoenix Art Museum Administration Building. \$80.00 per person

WORKSHOP – BOTANICAL PAINTING. “The Artichoke”. Marilyn Garber, Botanical Artist and Educator, will teach the traditional English style of botanical painting. Techniques for botanical illustration in watercolor (flat wash, graded wash and dry brush) and how to mix colors will be taught. All materials provided. Sack lunch included. No experience needed for a great result. Beginners encouraged.

Marilyn is founder of the Desert Botanical Garden Botanical Illustration Program. Passionate about recording plants about to become extinct, Marilyn spent six years painting the medicinal plants of Panama, teaching local people this skill so that the knowledge of these plants would be preserved. She currently coordinates illustrations of rare and endemic species of the Grand Canyon in collaboration with research on these species by DBG staff. Marilyn has exhibited her botanical paintings worldwide.



Flower Garden, Louis Ritman, c. 1913. Oil on canvas. Collection of Phoenix Art Museum. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John Redfield. Photo by Ken Howie.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2008

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM - Phoenix Art Museum, Whiteman Auditorium. \$20.00 per person

WORKSHOP – DESERT FLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY. Interactive presentation by Jeff Kida, Photography Editor for Arizona Highways Magazine. Participants are eligible to win the new book “Arizona Highways Guide to Photography” signed by the author.

Jeff Kida started his career as an intern with Arizona Highways Magazine in 1978 after attending Arizona State University. He shot news and advertising for Phoenix Gazette, the Arizona Republic, The Associated Press, The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times and Time Magazine. In 1988, he shifted focus to corporate and commercial photography and taught workshops at The University of Missouri School of Journalism and Elderhostel, as well as for Arizona Highways Magazine. He is now Photography Editor at the Magazine.

RESERVATIONS: Myra Blaker, (480) 948-6156, 8513 N. 48th Place, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.

Or visit our website at www.phxartmuseumleague.org.

Have An Hour or Two to Spare? Arts & Flowers Needs Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help with the Boutique and Raffle sales at the Arts and Flowers event March 6-9th. We need help for Thursday (10am to 4pm), Friday (10am to 9pm), Saturday (10am to 4pm) and Sunday (10am to 4pm). Volunteers will work in shifts and there will be at least two people for each shift.

Anyone interested in helping on the Boutique should call Carol Miller at (602) 954-0442. Those interested in selling raffle tickets should call Kathy Thomas at (602) 953-1484 or Caroline Farkas at (480) 510-5624.

Enjoy the Museum on First Friday. See Arts & Flowers too!

REMEMBER...

The First Friday Artwalk is during Arts & Flowers. Entrance to the Museum is free from 6:00 to 9:00pm and light refreshments are served. It's a perfect time for you and your friends to enjoy again the beautiful floral creations of the designers.

An Electronic Newsletter?

Help us save trees! If you would like to receive the League newsletter via email, please let us know. Email Margaret Spence at margaret.spence@cox.net.

If you wish to continue to receive the newsletter via snail mail, there is no need to reply.

Do You Have A Special Skill?

The League is looking for members who enjoy photography, writing and/or public speaking for our Public Relations Team.

If you would like to take an active part in League activities, no matter how much or how little time you can offer, this is a fun way to do it!

Please contact Margaret Spence (480) 968-5944, if you would like to get involved. We welcome you.



PHOENIX ART MUSEUM LEAGUE
1625 N. CENTRAL AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85004-1685

www.phxartmuseumleague.org

Save the Date . . .

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Phoenix Art Museum Conference Room, Admin. Building, Second Floor. 9.30am.

WOMEN IN ART

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Phoenix Art Museum Board Room, 11.45am Light Luncheon, 12.15pm Program
Emerging Artists — A panel discussion moderated by Beth Ames Swartz.

ARTS & FLOWERS

Thursday-Sunday, March 6-9, 2008. Our spectacular annual celebration of the art of flowers returns!

WOMEN IN ART

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Time TBA: All-day bus trip to Tucson museums and galleries — Focus on Photography.

WOMEN IN ART AWARDS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Phoenix Art Museum, Cummings Great Hall, 10.30am
Women In Art Biennial Award Presentation, honoring Lila Harnett.

For information, call (602) 307-2050.