

The Cutting Edge

Collage Artists of America Newsletter

January 2010

Volume I, Issue 1



President's Message: Hello, Collage Artists!

by Nicki Newfield

For those of you who were unable to attend our last meeting, once again we were forced to make changes as far as our meetings are concerned, but most people were very happy with the outcome. It didn't work out for us at the Encino Community Center, so we will continue our meetings on Fridays at the West Valley JCC. Please note in your calendars the dates. Because of conflicts with the Jewish holidays, there will be some changes toward the end of the year.

We had asked the JCC to give us a break on the rent, but unfortunately this did not come to fruition. We therefore find it necessary to raise our membership dues to \$50 for next year, and guests will have to pay \$10 per meeting instead of \$5 as of now. Our members pay \$50 for five meetings, and of course that also enables them to enter our exhibits.

I'm very happy to inform you that our membership has grown, and so has our Facebook membership. It is really evident that collage is very popular nationally, and I have great hopes for our group all around. We are planning two exhibits at VIVA plus another one you will hear about at a later date. We also plan on a field trip at the end of summer, either to a museum or an artist's studio, and along with workshops I am confident that 2010 will be one of CAA's most exciting years to date.

We hope you just love the new format of our newsletter, *The Cutting Edge*, as much as we do and we are so happy to welcome on board one of our members, Karen Robbins, who volunteered to design the whole concept.

I wish you all a very happy, healthy and artful 2010 and look forward to seeing you all again on January 29.

—Nicki



CALENDAR

January 15-29	SCORE VIII Show Continues @ VIVA
January 29	CAA Meeting
January 29	SCORE VIII Closes
January 30-31	SCORE Pick-up
March 26	CAA Meeting
April 28-May 16	CAA Spring Show
May 28	CAA Meeting
October 8	CAA Meeting
December 3	CAA Meeting

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Art, like morality, consists in drawing the line somewhere.

—Gilbert K. Chesterton

Welcome New Members

Wayne Bannister
1037 Arroyo Verde Rd.
South Pasadena, CA 91030
(323) 258-8052

Harriet Garellick
445 S. Palm Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
(310) 271-4417
garellickstudio.com

Sylvia Greer
P.O. Box 641579
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(310) 474-6664
artwwworks.com

Member Spotlight

Collage Workshop on Saturday, February 6, 9:30–4:00 in West L.A. with artist/instructor/CAA member **Mitzi Trachtenberg**. Learn to see, explore, and take risks; develop a critical eye that enables you to see your own work and critique that of others; understand the importance of “process,” and more. Fee: \$100. To enroll, send check to Mitzi Trachtenberg, 1225 Henry St., Berkeley CA 94709. For info, contact Mitzi at (510) 526-4652.

Our webmaster, **Trish Meyer**, has a new e-mail address.

Susanne Belcher had two pieces juried into the WPW exhibit, “Red.” *Southwest Art Magazine* selected another one of her images to accompany a short article announcing that show at VIVA.

Our Antecedents

by Judi Birnberg

Collage (from the French *coller*, to glue) is a technique of composing a work of art by pasting on a surface various materials not normally associated with one another, creating a new whole; also work produced by this technique. A collage may include newspaper clippings, ribbon, bits of paper, portions of other artwork, photographs, theater tickets, fragments of an envelope, moss, even a dead mole, and other found objects, glued to a piece of paper or canvas.

The origins of collage can be traced back to the invention of paper in China (200 B.C.) and to

wider use by calligraphers in 10th-century Japan. But collage made a dramatic appearance in the early 20th century with its first use as an artist’s technique.

Georges Braque first applied wallpaper to a drawing; Pablo Picasso first applied a piece of oilcloth to a painting. The term *collage* was likely coined by Braque and Picasso and first used to describe Dada and Surrealist works, thus linking it to the beginnings of modernism.

—compiled from Britannica.com, Dictionary.com, Wikipedia, and Guggenheimcollection.org

Editor’s Note

by Judi Birnberg

Obviously, you were stunned and excited to see the beautiful new CAA newsletter for the New Year. This has happened because one of our members, Karen Robbins, volunteered to make it look gorgeous! Mind you, Karen has a full-time job and recently underwent hand surgery, but she still offered to do this. I’m telling you this to make you feel guilty. You really need to think about how you can pull your weight for Collage Artists. Think about all we do and see how you can contribute. It can’t always be the same few people handling everything. CAA wants YOU!

Karen did all the designing, layout and everything I don’t know how to do—all the things that makes our newsletter look professional. To Karen I extend the thanks of every member of our group!

I have been cranking out this newsletter since the McKinley

administration. I can write and I can edit, but the graphics are beyond me. Karen volunteered to make our newsletter something to be proud of.

Dorothy Tate volunteered to take over getting the snail-mail copies out to those of you without e-mail. (Hugs and kisses to you, Dorothy!) Because color copies are prohibitively expensive, the snail-mail versions must be black and white. Switch to e-mail and get Technicolor!

By the way, for those few of you who do have e-mail but say you can’t open the newsletter, I have two pieces of advice for you. Go to your hard drive and find and open your Downloads Folder; you may very well find the newsletter there. If you don’t have Adobe Reader, go to www.adobe.com/reader/ and download it at no cost. You will save trees and save CAA money.

—Judi

NEXT MEETING

Friday, January 29, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. at Bernard Milken Jewish Community Campus Auditorium, 22622 Vanowen Street, West Hills, CA 91307, (818) 464-3300. For upcoming meeting dates, see the Calendar on page 1.

JANUARY PROGRAM Orna Livni: Color and Light from Tel Aviv

My name is Orna Livni. I was born in Tel Aviv, Israel. In many of my works you will see the influence of growing up in Tel Aviv, Israel, where art, music and ballet were an integral part of my daily life.

I saw a passion for music and dance in my father and a love of the arts in my friends and their families. No matter where you walked, there were museums and galleries. My journey, begun in the cultural centers and streets of Tel Aviv, shaped the person I am today.

I moved with my family to L.A. about 10 years ago. The impact of moving to L.A. opened my horizons and deepened my expression as an artist.

I plan on continuing to explore and discover my

creative expression, not only through painting but also by experimenting and delving into design—I'd like to design spaces, clothes, shoes, and accessories. I would like to try my hand at performance art. Most important, I hope to keep growing and developing as a person and would like that growth to continue to express itself in my work.

I am looking forward to meeting you all on January 29. I'll be donating an acrylic and mixed media work for your Scholarship Fund raffle.



RESOURCE OUTLET

- Do any of you have a studio big enough for us to hold workshops in? We would be happy to pay you a clean-up fee. Contact Marjorie Sarnat, Workshop Chairman.
- The Art Box Studio in Upland, CA is scheduling 2010 classes with the following instructors: Gerald Brommer, Katherine Chang Liu, Barbara Nechis, Don Andrews, Frank Francese, Christopher Schink, Sylvia Megerdichian, and Robert Burrige. For their dates, go to www.artboxworkshops.com
- Look! Not much here. Do you know why? No one has sent anything in. It's not too late for a New Year's resolution.

Link Your Site

If you have a link from the CAA website, please create a link from your website to CAA at www.collageartists.org.



Collage Artists of America

established 1988

www.collageartists.org

3706 Stone Canyon Avenue
Sherman Oaks, California 91403

President Nicki Newfield

1st VP Membership (open)

2nd VP Programs Ben Goldman

3rd VP Exhibits Rachelle Mark

Parliamentarian Dorothy Tate

Recording Secretary Helen Merken

Treasurer Jeanne Zinniker

Awards Certificates Judi Birnberg

Graphics Chair Susan Gesundheit

Historian/Archives Susan Gesundheit

Hospitality Chair Kathy Sandel

Liaison Member Jeanne Zinniker

Member-at-Large Betty Beam

Newsletter Editor Judi Birnberg

Opportunity Chair Sandra Rooney

Publicity Chair Barbara Jones

Scholarship Chair Dorothy Tate

Workshop Chair Marjorie Sarnat



The Cutting Edge

Collage Artists of America

3706 Stone Canyon Ave

Sherman Oaks CA 91403

Opportunity Report

I've said it before and I'll say it again: We need STUFF! Bring in your magazines: National Geographic, design, fashion, wall-paper books—these are all good for collage. Pieces of wood, metal, weird stuff—we need it all. You don't have to price it; just bring it to the meeting on January 29 and I'll take care of that.

-Sandy

Don't forget to wear your name tag and get an extra raffle ticket, increasing your chances to win Orna Livni's wonderful mixed media piece!

Treasurer's Report

As of December 15, 2009:

\$14,299.25

Before You Call...

Before you call for info, our newsletter is always available on the CAA website:

www.collageartists.org

Correction

Ben Goldman's phone number is (323) 656-3465.