

NEWS & NOTES

MUSEUM NEWS

The Jewish Museum in New York City has an exhibition called *Too Jewish* which deals with self-parody and self-loathing. Most of the art has a sense of humor and most of the art is not victim art as expected from most race-based, gender-based and ethnic-based material seen in the last decade. The show will move to San Francisco and Los Angeles, including 45 works by 23 artists, including paintings, sculptures, drawings, videos and installations, including Jean-Paul Gaultier's "Hasidic" collection!

Mark Chagall 1907-17, a survey of the artist's formative years, opened at the Jewish Museum as well, when Chagall moved from Vitebsk, his birthplace, to St. Petersburg, Paris and back to Vitebsk. Included are 100 paintings, gouaches and drawings, as well as portraits of Chagall's family and self-portraits. The show runs through 4 August.

The International Museum of Cartoon Art, with collections that span more than 200 years of cartooning and including more than 150,000 original works, opened in March in Boca Raton, Florida. The collection includes more than 160,000 pieces of cartoon art by more than 1,000 artists from 50 countries.

The Museum of Modern Art in New York City has purchased the 19-story Dorset Hotel and two adjacent brownstones on West 53rd & West 54th Streets for approximately \$50 million. This move will give it the capacity to add an additional 250,000 sq. ft. of space—almost doubling its size. Now it must develop a plan for the new buildings and start to raise several hundred million dollars.

The Museum has also received a collection valued at more than \$5 million from Elaine Dannheisser—tough art from the 80s and 90s, including Serra, Nauman, Gober, Beuys, Sigmar Polke, Marden and Cindy Sherman, including paintings, sculpture, drawings, prints, installations and video art.

Dateline: Berlin

Beate Uhse began selling sex manuals from the back of her bicycle 50 years ago. Now she is the curator of one of the largest museums of erotica in the world, right in the heart of Berlin, in a building with 3 floors and more than 3,000 items. One of the most interesting displays is devoted to Magnus Hirschfeld, a Berliner who was one of the world's first serious sex researchers.

Dateline: Sicily

An enlightened business man, Antonio Presti, has employed artists to design the rooms in the Castel di Tusa, near Messina, which he is turning into an hotel called L'Atelier sul mare. Artists include Idetoshi Nagasawa, Maurizio Mochetti, Paolo Icaro, Fabrizio

Plessi, Piero Dorazio, Angelo Savelli, Luigi Mainolfi. Other artists are Renato Curcio, Agostino Ferrari and Gianni Ruggero. The hotelier himself is working with a poet, a journalist and artist, to create a room in memory of the film director, Pier Paolo Pasolini, murdered twenty years ago in a gay encounter.

The **Shelburne Museum** in Shelburne, VT, one of the most esteemed art collections in the U.S., has decided to sell \$25 million worth of art at Sotheby's this autumn, in an effort to dig its way out of a financial mess.

FLUXUS

Queensland Art Gallery in South Brisbane, Australia announces that it has recently received a major donation of works from one of the world's leading publishers of experimental, avant-garde art editions and multiples, Francesco Conz of Verona, Italy. He has donated 102 works by 39 artists, mostly involved with the Fluxus movement, who were active from 1960s up to the present, as well as supporting documentary photographs. The Conz Donation is the largest single gift to the Gallery from an international source. Artists represented are Nam June Paik, Charlotte Moorman, Henri Chopin, Robert Watts, George Brecht, Philip Corner, Alison Knowles, Dick Higgins and Viennese performance artists Hermann Nitsch and Otto Muhl. A comprehensive exhibition and publication on the Donation is planned for 1997.

Allan Kaprow: Inventions/Reinventions including Course/Re-Course: Iowa City, 1969-1996 with photo-texts, recipes and documents took place at University of Iowa, Iowa City Museum of Art 9 March - 28 April.

Yoko Ono not only has an exhibition of new drawings and quotations from "Grapefruit" and Blue Room at her gallery in Santa Monica, but she also has statements from her Fluxus pieces from 1960s, **Instruction Paintings**, in the windows of some of the most exclusive boutiques and shops on Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills. Sometimes they really work, and sometimes they seem out of place. But it was a stellar crowd that came out to see and drink at Giorgio's on Rodeo Drive to launch the exhibit. If you don't notice, you probably won't see the yellow statements on the glass shopwindows, but if you do notice, you follow the progression and "get the idea" if you know that Y.O. means the star herself.

ubu Gallery at 16 E. 78th St., New York City will devote the first exhibition to the full range of work created by Fluxus founder George Maciunas on 4 May - 22 June. Organized in collaboration with Barbara

Moore, art historian on Fluxus and proprietor of Bound & Unbound, the exhibit will include many scarce Fluxus and on-Fluxus works. There will be a celebratory reception at Ubu on 4 May from 1-5 p.m.

Dick Higgins' exhibition, **The Buster Keaton Show** is at 479 Gallery in New York City, 594 Broadway, 3 - 25 May, opening with a shadow puppet performance of Dick Higgins' Buster Keaton Enters into Paradise by Malgosia Askanas at 8:00 p.m. 4 May.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost: The Center for Safety in the Arts has closed its doors in New York City because of funding cutbacks. The newsletter, Web site, and distribution of publications will be handled by the New York Foundation for the Arts. The information center, however, which answered individual questions about art hazards, has bitten the dust. Go make art at your own risk!

Lost: The remains of Ilaria del Carretto in the Cathedral of San Martino in Lucca, Italy. The famous funereal monument by Jacopo della Quercia was moved this winter and during the move, the workmen opened the sarcophagus and found it empty except for two bricks engraved with the names of the three men who carried the statue into the transept more than 100 years ago.

Found: Workers renovating a government building in Madrid have stumbled upon a previously unknown painting by Francisco de Goya. The Prado Museum confirmed that the canvas, which shows redeemed souls being swept upward from purgatory to heaven, was found recently propped against a wall in an attic storeroom and was indeed a Goya. The untitled work is to be put on display in May, after it is restored at the museum.

Lost?: A Renoir painting, *The Bathers*, was stolen from Belgrade's National Museum in April by cutting it from its frame during a gallery security lapse. A different "Bathers" painting by Renoir hanging the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Lost: \$1 million collection of paintings and calligraphy were stolen from a famous tea house in Hong Kong, destined for sale overseas, since only the most valuable paintings were stolen.

Lost? The famed Round Reading Room of the British Library may soon be vandalized, while the British Museum prepares to sacrifice its commitment to keeping the Round Reading Room as a library and work place for scholars. Instead, the BM has redefined this great space as circulation space, with information terminals, and as one BM spokesman memorably reported, "a place for

schoolchildren to eat their sandwiches." The famous "Iron Stacks" are to be removed. The desks, integral to the original design, will have to be largely removed. Many details will be altered, despite Grade One statue for the entire building (And 250 jobs are lost, acquisitions and conservation budgets have been slashed for the moved to St. Pancras).

Found: Amazing paintings devoted to life in Stalinist labor camps in Siberia, where the artist Nikolai Getman, was sent in 1948 and spent eight years. Oddly enough, in 1993 he showed these paintings under his own auspices. Now people and compatriots are trying their best to forget their shameful past.

Lost? French art historian, Jacques Franck, who recently forced Paris' Louvre museum to abandon plans to restore Leonardo's *Virgin and Child with St. Anne* said that the team restoring the Last Supper mural in Milan had stripped away all the repaints added since Leonardo completed the work in 1497, taking no account of their crucial role in preserving the original. He feels the Last Supper is a "ghost...Leonardo's art is only a distant memory."

Found: Segments of the Great Wall of China that have been lost in centuries of desert sand were discovered in radar images taken from the space shuttle Endeavor in April 1994. Two generations of the wall were found, one built in the Ming Dynasty is about 600 years old; the other built during the Sui Dynasty is more than 1,000 years old.

CHRISTO'S NEW PROJECT

Christo and Jeanne-Claude plan to install a huge lid consisting of fabric panels over the Rio Grande south of Pilar, New Mexico. The plan calls for suspending the panels from steel wire cables above the churning waters for about five miles. The panels will be interrupted only by bridges, trees and rocks big enough to be in the way. Christo promises to be sensitive to the environment, as always. The project will remain over the river for 14 days once it is installed.

Dateline: Australia

Australia can lay claim to having the world's oldest and longest artistic tradition, extending back at least 34,000 years, according to dramatic new evidence presented to a scientific congress in Sydney.

Burning the Interface is the first major survey exhibition of works on CD-ROM by contemporary artists from Australia and overseas. 27 March - 30 June at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney. Themes include cybernetics, sexuality and the body, personal and cultural histories, gender and identity, mythologies, language and semantic systems.

Dateline: Norway

Electra '96 - Project for Electronic Media covers electronic art, architecture and design, with participants from all over the world at the Henie Onstad Art Centre in Oslo, Norway 2 March - 14 April. This is the first exhibition of its kind in Norway.

Dateline: Monaco

Cyberterritories by Fred Forest was presented from 2 February - 8 March at the Pierre Nouvion Art Gallery in Monaco, in which he created the digital universal foot. People see the outline of their right foot on a sheet of paper with name, nationality, date and sent the sheet by email or by fax to the gallery.

Dateline: Austria

Ars Electronica Festival is 2 - 7 September 1996 in Linz with the theme of "Mimesis - The Future of Evolution" during the opening of the Ars Electronica Center, which opens its doors on 2 September 1996 in Linz.

A Holocaust memorial designed by Rachel Whiteread will be inaugurated in Vienna this fall. It is to be constructed in the heart of the city, meant to recall the 65,000 Austrian Jews who died during the years when their country was allied with Nazi Germany. The light-gray concrete structure on the site where a synagogue once stood will have an exterior with a cast of the walls of a book-lined room, a reference to Jewish cultural tradition. The interior will remain empty. To be dedicated on 9 November, marking the "kristallnacht" in 1938 when 65 synagogues were burned in Austria.

DATELINE: BERLIN

Cuts in extracurricular activities like art and photography in the city of Berlin have been protested by thousands of school children who have converged on City Hall, sometimes becoming violent. The new Finance Minister, Ms. Fugmann-Heesing, only relented for the city's acting school founded in 1905 by Max Reinhardt. The people of Berlin want the city's position as a world cultural center to be protected, and the culture ministry has been spared budget cuts, even gaining more support of theaters, opera houses, museums and other cultural institutions.

DATELINE: MADRID

The new **Book Museum**, permanent showcase for the Spanish National Library's extensive collection (the Paper Prado) has exceptional examples of manuscripts, engravings, drawings, maps and documents. 500 works from the National Library—from a fragment of a Greek bible dating back to the fourth century to Charles V's Book of Hours—will be exhibited on a rotating schedule in the seven rooms of the museum. Display will be

around 5 themes: writing materials in antiquity; the Middle Ages; the Printing Press; the modern epoch and the twentieth century. The twentieth-century room, designed by José Antonio Millán, is conceived as a puzzle inspired by Borges's *Aleph* of which the Library preserves the original manuscript.

CURRENCY NEWS

A competition to design the new bank notes for the Euro, the proposed European single currency, was launched recently by the European Monetary Institute. The designs must be based on one of two themes: either a "traditional" approach based on the theme "Ages and styles of Europe" reflecting Europe's cultural heritage, or an abstract or contemporary theme. The denominations are 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 euro notes.

Speaking of currency, 7 Southern California artists were asked to design their own versions of the \$100 bill, no holds barred, and they were paid \$100 to do so by the L.A. Times. Their reactions range from pen and watercolor or silk-screening to computer designed imagery with Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and other techniques.

The Swiss Central Bank has just issued a 5-franc bill, which is the world's first digital bank note, designed on a computer that resolves its design into 2.5 billion points, each of them individually accessible electronically. There is a raised triangle at one end to assist the blind and a number of official seals and figures that dance around on the face of the note like holograms. Configuration is vertical like other Swiss notes (because studies showed that the currency is mostly passed by people who are standing), unlike the horizontal axis of the American dollar.

Wild & Strange

The Bill of Rights Hotline, created by Bob Pagani, is a 900 number which gives the caller the Preamble and Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution as read in a "sex line" style by a young woman.

The idea for the Hotline came to him a few years ago when he was a radio talk show host in Allentown, PA. Disgusted at people's lack of knowledge of their rights, citing a survey that said that only 37% of adult Americans could identify the Bill of Rights when shown, she devised the Bill of Rights Hotline designed to "read you your rights" in a provocative manner. The number is 900-868-2702 and costs \$1.98 a minute. It is not intended for people under the age of 18 and they should not call.

CENSORSHIP

A high school art student in Miami, Florida asked a federal judge to liberate her nude male statue that had been banished to a storage room by the principal. The American Civil Liberties Union of Florida charges that

the 16 year old's constitutional guarantees have been trampled by the principal. Since the chicken wire and plaster depiction of an oversize man was deemed too risqué for the school's lobby, the statue was moved, causing students in the high school's art magnet to picket, pull their own artwork from the lobby and hang a portrait of the artist, Rebecca Antolak, wearing a gag in its place.

REVENGE

A Brazilian artist admitted to vandalizing a million-dollar painting by Miró out of desperation over failing to sell his own paintings. "Women in the Street", a highlight of a traveling Miró exhibition, was vandalized at the close of the show at the Banco do Brasil Culture Center in Rio de Janeiro. The painting included two black handprints; the vandal slapped a third handprint on the work with black plastic glue. The artist confessed, saying he was not in his "right state of mind" because of his own lack of artistic success. He faces a possible charge of vandalism and a jail term if convicted. Restorers were able to remove the glue, returning the painting to its original state.

Money and Commerce

The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston is allowing a Winslow Homer painting to be printed on a Visa credit card issued by Bay Bank in Boston. The bank, not coincidentally, is the corporate sponsor for the Homer show that is packing them in at the MFA. This means that the bank gets the cachet of the rights to a famous painting, the museum gets \$250,000 in sponsorship plus a royalty it will not disclose, and Homer gets ripped off.

Arts Programming

Ovation, a new cable network dedicated exclusively to the visual and performing arts, is scheduled to launch on 21 April. Initial programming includes performances by the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company and the Paris Opera Ballet; profiles on cellist Yo-Yo Ma, painter Pablo Picasso; documentaries on the Bauhaus movement and Impressionism; jazz performances and much more. The network, overseen by Chairman J. Carter Brown, director emeritus of Washington's National Gallery of Art, will air daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the Hughes Galaxy 7 satellite. Ovation is still negotiating for local cable distribution.

ART TO EAT

The *Cezanne* is the Mediterranean style sandwich invented by London sandwich bar, Pret à Manger. It contains mozzarella, avocado, basil mayonnaise, toasted pinenuts, tomato, lettuce and seasonings (garlic, sesame and poppy seeds) on sunbaked tomato bread. The Tate Gallery had approached the chain about inventing the sandwich for the exhibition.

ART TO READ

Counterculture: Alternative Information from the Underground Press to the Internet closes on 10 May, organized by Brian Wallis and Melissa Rachleff, was a monumental accumulation of some 2,000 examples of politically radical newspapers, magazines and posters produced in America from the early 1960s to the present. The material, culled from closets, scrapbooks and library archives for the occasion, covered virtually every inch of Exit Art's considerable wall space and was arranged chronologically.

At the same time, the Drawing Center had a show curated by Julie Ault, called **Cultural Economics: Histories from the Alternative Arts Movement NYC**, included not only print media but paintings, sculptures, photographs and other art objects, documenting spaces such as Fashion Moda, ABC No Rio, the Guerrilla Girls, Gran Fury, and individual artists such as Jane Dickson, David Wojnarovicz.

ART IN THE CLOISTERS

21 cloistered **Sisters of Bethlehem** and the Assumption of the Virgin Mary live in a pristine, Romanesque monastery at Beit Jarmal in Israel. The sisters are dedicated to contemplation and meditation in silence of the adoration of the trinity. The support themselves solely by the sale of their artwork: icons, ceramics and religious statuary. The sisters devote their lives to prayer, study and contemplation in the solitude of private cells, but also respect their many Jewish visitors, so they speak excellent Hebrew, have a Menorah at the front of the chapel, and the Five Books of Moses lies opened, not the New Testament.

They charge \$65.00 an hour for programming and \$110 an hour for art work, and they are very busy.

Benedictine monks at Christ in the Desert, Abiquiu, New Mexico, design sites on the Internet's World Wide Web. Harking back to the original tradition of the scribes, taking information and making it beautiful, into art, is what they feel they are doing. The 24 monks ranging from their 20s to their 70s had to add to their array of solar panels to generate extra power for 12 personal computers, some of them donated, find an internet service provider and the bought a telephone. Home page is:

<http://www.technet.nm.org/pax.html>

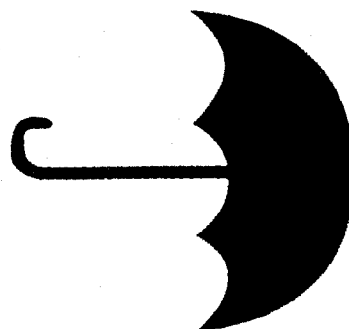
UMBRELLA NEWS

Some new inventions in Japan include a golfer's practice umbrella which has a real driver head to allow you to practice your stroke. There is also a Personal Rain Saver, where the rain won't go to waste since the umbrella is upside down on its handle and pipes the water into a plastic bag. Imagine that!

• The Los Angeles Philharmonic's "Green Umbrella" experimental music series is planning an imaginative match between experimental art and avant-garde architecture. When it opens later this year, the Green Umbrella will occupy a segment of an innovative, 8-year-old project by Frederick Smith developer and Eric Owen Moss, architect, to recycle a series of dilapidated industrial structures in Culver City into a flexible performance space, dubbed "the Green Umbrella".

UMBRELLA MUSEUM

Contributors to the Umbrella Museum are: Anna Banana, Harriet Bart, Guy Bleus, Annie Silverman, Catherine Elzas, Judy & Chuck Goodstein, Joan Rabascall, Angela Lorenz, Claire Isaacs, Marilyn Dammann, Johan Van Geluwe, Melinda Smith Altshuler, Neal Taylor, Simonson, Patricia Collins, Juliana Martinez, Diane Destiny



Resources

Copigraphy, elements for a global history is a CD-Rom collating archives on the work of 70 copy artists from 20 countries. It will be available in few months in English, French and German versions, containing 700 reproductions of artworks, and over 1000 pages of textual archives. You might want to contact Alain Bergeron, Editor, at LopLop@cam.org

Opportunities

The Book Arts Toward Century's End for the Future: Conference and Book Fair 21-23 June 1996. Workshops will be held on the first day including one on artist books by Susan Mills, Saturday the conference will have papers at the Ryerson Institute, and on Sunday there is a Book Fair at the Ryerson Institute. For more information or reservations for the Book Fair, contact Shelagh Smith (905)851-1554 or write to the CBBAG, Suite 221, The Chalmers Bldg., 35 McCaul St., Toronto, Ont. M5T 1V7 for brochure.

The Holocaust and the Book: Destruction and Preservation: The Center for Holocaust Study and the Center for the History of the Book at Drew University will cosponsor a conference on the Holocaust and the Book. This will be a one-day conference on 14 November 1996 at Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. Papers are being welcomed dealing with books in the Holocaust, such as the burning, confiscation, censorship, and preservation of books; ghetto, camp and clandestine libraries; underground, official and collaborationist publishing; keeping of journals and diaries; and the reading experiences of Holocaust victims and survivors.

For more information, send to the Center for Holocaust Study, Rose Memorial Library/301, Drew University, Madison, NJ 07940 USA. Telephone : (201)408-3600.

Summer Arts Institute: Women's Studio Workshop, P.O Box 489, Rosendale, NY 12472. Over 50 workshops in printmaking, papermaking, book arts, photography and fiber arts for Summer 1996 or check home page at www.webmark.com/wsw/wswhome.htm

Artist's Fellowships: Available in intaglio, water-based screen printing, photography and papermaking for two to four week sessions from September to June. **15 May Deadline for September - February residencies.**

Anderson Ranch Arts Center has creative studies in Book Arts for Summer 1996 with Susan Share, Janet Zweig, Susan kae Grant, Laurie Snyder and John Wood and Hedi Kyle! For information and registration, contact Anderson Ranch Arts Center, P.O. Box 5598, Snowmass Village, CO 81615. Or call (970)923-3181.

8th Mini Expression Meeting, 1 - 18 August 1996, University of Panama.

1996 in New Mexico. Sas Colby's Studio in the Sky. 21-26 in Taos; 21-27 at Ghost Ranch. Mixed Media Art Workshops with emphasis on artist books. Call (505)-751-3667 for direct contact or (505)751-2179 for voice mail.

New Computer Sites

Digital ephemera from the Bodleian Library:

<http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/rg/toyota/thumbtest.html>

Cartoon Arts Network:

<http://www.pavilion.co.uk/cartoonet/>

The Cooker, created by Jake Tilson

<http://www.ruskin-sch.ox.ac.uk/~jake/base3j.html>

Visual Studies Workshop Summer Institute 1996: Includes courses on Artists Books by Scott McCarney, Carol Barton and Joan Lyons, covering non-adhesive binding, albums and boxes, Pop-Up structures and personal stories. Brad Freeman will also be teaching a course on Offset printing. So if you want more information, contact VSW Summer Institute, 31 Prince St., Rochester, NY 14607.

Edition Staeck created by Klaus Staeck has published postcards and posters since 1971, which have a strong political motif. Friend of Joseph Beuys, Staeck has produced Beuys postcards, watches by Penck, Droese, ; a transparent book by Fried Rosenstock (250 DM) German is the language of discourse in the catalog. Write to Imgrimstrasse 3, D-69117 Heidelberg, Germany.

Arttext is a bookshop on modern art, women artists and film studies at 361 Harvard St. #7, Cambridge, MA 02138. email:arttext@cambridge.village.com <http://www.webcom.com/arttext/>

Oregon School of Arts & Crafts has a series of **Summer 1996 Workshops**, including Paper Making for Book & Paper Artists, The Book Restructured, The Anatomy of the Artist's Book, The Book

Speaks. For more information, write to 8245 SW Barnes Rd., Portland OR 97225.

Minnesota Center for Book Arts has a schedule of summer classes including workshops on making concertina books, carousel & tunnel books, led by Shereen LaPlantz, altered books and much more. For more information, contact MCBA, 24 No. Third St., Minneapolis, MN 55401-1612.

FLUXUS HOME PAGE

The Fluxus Home Page is located at <http://www.cinenet.net/~marco> on the World Wide Web. Joe De Marco's venture is the first attempt to bring a continuing on-line Fluxus presence to the Internet. Unlike past one-show-only projects, De Marco is building this site in collaboration with art historians and with veteran Fluxus artists such as Ken Friedman and Dick Higgins.

The site offers the complete contents of the *Fluxus Performance Workbook*, the largest single publication devoted exclusively to Fluxus event scores and notations. There is also a page covering the Fluxfest 96 Performance at San Francisco's Stamp Art Gallery including scores and photos. Finally, the site offers the full scores of Higgins's Cowboy Plays and Friedman's *Thirty Events and Objects*.

Sitemaster Joe De Marco is now collecting additional scores, projects and documents. He is working with artists and art historians to give Fluxus an expanding, on-line presence that is exciting, comprehensive and historically accurate. Please feel free to make contributions to the site. You can contact Joe De Marco at his email address: marco@cinenet.net or fluxus@artnet.net

FLUXLIST is a new Website on the Net, which is a very lively discussion spot. To subscribe to **FLUXLIST**, send an email message to:

[<majordomo@scribble.com>](mailto:majordomo@scribble.com)

with the following command in the body of the message:

[<subscribe FLUXLIST \(your email address\)>](mailto:majordomo@scribble.com)

You should then shortly receive an automated reply welcoming you to the Fluxus mailing list. You can also subscribe in DIGEST form. Send a message to:

[<majordomo@scribble.com>](mailto:majordomo@scribble.com) with the following command in the body of the message:

[<subscribe FLUXLIST DIGEST \(your email address\)>](mailto:majordomo@scribble.com)

FLUXLIST WEB SITE