



Brattleboro Museum & Art Center

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www.brattleboromuseum.org

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Brattleboro Museum & Art Center to Host Three-Day Mini-Festival on Figure Drawing

Brattleboro, Vt.— For three days beginning Thursday, July 30, the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center will host *Figure Drawing: A Study of Form*, a mini-festival developed in collaboration with The Putney Drawing Group and co-sponsored by Zephyr Designs, the River Gallery School, and Windham Wines. Figure drawing, or life drawing, is the practice of drawing the human body in its many shapes and positions. Activities will include a slide-lecture, film-screening, participatory figure-drawing sessions with live models, and a closing party. All this will be set against a backdrop of artwork created by members of The Putney Drawing Group.

The complete schedule of events is as follows: Thursday 7/30 at 7:30 p.m. – slide-lecture by Prof. Marion Miller of Mount Holyoke College; Friday 7/31 at 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. – artwork by The Putney Drawing Group on display; Friday 7/31 at 7:30 p.m. – screening of *Lucian Freud: Portraits*; Saturday 8/1 at 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. – artwork by The Putney Drawing Group on display; Saturday 8/1 at 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m. – participatory figure-drawing sessions with live models (10 a.m. session includes instruction by Jason Alden of the River Gallery School); Saturday 8/1 at 5:30 p.m. – closing party and cash bar.

Admission to the Thursday night slide-lecture and Friday night film screening is \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$3 for students, and free for BMAC members and children 5 and under. The cost to reserve a spot in either of the Saturday figure-drawing sessions is \$10. (Space is limited; participants must be at least 18 years old and must sign up in advance by calling 802-257-0124, ext. 101 or dropping by the museum.) The closing party is free and open to the public. There is no admission charge to view the artwork by members of The Putney Drawing Group, on display Friday and Saturday during regular museum hours. For more information, visit www.brattleboromuseum.org.

“When members of The Putney Drawing Group approached me with this idea, I thought it would be a great way to showcase local artists and, at the same time, to provide a glimpse into a rich vein in the history and current practice of art-making,” said BMAC Director Danny Lichtenfeld. “In planning this series of events, we have discovered that many artists in our area, of all abilities and levels of experience, are vitally engaged in figure-drawing.” The mini-festival will take place, Lichtenfeld said, during a period of changeover from one set of museum exhibits to another. Six new exhibits will open at BMAC on Friday, August 7, during Brattleboro’s monthly Gallery Walk.

Professor of Art at Mount Holyoke College, Marion (“Bonnie”) Miller is well known for her portraits and equestrian paintings. Her artwork has been compared to that of Vermeer and Degas. The 2004 documentary film *Lucian Freud: Portraits* portrays the renowned artist (and grandson of the psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud) through interviews with those who have sat for him. The members of The Putney Drawing Group include Leigh Brady, Vin Brandt, Nancy Calicchio, John Ewald, Carrie Gelfan, Christine Grele, Carol Keiser, Paul LeVasseur, Peggy O’Toole, Susan Parenti, David Rohn, Paul Stone, Maryann Toffolon, Toby Young, and Frank Stout (emeritus).

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Major support for the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center's 2009-2010 season is provided by BMAC members and Entergy Vermont Yankee, Foard Panel, C&S Wholesale Grocers, Sam's Outdoor Outfitters, and Chittenden Bank. The Museum's exhibits and gift shop are open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Tuesday and Wednesday. Regular admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors, and \$3 for students. Members and children 5 and under are admitted free of charge.

Founded in 1972, the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center presents art and ideas in ways that inspire, educate, and engage people of all ages. Each season features compelling new exhibits of contemporary artwork by regional and internationally acclaimed artists, complemented by lectures, artist talks, film screenings, and other public programs. Located in historic Union Station in downtown Brattleboro, at the intersection of Main Street (Route 5) and Routes 119 and 142, the Museum is wheelchair accessible. For more information call 802-257-0124 or visit www.brattleboromuseum.org.

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