



Brattleboro Museum & Art Center

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Six New Exhibits Open at the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center on August 7

Six new exhibits will open at the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center on Friday, August 7 at 5:30 p.m., during Brattleboro's monthly Gallery Walk. The opening is free and open to the public.

Headlining the new set of exhibits, which will remain on display through November 8, is *Vermont Collects: Modern & Contemporary Masters*. The first in a series of exhibitions designed to showcase the diverse aesthetic and cultural sensibilities within our region, this show affords viewers an opportunity to experience rarely seen paintings, prints, and sculpture on loan from the private collections of local residents. The list of featured artists reads like a "who's who" of contemporary art: Milton Avery, Alexander Calder, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Jim Dine, M.F. Husain, Robert Indiana, Sol LeWitt, Robert Motherwell, Robert Rauschenberg, Julian Schnabel, and many others. This exhibit is sponsored by Berkley & Veller Greenwood Country Realtors, The Richards Group, Potter Stewart Jr. Law Offices, and Trust Company of Vermont.

Complementing *Vermont Collects* are solo shows featuring the work of Anne Eaton Parker, Ralph DeAnna, Shuli Sadé, and Joseph Fichter, as well as an exhibit of landscape

paintings, prints, and textiles from the Vermont State Art Collection. *Beth Krommes: The Poetry of Lines*, which opened in April, also remains on display.

Exploring Inner and Outer Space: The Art of Anne Eaton Parker presents a sampling of paintings and sculpture created over a period of five decades by the nonagenarian Parker, who has ties to Brattleboro. For more than five decades Parker has created paintings that evoke a sense of human drama. Many of her canvases are relentless in their satiric depictions of social conventions and mores; others allude to the myths, archetypes, and ceremonies of our common Western heritage.

Time and Motion is an exhibit of recent paintings by Brattleboro resident Ralph DeAnna. Influenced by Marcel Proust and his classic attempts to “see” time and unravel memory, DeAnna plays with time and space in his seemingly representational paintings. Whether composed of distinct scenes or a single scene depicted from multiple points of view, his paintings convey a continuum in time rather than telling a specific story. “Perspective and pictorial space aren’t enough,” he says. “I am working to create a passing of time.”

Shuli Sadé’s installation, *Waterfall*, features 15 individual video pieces in lengths of three to eight minutes, grouped by color: sepia for past, green for present, and blue for future. Shot from the windows of moving trains, the videos are from a series that documents the journey by rail between New York City and Brattleboro. The work illuminates thoughts about time in space by flipping the horizontally flowing river to vertical to suggest a waterfall, creating a new, non-gravitating timeline. *Waterfall* is part of the Great River Arts Institute’s *H2O: Film on Water* project, on display at multiple venues along the Connecticut River Valley and its watershed.

Bolt is a new equine sculpture by Putney, Vermont sculptor Joseph Fichter. It is the second of three Fichter horses to stand sentry in front of the museum during the 2009-2010 season. Working with the varied characteristics of steel, Fichter imbues his welded metal horses with fluidity, strength, grace, and movement. These sculptures are more than

descriptions of living animals: they are dynamic depictions of energy in motion. In some ways they are bold, three-dimensional drawings, their hard metal tracing remarkably sleek, effortless lines.

Art of Vermont: Landscapes from the State Collection provides a mere glimpse into the riches that constitute the Vermont State Art Collection, which was launched in 1837 with the purchase of a portrait of George Washington. Vermont State Curator David Schütz says, "Art helps define who we are as people. As we look back over the works that constitute the State Art Collection, we cannot help but be struck by the amazing messages that are conveyed about Vermont and its people."

Beth Krommes: The Poetry of Lines features original illustrations by the 2009 Caldecott Medal Winner, accompanied by hands-on activities and reading materials for audiences of all ages.

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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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