



## Works by SACI Artists Council Members Beverly Pepper & Amalie R. Rothschild Featured in Fall Solo Exhibitions at the SACI Gallery

At the beginning of this year's Fall term, two very special exhibitions by SACI Artists Council members were featured in the SACI Gallery. From September 9 through October 3, SACI hosted "Works on Paper: 1960-2005," a major retrospective of drawings from different stages in the career of **Beverly Pepper**, which also included a number of the artist's most recent works. From October 6 through November 6, SACI showcased "Photographs: 1967-1974," a compilation of photographs, many of them now world-famous, taken by **Amalie R. Rothschild** when she was working as the unofficial house photographer at New York City's legendary Fillmore East and as a freelance photographer at events ranging from the Woodstock Festival in upstate New York to the Isle of Wight Festival in the UK. While their work was on display in the SACI Gallery, both artists, who have lived for many years in Italy, visited the school and lectured on their long and distinguished careers.



Beverly Pepper



Amalie R. Rothschild

brated in a famous essay by art historian Barbara Rose. In a letter to Beverly Pepper, the great Italian poet Giuseppe Ungaretti wrote that her works "represent a kind of silence, a wordless one which is not finally mute. They address themselves to people, binding, bending, exalting them. They present a revelation, the revelation of poetry."

In 1968, at the invitation of a New York University audio engineer, Amalie R. Rothschild, a graduate film student at NYU, visited the Fillmore East, which was next door to NYU's School of the Arts, for the first time. Almost immediately, she began the photo documentation of performers on and off stage that,

in 1999, became the basis for her book, *Live at the Fillmore East: A Photographic Memoir* (Thunder's Mouth Press), now in its fifth printing. These photos include classic images of rock impresario Bill Graham, who ran the Fillmore East from its transformation into the premier US rock venue in 1968 until its closing in 1971, and nearly every major rock star of the era, including radiant shots of Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, The Grateful Dead, Joni Mitchell, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Laura Nyro, Santana, The Allman Brothers Band, Elton John, Eric Clapton, Frank Zappa, and Crosby, Stills and Nash. During this same period, and for several years thereafter, she photographed many major rock events, including, in addition to Woodstock and the Isle of Wight, the US premiere of the rock opera *Tommy*, the 1969 and 1970 Tanglewood Festivals, and the 1969 Thanksgiving Day performance of The Rolling Stones at Madison Square Garden. An award-winning filmmaker, she co-founded New Day Films and, since 1969, has produced and directed documentaries that focus on social issues as revealed through the lives of people in the arts. Her photographs were recently featured in a group exhibition at the Tate Liverpool in the UK, entitled "Summer of Love: Art of the Psychedelic Era," which ran this year from May to October.

SACI is honored to have been able to present the work of these unique artists, and is grateful to both for their years of support as members of the SACI Artists Council and their willingness to share their experiences as artists with the current generation of SACI students.

Beverly Pepper's exhibition, and lecture, at SACI were scheduled to coincide with the 5-day tour of Florence hosted by the Florence Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) for members of both the National Advisory Board of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) and the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums. **Jane Fortune** founded, and is chair of, the Florence Committee of NMWA, and is chair of the SACI board of trustees. Following study at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn College, and the Art Students' League, Beverly Pepper moved to Paris, where she attended the Académie de la Grande Chaumière. In the early 1950s, after receiving a painting fellowship from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she settled in Rome, where her first solo painting exhibition was held. In the later part of that decade, she began to make clay and wood sculptures, and, starting in 1961, she exhibited her sculptures in Italy and throughout the USA. Since then, she has completed numerous sculptures, including many monumental works that are on view in museums and public sites throughout the world. She has also continued to work as a painter, and in the early 1990s painted a 28-foot mural for Urban Land Institute in Washington, DC. Her landscape projects have been cele-

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## Notes from the Director

In September, SACI was part of a 5-day tour of Florence hosted by the Florence Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) for the members of the National Advisory Board of NMWA and the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums. NMWA is located in Washington DC and contains the most important collection of art by women in the world. The Florence Committee of NMWA was founded, and is chaired, by **Jane Fortune**, who is also the chair of the SACI board of trustees. Jane planned for the group a special private arts and culture tour, which focused on *The Heart of Florence Revealed* (the title of the tour) seen through the eyes of someone who lives in Florence. At SACI, the group had the opportunity to participate in a morning of workshops, created especially for them. The workshops were led by SACI instructors **Dario Arcamone** (stone carving), **Karen Yurkovich** (figure drawing), and visiting lecturer **Lisa Novack** (roots of Italian opera). A special highlight of their morning was a lecture on her career as an artist by SACI Artists Council member, **Beverly Pepper**, whose works on paper were featured, in a solo exhibition, in the SACI Gallery.

In May, SACI welcomed two groups of visitors from the USA. **Margot Steinberg**, Chief Development Officer of the Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF) at the Institute of International Education (IIE) in New York City, led a group of eight potential SRF donors on a tour of Florence that included a visit to SACI's main educational facility, the Palazzo dei Cartelloni, which in the seventeenth century had been remodelled as a residence by Vincenzo Viviani in homage to his revered instructor, the great scientist Galileo. I then accompanied Margot and the group on a visit to the tomb of Galileo in the Basilica of Santa Croce and to Galileo's villa, "Il Gioiello." During lunch at a trattoria near the villa, I read to the group a short essay by Piers Bursill-Hall on the achievements of Galileo.

Also in May, SACI hosted a group of fourteen Bowling Green State University (BGSU) School of Art administrators and BGSU Medici Circle Lorenzo Fellowship donors. The group's week-long visit to Florence was part of an initiative to raise funds for Lorenzo Fellowships, which were created to provide financial support so that BGSU School of Art MFA candidates and exceptional BFA students could enroll during Late Spring terms at SACI. Highlights of the visit included: a lecture on his career as an artist by SACI founder and director emeritus **Jules Maidoff**; guided tours of the Accademia and Bargello museums by SACI art history instructor **Linda Reynolds**; a presentation by SACI conservation instructor **Roberta Lapucci** on the restoration by SACI faculty and students of Francesco Curradi lunettes and other

artwork at the Conservatorio di Santa Maria degli Angioli; a guided tour of the Stibbert Museum by the museum's director, **Dr. Kirsten Ashengreen Piacenti**, and curator, **Dr. Dominique Charles Fuchs**; guided tours of the Medici Chapels and the Uffizi Gallery by Medici Circle founding member and BGSU art history professor **Mary Wolfe**; a luncheon at the US Consulate in Florence hosted by SACI honorary board member **US Consul General William McIlhenny**; a private concert at the home near the Palazzo Vecchio of world-renowned pianist **Gregorio Nardi**; and a visit to Capezzana, the historic home of the **Contini Bonacossi** family of wine producers and art patrons. BGSU administrators accompanying the Medici Circle Lorenzo Fellowship donors included **Dr. Katerina Ruedi Ray**, director of the BGSU School of Art; **Dr. Elizabeth Cole**, associate dean for college advancement at the BGSU College of Arts and Sciences; and **Marcia Sloan Latta**, BGSU director of development and associate vice president for University advancement.



**Maranda Hay**, *Study of Metallic Reflection*, oil on canvas, 24" x 18", 2003

I am pleased to be able to report once more about a highly successful SACI ONLUS program. Last spring, SACI hosted a series of weekend meetings for six children, ages seven to ten, including two with Down Syndrome. The children presented a play about life, friendship, and harmony in the woods. Each child chose an animal character and an activity for this character, then worked with the workshop leaders to create costumes, dens, and appropriate musical sounds for their characters. The children who participated were **Brandl Baumgartl**, **Eugenio Di Loreto**, **Gemma** and **Mathilde Montaperto**, **Omar Mungly**, **Chiara Pederzoli**, and **Giovanni Pezzatini**. The meetings were led by **Franco Bigazzi**, **Cecilia Gallia**, **Valeria Nardi**, **Maddalena**



**Mary Beckinsale**, SACI Director

**Pocianti**, and **Federica Totaro**. We are grateful to all of the workshop leaders for their dedication and creativity—and would like to thank as well for their practical assistance **Luigina Bartolini** and **Fiammetta Horvet**.

It is my pleasure to announce that this year's recipient of the *Elizabeth A. Sackler Museum Educational Trust SACI Scholarship* is **Maranda Hay**, a fine art major from Columbus College of Art & Design. This generous grant, the result of a gift designated by **Dr. Elizabeth A. Sackler**, covers a student's tuition and housing for an entire academic year as well as the cost of the student's airfare to and from Florence. It is awarded annually to a talented woman who would otherwise not have the opportunity to attend SACI. Our warmest congratulations go to this very promising young artist.

For many years, SACI has greatly benefited from major contributions from generous donors. These donations have increased our scholarship resources, making it possible for talented students to enroll at SACI who, without such aid, would not be able to undertake art study in Florence. Contributions from the **Worthington Family Foundation**, as well as from other regular donors, have enabled SACI to enhance the library collection of books, art images, and art periodicals; install a state-of-the-art library software program; and renovate—and more than double—our library space. Donations have also helped to make it possible for SACI conservation students and instructors to restore artifacts from the Pician tombs housed in Florence's Villa Corsini and lunettes by Baroque painter Francesco Curradi in Florence's Conservatorio di Santa Maria degli Angioli; for SACI students to teach painting to children at Florence's Meyer Children's Hospital; and for SACI students and instructors to join with other members of the Florentine community in offering, through SACI's ONLUS, special programs at SACI for children with Down Syndrome and other disabilities. These SACI initiatives and others were cited in an article about SACI, entitled "Teaching the Art of Giving," which appeared in the May 26, 2005 issue of *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*. Contributions greatly aid SACI in maintaining such programs and further enhancing the quality of education for SACI students. We would be deeply grateful if you took the time to complete the donor's form on page 5 of this newsletter and to send to SACI a contribution, whether large or small, which will help us to continue our outreach to the Florentine community and maintain the high quality of our educational programs.

## SACI Video Now on Web

*A Living Experience*, produced by SACI video instructor **Bruno Spinazzola**, can now be downloaded directly from the home page of the SACI web site: [www.saci-florence.org](http://www.saci-florence.org). This thirteen-minute video contains interviews with SACI students and faculty, SACI student artwork, and views of SACI facilities and historical sites in Florence.

# Alumni News

**Susan Arthur** (MA 2002-2003) received a commission from the Montana Art Gallery Director Association that led last January to a solo exhibition of her paintings in watercolor. The exhibition has been touring Montana galleries and museums and will continue to be on exhibit in these venues for the rest of the year. Before beginning a year-long term as President of the Montana Art Education Association, Susan revisited Florence this summer. "My educational studies with SACI in Florence were life changing," writes Susan. "Studying here has opened doors for me to teach at the university level and develop further a love for other cultures besides Italian." After returning to the USA in August, Susan and her fiancé were wed. *Auguri, Susanna, from your many friends at SACI!*

After earning a BFA from Maryland Institute, College of Art, **Jacques Bartels** (Spring 1998) completed an MFA at the New York Academy of Art. Jacques is now living in Vienna, where in 2004 his paintings were exhibited at the Plank Gallerie, Hofburg Palace, and Millennium Center.

In May, sculptures by **Jake Beckman** (Spring 2003) were featured in a solo exhibition at the List Gallery at Swarthmore College's Lang Performing Arts Center.

**Carisa Louise Black** (Spring 1995) graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in 1996, then moved to Venice, Italy, where she worked as a designer in a glass factory in Murano. She designed the logo for Vetreria Archimede Seguso, which can be seen on the company's web site, [www.aseguso.com](http://www.aseguso.com). Carisa currently lives in the USA with her Italian husband, whom she met while studying at SACI, and their two-year-old twin sons.

**Elise Blue** (Fall 1994-Spring 1995), who's been living in Chicago for the last eleven years, has recently held a solo exhibition of her paintings at the ARC Gallery in Chicago and participated in a group exhibition at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art Biennial in Indiana. Elise is director of the Orleans Street Gallery in St. Charles, Illinois and gives presentations on

behalf of Liquitex at colleges in the Chicago area. She is currently working on several decorative painting projects in both a residence and a large commercial space. Elise would welcome hearing from other SACI alums, and can be reached at: [elise@ispwest.com](mailto:elise@ispwest.com)

Since January 2005, **Monica Bravo** (Fall 2002) has been working as After School Program Coordinator at the Educational Alliance Art School in New York City. After earning a BA in Studio Art at Dartmouth College, Monica worked as an intern at the 2004 Democratic National Convention in Boston. She was employed throughout the following fall as a field organizer for the Florida Democratic Party.

Congratulations to **Thomas Butler** (MFA 2003-2004) and **Jacqueline Jasonowski** (MFA 2003-2004), who, after completing the first year of their MFA studies at SACI, finished their MFA course work last spring at Bowling Green State University! Their paintings were exhibited in April, along with artwork by other graduating MFA students, at BGSU's Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery.

*SACI's Not Just about Art & Academics, Part I:* During a return visit to Florence in May, **Rebecca Cornelius** (Post-Bac 2001-2002) and **Matthew Gruver** (Post-Bac 2001-2002) dropped by SACI to say that they have married and now live in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where Matt paints and tends bar and Rebecca works as a costume designer.

**Javanica Curry** (Fall 1998) is working in New York City as a Library Relations Assistant at the on-line image library ARTstor, a repository of hundreds of thousands of digital images, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation with the goal of enhancing scholarship, teaching, and learning in the arts.

*From beyond busy...* Between April and July, paintings and drawings of **Josh Dorman** (Spring 1987) were featured in exhibitions at the following venues: the Islip Art Museum in Islip, New York (group exhibition, curated by Karen Shaw);

55 Mercer Gallery in Manhattan (4-person exhibition, curated by William Corbett); the California State University, Long Beach Gallery (solo exhibition); the Lake George Arts Project in Lake George, New York (solo exhibition); the Geoffrey Young Gallery in Great Barrington, Massachusetts (3-person exhibition); Hallwalls Gallery in Buffalo, New York (solo exhibition); and the George Billis Gallery in Los Angeles (solo exhibition). *To blazin' . . .* Josh's artwork was then featured in solo exhibitions at the Galerie Francoise in Baltimore (September) and the Pierogi Gallery in Brooklyn (November).



**Josh Dorman, *Hot Wheels*,**  
ink on antique map, 8" x 10", 2003

**Michael Dragone** (Summer 1986, Fall 1986) writes that he "has settled into his own design business with his wife Marisa as partner. He works from the comfort of his home, an 1830 restored farmhouse, on many different accounts, entertainment being the main focus, including the Westbury Music Fair in New York and the Oakdale and Meadows Music Theater in Connecticut. He has handled the tour art for many, including Andrea Bocelli, and most recently the three Irish tenors. He has been privileged enough to meet with such artists as Barry Manilow and Tony Bennett as well. He can be found most days working from home with his best friend Sophie, a 6-year-old yellow lab, and his 3-year-old twins, Beau and Isabella."

"Firework Drawings," by **Rosemarie Fiore** (Spring 1993) were featured from February through August this year in a solo exhibition at Doral Bank in Manhattan.

## To All SACI Alumni

To help you stay in touch with other alums, a feature has been added to the SACI web site. You can now log on to the Alumni Directory at: <http://www.saci-florence.org/alumni/directory.htm> to access the contact information of your fellow alumni. Simply insert the following:

Username: **alumni**

Password: **florence**

To make your own contact information available in the directory, please email: [alumni@saci-florence.org](mailto:alumni@saci-florence.org)

# Alumni News

**Victoria Lasky** (Late Spring 1997) graduated cum laude from the University of Michigan, where she majored in graphic design and photography, then earned a master's degree in art education at Northwestern University. Since October 2003, Victoria has been an adjunct instructor in graphic design at Westwood College of Technology in Chicago.



**Amanda Lovelee**, *Card House*, digital prints and beeswax, 14" x 17", 2004

From May through July this year, photographs by **Amanda Lovelee** (Fall 2002) were featured in a solo exhibition entitled "Vacant History" at the Print Service gallery in Florence.

Last spring, **Brian Manley** (Summer 2003) earned an MFA at Western Michigan University. His thesis artwork was featured in the East Hall of WMU's Rotunda Gallery in a solo exhibition entitled "Painting Vermeer: Figuratively Speaking."

*SACI's Not Just about Art & Academics, Part II:* **Ursula Mathers** (Spring 1999) married her SACI language exchange partner and moved to Pisa, where she paints and illustrates children's books. Of her time at SACI, Ursula writes, "It was an eye opener into Italian culture—enough so that I decided to stay!" Ursula's paintings and illustrations are featured on her web site: [www.ursulamathers.com](http://www.ursulamathers.com)

In May, **Jacqueline Milad** (Spring 1998) earned an MFA from Towson University. A graduate of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Jacqueline is a curator and co-founder of the Transmodern Age Festival, an annual performance festival that focuses on experimental works by female artists. She is also a co-founder and co-director of the Chela Collective, where she curates exhibitions by young artists who use experimental mediums and ideas. Her artwork has been featured in solo exhibitions in Baltimore at the 3 South Gallery, the John Fonda Gallery, and the Chela Gallery.

Congratulations to **Cecile Molina** (Post-Bac 1998-1999), who has recently been appointed to the sculpture faculty of the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Puerto Rico.

Collages by **Naomi Muirhead** (Spring 2000) were featured at the SACI gallery from June 15 to July 8 in a solo exhibition entitled "Ritrovati" ("Found Again").

**Meredith Pahoulis** (Fall 1996) has lived for the past eight years in New York City, where she works as a graphic designer for the A. Knopf Publishing Group at Random House, Inc. Her design portfolio can be viewed at: [www.meredithpahoulis.com](http://www.meredithpahoulis.com)

"I have worked in pharmaceutical marketing for over 20 years," writes **Lisa Pieretti** (Late Spring 1994), Executive Director of the International Hyperhidrosis Society. Lisa, who last November visited SACI, now lives in Philadelphia. She says of her SACI experience, "Personally, culturally—it opened my heart to Italia. Professionally—it enabled me to legitimately lead multi-national initiatives."

Last March, a solo exhibition of paintings by Fulbright scholar **Nathlie Provosty** (Spring 2003) was held at the Hacienda Gallery in Mumbai, India. Entitled "Painting the Footsteps of Meher Babka," the exhibition was introduced by Dr. Jane Schukoske, Executive Director of the United States Educational Foundation in India.

Following her graduation in 2002 from Goucher College, **Steffi Rodemann** (Summer 1997) worked in Baltimore producing and promoting audio-visual presentations as promotional manager at BFG Marketing and production and office manager at Advanced Productions. Steffi has returned this year to SACI as a media teaching assistant.



**Steffi Rodemann**, *Baltimore Industry: Abandoned Red Cross*, black-and-white photo, 2002

"I took Professor Roberta Lapucci's beginning conservation class while at SACI," writes **Anna Serotta** (Fall 2001), "an experience that opened my eyes to an amazing field that combined my love of art history, science, and studio art. I have since worked as an intern in the objects conservation department at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and have just been accepted into the Art Conservation program at New York University's Institute of Fine Arts for the fall of 2005. I would like to thank Roberta for being such a wonderful role model and for inspiring me to take a chance on this career."

# How to Apply for a SACI Teaching Assistantship

The SACI Teaching Assistantship Program has offered alumni the opportunity to realize their personal, artistic, and cultural goals while assisting SACI staff and faculty to pass on their knowledge to a new student body. TAs are needed in the following areas: design; photography; conservation; and art history. TA applications are not sought in 2-D or 3-D areas.

**Eligibility:** SACI alumni interested in living for two terms in Florence who have studio and some office skills, a desire to work within their own area of specialization, and have completed their BA or BFA degree are invited to apply. Preference, however, will be given to those who have completed their MA or MFA.

**Requirements**

- Letter describing why you think this is an appropriate choice for you and in what ways you think you can be valuable to SACI. You should specifically indicate the areas at SACI in which you would be able to work as a TA.

- Your curriculum vitae.
- Transcripts from all colleges and universities you attended.
- For design and photography applicants: Portfolio of 20 slides of your work or a CD. Note: Design TA applicants must have proficiency in the following software programs: Autocad, InDesign, Illustrator, and Photoshop.
- For art history applicants: An essay written by you on an art-historical topic.
- For conservation applicants: An essay written by you on a conservation topic and a slide portfolio or CD of works restored by you.
- One recommendation from someone with whom you have been working during the past year.

**Award:** TAs are employed from the beginning of September through the end of April. The award is \$1120 per month, and it is subject to US tax withholding. NOTE: SACI does not pay for the TA's transportation to and from Florence nor for the TA's housing.

**Deadline:** Completed applications must be received at SACI by May 1. *In order to ensure your application arrives on time, mail it at least one month ahead or use an express mail service.*

The application should be mailed directly to:

Dean, Studio Art Centers International  
Via Sant'Antonino 11  
50123 Florence, ITALY

**Return of Submitted Materials:** Materials submitted by applicants will be retained by SACI. Applicants should therefore not submit originals of art history essays or art conservation essays. Slide portfolios and CDs will be returned to applicants only if applicants submit with their applications self-addressed stamped envelopes (SASE) with sufficient postage to pay for the return of these items. Those who want their portfolios returned to an address in the US should use US stamps on the SASE; those who want their portfolios returned to an address outside of the US should use Italian stamps on the SASE.

Following her graduation from Columbus College of Art & Design, **Kelly Stewart** (Fall 1985) worked for 10 years in graphic design and post-production for television. She currently heads her own business, Glaze Under Fire, a "paint-your-own-pottery" company in Winter Park, Florida. Check it out at: [www.glazeunderfire.com](http://www.glazeunderfire.com)

After receiving an MFA from Parsons School of Design in New York City, **Christine Sugrue** (Fall 1998-Spring 1999) travelled to Linz, Austria, where she worked last summer as an intern at the Ars Electronica Futurelab. Christine's artwork can be viewed at: [www.rustedforrest.com](http://www.rustedforrest.com)

Belarus born **Anatole Upart** (Fall 1997) writes that his time at SACI "was the best moment of my twenties." Anatole now lives in Chicago, where he works as a painter, printmaker, and designer. His artwork can be viewed at: [www.urn.org/upart](http://www.urn.org/upart) and [www.artsmuggler.com](http://www.artsmuggler.com)



Anatole Upart, *Spectral Postman*, oil on linen, 36" x 30", 2000

**Nicholas Wynia** (Spring 2004), who last year taught art to high school students at the Daystar School in Juticalpa, Honduras, writes, "Through getting to know people inside and outside the SACI program, I learned a great deal about myself. Living in a foreign country where the social and

personal relationships I once knew were gone forced me to behave independently and to adapt to that new environment very quickly. Once I began to feel comfortable, I could reflect on the place from where I came, and both embrace parts of it and relinquish others. The different ideology applied to life in Italy is one that I have come to respect and put into my own thinking." This year Nic's back at SACI as a media teaching assistant.



Nicholas Wynia, *Old Italian with Cigar*, black-and-white photo, 2003



**At SACI, we greatly appreciate any gift you are able to give. Through your generous support, SACI will continue to provide excellence in art education.**

What your support will help to accomplish at SACI . . .

A gift of \$2,000 can help to provide a scholarship to cover room, board, books, and supplies to one student for a semester.

A gift of \$1,000 can help to provide a scholarship of transportation to help bring an art student from a developing country to SACI.

A gift of \$500 can help to cover the expenses of hosting a prominent artist at SACI as a Visiting Instructor.

A gift of \$250 can help SACI update and expand our library resources and books.

A gift of \$100 can help to sponsor a Visiting Lecturer to speak at SACI about his or her work.

A gift of \$50 can help SACI improve our collection of fine art slides, CD-ROMs, videos, DVDs, and periodicals.



**Yes, I want to support SACI. Please find my enclosed tax-deductible gift of:**

- \$2,000 Patron
- \$1,000 Benefactor
- \$500 Sustaining Associate
- \$250 Sponsor
- \$100 Supporter
- \$1-99 Contributor

**Does your employer match your contributions? If so, you can double your support of SACI.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like to be listed in published SACI materials)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

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Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card:

American Express     MasterCard     VISA

Card number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Studio Art Centers International (SACI). All donations are tax-deductible. For additional information, please contact SACI, 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017 USA, (212) 984-5548.

# News of SACI Faculty, Staff & Friends

*Summer at SACI...* During the Late Spring term, SACI welcomed 2-D area visiting instructors **Mille Guldbeck**, assistant professor of art and graduate coordinator at Bowling Green State University, **Malcolm Christhilf**, assistant professor of art at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and **Steven Alexander**, professor of art at Marywood University—all of whom accompanied sizable groups of students from their respective universities. A special course on the music of Italy was taught that term by three visiting professors from Bowling Green State University, **Marilyn Shrude**, **John Sampen**, and **Mary Natvig**. As part of a new program agreement between Suffolk University and SACI, **Nancy Hackett**, assistant professor of interior design at Suffolk, team-taught with SACI interior design instructor **Giovanna Bossi** a special interior design class for Suffolk students. The Suffolk students also attended a Renaissance art and architecture class taught by SACI art history instructor **Linda Reynolds**. During the Summer term, **Joe Piasentin**, professor of art at Pepperdine University, returned for the sixth time to SACI to teach a painting class and London-based rock'n'roll photographer **Jill Furmanovsky**, who recently joined the SACI Artists Council, taught beginning black-and-white photography. During these terms, students and faculty also benefited greatly from the presence at SACI of three artists-in-residence: **Michelle Vitali** (Late Spring), associate professor of art at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, **Don Davis** (Summer), associate professor of ceramics at East Tennessee State University, and **Jim Hirschfield** (Summer), professor of art at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Jill Furmanovsky**, *Rolling Stones Drummer Charlie Watts*, black-and-white photo, 1991

SACI trustee **Dr. Cristina Acidini** recently published a historical novel, *La lupa e il leone* (*The She-Wolf and the Lion*), about the tensions between Florence and Tuscany which led, in 1552, to the construction of the Wall of Barino in Sortignano. A renowned art historian who heads Florence's Opificio delle Pietre Dure museum, Cristina has published numerous essays and books on Italian art. Her 1992 mystery novel, *La scritta sul vetro* (*The Writing on the Glass*), was made into the film *The Accidental Detective*.

SACI welcomes to its board of trustees two new members—**Steven Brittan** and **Terry Dwan**—both SACI alums, former SACI instructors, and practicing architects! Steven was raised in South Africa, where he received a bachelor's degree from both the University of Cape Town and the University of Pretoria. He later earned an MArch from Harvard University and taught at Harvard, Columbia University, the Rhode Island School of Design, and, in 1989, SACI, where, 6 years before, he had been a student. Steven is currently Principal and New England Regional Office Director of the Boston architecture firm Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates. Terry, who was born in Santa Monica, earned a BFA degree at Rice University and an MArch at Yale University. In 1984, she travelled to Rome as a US Department of State-funded Fulbright fellow and studied Italian cemeteries and war monuments. She has taught at Rice, Yale, and, from 1997 to 2003, SACI, where, during 1978 and 1979, she had been a student. Terry lives in Milan, and is Principal of the Milan-based architecture firm Studio Terry Dwan. Congratulations also go to the following trustees, all of whom have assumed new positions as SACI board officers: **Jane Fortune**, chair, **Jonna Lazarus**, vice chair, and **Stephen Rosefield**, treasurer.

"Boxes, Buttons and the Blues," a solo exhibition of mixed media artwork by Late Spring 2004 SACI visiting photography instructor **Amalia Amaki**, was featured from June 10 to September 25 at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC. Last February, Amalia curated a group exhibition of photographs taken by her SACI students that ran throughout February at the University of Delaware's Perkins Student Center Gallery.

"Disc On Column," an 8-foot high stainless steel and painted aluminum sculpture by SACI visiting lecturer



**Roger Phillips**, *Disc On Column*, stainless steel and painted aluminum, 8'4" (height), 2004

**Roger Phillips**, was featured in the "Contemporary Sculpture At Chesterwood 2005" exhibition that ran at the Chesterwood Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts from June 24 to October 10. New works by Roger were showcased in a solo exhibition that ran from August 1 through September 16 at the JG Contemporary gallery in New York City.

SACI multimedia instructor **Dejan Atanackovic** is project coordinator of *Outside* Experimental Art Center, which in July presented a two-week program of lectures and workshops at SACI and elsewhere in Florence. The project was made possible by a generous grant from the Serbian Ministry of Culture and the collaboration of the Center for International Studies of Arts in Belgrade, the Comune di Firenze, La Corte Arte Contemporanea, and SACI. The goal of the project was to promote, through a series of visual arts seminars and workshops, international cultural and educational exchange between Belgrade and Florence. Over 30 Serbian students participated in a wide range of activities, including workshops, conducted by former SACI visiting painting instructors **Michelle Illuminato** and **Dragan Zdravkovic**, in which participants created art arising from their experience of Florence; a seminar, led by SACI art history instructor **Maria Antonia Rinaldi**, which explored the development and scope of Tuscan contemporary art; and a presentation by SACI printmaking and painting instructor **Melania Lanzini** on her career as a Florence-based multimedia artist.

In May, SACI graphic design instructor **Rufus Deuchler** travelled to Holland to give two presentations at The InDesign Conference Amsterdam: "Ain't It Rich: Creating Interactive PDF's with InDesign" and "Managing Images: Key Concepts for Success."

SACI is pleased to welcome two new employees to its New York City headquarters at the Institute of International Education (IIE): SACI director of admissions and financial aid **Rachel Emmons-Bradley** and SACI program coordinator **Sandra Panopio**. Rachel, who earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts at Bennington College, worked previously as Assistant Director of Admissions at Bennington. In addition to a year spent studying abroad in Germany, Rachel has travelled to Italy, Portugal, the Czech Republic, and South Africa. Sandra, after earning a bachelor's degree in peace and conflict studies at the University of California, Berkeley, worked in New York City at Global Youth Action Network. A former educational services intern at the San Francisco office of the Institute of International Education, Sandra is a polyglot who speaks, in addition to her native English, Spanish, Italian, and Tagalog.

Summer 2003 SACI visiting drawing instructor **Jim Flood** writes that, since retiring from Towson University in Baltimore, Maryland, "I have been travelling and making my studio the main focus of my attention. I have maintained communication with several of the students that I worked with during the summer session I taught." Western Michigan University undergraduate **Brian Manley** (Summer 2003) "has completed his MFA reviews with great success and one student from the advanced class is planning to return to SACI for independent studio studies. . . . In my last faculty exhibition before leaving the university, I exhibited a painting completed while in summer residence at SACI. I am still working from sketches and fantastic memories!"

In September, painter **Michael Goldberg** spoke at SACI about a book he recently completed on his artwork entitled *Anima-Soul*, which was published this fall as part of Morgana Edizioni's *Collana Pittura e Memoria (Painting and Memory Series)*. SACI graduate area head **Lorenzo Pezzatini** and publisher **Alessandra Borsetti Venier** introduced the artist and presented his book to an enthusiastic audience of SACI students, instructors, and other members of Florence's arts community.

Former SACI printmaking instructor **Elizabeth Hunter** now lives with her daughter Raffaella in the seaside town of Cronulla just south of Sydney, Australia. Elizabeth teaches printmaking at The Sydney Gallery School, Meadowbank Technical College, and Hornsby College TAFE [Technical And Further Education] in New South Wales.

"The Blue Bus," a video installation by SACI printmaking and painting instructor **Melania Lanzini**, was featured in "Videodrome: Video Realtà Immagine," an exhibition curated by SACI art history instructor **Matteo Chini**, that was held in April at Elettropiu in Florence and in June at Museo Laboratorio in Città Sant'Angelo Pescara. "The Blue Bus" was on view later in June in Florence's Palazzetto Sannini in an exhibition entitled "Proscenio," which also featured installations by SACI multimedia instructor **Dejan Atanackovic** and SACI graduate area head **Lorenzo Pezzatini**. Melania and Lorenzo teamed up again in June to present "Demo Real," an exhibition at Florence's Spazio Giovani C.U.R.E. which was curated by Lorenzo and Gianni Caverni and featured a video installation entitled "Il passaggio" by Melania and prints by **Kelsey Giusta** (Post-Bac 2004-2005).

Never one to rest on his laurels, this fall SACI founder and director emeritus **Jules Maidoff** will have three major solo exhibitions in Italy. Jules's recent artwork was featured in September at galleria zerotre in Orvieto and in October at Galleria L'Albero Celeste in San Gimignano. In November and December, more recent artwork by Jules will be exhibited at Galleria Ciovasso in Milan. *Bravo Giulio!*

This November, paintings and prints by well-known Swiss artist **Gaspare O. Melcher** will be featured in a solo exhibition at the SACI Gallery. Gaspare will visit SACI on November 10 to attend the opening and give a presentation on his career as an artist.

*The babies keep booming at SACI. . . .* SACI illustration instructor **Daniele Nannini** and his wife Barbara are now the proud parents of a daughter, Gea, born in Bagno di Ripoli on March 26. Former SACI special projects coordinator **Suzanne Moore** and her husband Giovanni Lambardi are celebrating the arrival of their most special project, son Matteo, born in Florence on August 17. *Congratulations to all!*

Maryland Institute, College of Art painting professor **Barry Nemett**, who was a visiting painting instructor at SACI in Spring 2003, helped to launch SACI's Summer 2005 term by generously taking time from his vacation in Italy to give to SACI painting and drawing students, during their first class sessions, two presentations on his career as an artist.

In January, SACI graduate area head **Lorenzo Pezzatini** helped to inaugurate Florence's new Melbookstore Seeber with a FILO performance piece entitled "Memoria come necessità" ("Memory as Necessity"). From April 29 until May 28, Lorenzo worked with high school students from Liceo Scientifico XXV Aprile di Pontedera on a series of performances in Pontedera, sponsored by the

Comune di Pontedera, which featured lots of FILO, photography, and fun. On the final day, Lorenzo, as "Artist-in-Presence," made and distributed FILO to all those fortunate enough to be in the city's Piazza Cavour. The students and Lorenzo then moved to Pontedera's Piazza Curtatone, where they presented a FILO-inspired performance piece followed by a projection of images that documented the "*30 giorni di fila e di Filo.*"

Black-and-white photographs by SACI photography instructor **Jacopo Santini** were featured in a solo exhibition entitled "Guglielmo and the Others" which ran from May 25 through June 10 in the SACI Gallery.

This Fall, SACI welcomes three new faculty members: modern art history instructor **Daria Filardo**, Italian literature instructor **Leonardo Lastilla**, and color photography instructor **David Weiss**. Daria received a laurea with honors in contemporary art history from the University of Florence, then completed a post-graduate specialization in history of art at the University of Pisa. She has curated numerous exhibitions throughout Italy and written essays on contemporary art for publications such as *Flash Art*, *Arte e Critica*, and *Rosso Fiorentino*. Leonardo earned a laurea in letters and philosophy at the University of Florence and a Ph.D. in Italian literature at University College Dublin. He has published articles on Italian literature



**David Weiss, Indonesia Rice Farmer**, Bali, Indonesia, color chrome photo, 2003

in journals such as *Riscontri* and *Forum Italicum*, a collection of poetry entitled *Fiori di Loto (Lotus Flowers)*, and award-winning short stories in periodicals such as *Il Giornale della Toscana*. David received a bachelor's degree in art history at the University of Chicago, then completed a year-long program of study at the International Center of Photography in New York City. He has worked as assistant photographer with Irving Penn and Annie Leibovitz and as an intern with Mary Ellen Mark. His photographs have appeared in numerous publications, including the *New York Times*, the *New York Post*, and *Time* magazine, and a book of his photographs documenting the closing of the last sugar cane plantation on the island of Hawaii, entitled *The Final Harvest-Hamakuia*, was published in 1995.

## An Interview with Dr. Elizabeth A. Sackler

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*The Elizabeth A. Sackler Museum Educational Trust SACI Scholarship is the result of a gift designated by Dr. Elizabeth A. Sackler. The Sackler Scholarship covers the cost of housing and tuition for a full academic year, and the cost of a student's airfare. It is awarded annually to a talented woman who would otherwise not have the opportunity to attend SACI. While visiting SACI last summer, Dr. Sackler described how she learned about SACI and why she established this award.*



Dr. Elizabeth A. Sackler

There is no question that living in Florence can change one's perspective and understanding of the world at the very least, and possibly one's life at the very best. Regardless, it does become a hefty part of the stuff of one's personal evolution. I also hope that a recipient would emerge with a new knowledge, compassion hence desire to make this a peaceful world where people live in equity and mutual respect.

**Have you always been interested in the visual arts?**

For my family it is a way of life, and so it is for me—part of the very fabric of life.

**How did you learn about SACI?**

Coincidence? Fate? Karma? I met SACI director **Mary Beckinsale** in Florence at a luncheon in 2003, and then SACI founder **Jules Maidoff** at a dinner two nights later. We each of us clicked—as if we had known one another for years, or for a lifetime, or for many lifetimes. And, of course, one cannot know Jules and Mary without learning all about SACI!

**The EASMET SACI Scholarship is the most generous scholarship available to a SACI student. What led you to establish this award?**

A desire for SACI, Florence, history, art, language studies—all (*ad infinitum* in Italy) to be available to a woman art student who, otherwise, could not afford such an experience.

Last year **Melanie Rodriguez**, a young artist and art teacher from New York City, attended SACI as the first EASMET SACI Scholarship recipient, and this year, **Maranda Hay**, an undergraduate at Columbus College of Art & Design in Ohio, is attending as the second EASMET SACI Scholarship recipient. **What qualities do you think an applicant should have?**

I think those required for all worthwhile and challenging endeavors: commitment, intelligence, enthusiasm, maturity of mind, integrity, a willingness to take chances, tenacity, curiosity, a love of art and excellence, and, of course, talent!

**Would you share with us your hopes for these and future EASMET SACI Scholarship recipients?**

That each scholarship recipient's time at SACI provides the intellectual, artistic, and cultural foundations with which she can powerfully, and with confidence, launch her life as an artist whose work affects her community, country, and the world.

INTERNATIONAL

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## SACI Founder & Director Emeritus Jules Maidoff on SACI's 30th-Anniversary Celebration

SACI will be celebrating its 30th year in May 2006, and I hope all SACI alums will be part of our "remembering" process. The anniversary plans are now complete, and full itineraries for SACI's reunion events can be found at: <http://www.saci-florence.org/alumni/anniversary.htm> I urge you to let us know as soon as possible if you will be participating in either the reunion or the fund-raising **Other**

**Tuscany Tour.** Please note that we need your best photos for SACI's "Firenze: 30 Years of Looking" exhibition, which will open in the SACI Gallery on Saturday, May 27th, 2006. I hope you will get back to us soon with your plans to participate in some or—even better—all of the SACI 30th-anniversary events.

Jules ([julmar@dada.it](mailto:julmar@dada.it))



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