

# HAA Docents' Newsletter

March 2008

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Announcements

Message from Pam Honbo, Docent Council Chair 2007-8  
Joyce Azama: Docent Room Update

### Artists Among Us

Charlene Hughes' "Ovulation" quilt: Sold!  
Mary Flynn & Charlene Hughes: Eye of the Beholder IV

### Continuing Education

Eleanor Jamieson remembers: Moments with Val Ossipoff

### Education Department News

Education Office News  
Traveling HAA Art Pieces  
New Exhibits  
Tour & Tea Schedule for March, April, May & June 2008

### Travel

Mlf Flaharty updates: *Kyoto and Beyond....* 18-29 October 2008  
Maeona Mendelson: Christmas in Cairo  
Katie Ishol: Portland Art Museum

### In Closing

Pearl S. Buck Quotations  
Cookie's Favorite Chocolate Cake Recipe

# Announcements

## Message from Pam Honbo, Docent Council Chair 2007-2008:

Aloha, Docents!

“The Dragon’s Gift” took us by storm and we are still breathless! The energy that flows from the exhibit has all of us learning as fast as we can as we try to keep up with other tours too. We hope to end the year still going strong as there is much to be done.



It was with deep sadness that we bid a final aloha to Dorothy Oshiro who retired from her position in the Education Department as DOE Liaison Teacher. We can take comfort in knowing that Dorothy was very happy at her August 15, 2007 farewell luncheon. She wore the art palette pin we gave her up to the end. Her funeral was held on April 28, 2008.

On April 29, 2008, the Education Department hosted an Aloha Coffee Hour for Kerry Taggart who retired from the position of Administrative Assistant for MLC and was with HAA for 10+ years. Docents turned out in force to wish her well and collectively gave her a monetary gift for which she expressed appreciation.



We welcome Sabrina-Ann Velazquez, our new Administrative Assistant for MLC. With her degree in communication from USC and her experience with the HAA Development Office (2005-2007), Sabrina is well qualified to handle the myriad responsibilities facing

her. We wish her success and promise to be patient as she learns to manage operations at the hub of MLC.



### **MUSEUM LEARNING CENTER STAFF**

Sabrina completes the MLC Staff:

Betsy Robb - Curator of Education

Aaron Padilla - Assistant Curator

Erin Boll - School and Outreach Programs

Kita McCord - Educational Resources

Maika'i Tubbs - Family Programs and MLC Graphic Design

Sabrina Velazquez – Scheduling; Communication with volunteers, teachers and staff; Website updates

Carolyn Dupont - Shangri La Visitor Services

Ginger Gohier - Assistant Shangri La Visitor Services and MLC Special Projects

### **BY-LAWS REVISION**

Before this year closes, we would like the Docent Council to review and accept a proposed By-Laws revision. Some parts were obsolete and there were some

inaccuracies. Ernestine Tabrah has been working very hard, with input from docents and Betsy Robb, to make our By-Laws accurate and that they reflect Docent Council policy and procedures as it is now and for the future. A preliminary review will be held with the Docent Executive Committee on April 2. Final approval will be sought at the Docent Council meeting on Wednesday, May 14, at the annual luncheon meeting at Oahu Country Club.

### **TRUSTEES' EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

As Docent Council Chair, I attended my second Trustees' Education Committee meeting, thanks to Frank Boas, Chair, and Betsy Robb, our Curator.

Betsy presented a summary of 2007 accomplishments which included the fact that, of the 58,557 total visitors to HAA, 35,469 were school children on museum tours! Pat yourselves on the back, Docents!

The agenda included a long list of what's ahead in 2008 and one of interest to you is that the UH Outreach College is willing to offer certification for docent training at a slight cost for previous docents and to be implemented for future docents. The Education Committee gave its approval to pursue this matter. This could, in part, help with the concern that the docent recruitment base needs to be extended.

Others in attendance at the meeting were Trustees Duane Preble, Dawn Aull, Director Stephen Little, Assistant Director Sayre Batton, our MLC staffers Aaron Padilla, Kita McCord, who was introduced, and staff members from other departments.

### **SPECIAL BHUTAN SLIDE PRESENTATION**

In addition to the excellent training for the Bhutan exhibits we have received, thanks to Anna Hoover's coordination, there is a speaker I am arranging for, by request, for interested Docents and Docents-of-Tomorrow. Dr. Harriet Natsuyama made a spiritual pilgrimage to sacred places in Bhutan and has made her slide presentation twice at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at U.H.-Manoa, where it was well-received. She says, "For me this was a pilgrimage to sacred places. Did I find them? Yes."

Please come to hear Dr. Natsuyama on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 2:30pm in the Lecture Hall.

### **DATES TO NOTE**

**March 12 to April 1** - Betsy Robb to conferences: "No Museum Left Behind" in Chicago; National Art Education Association in New Orleans

**March 24 to 28** - Aaron Padilla and Erin Boll to NAEA conference in New Orleans

**April 2, Wed. 1:00pm** - Docent Executive Committee meeting to review proposed By-Laws, Lecture Hall

**April 9, Wed. 2:30pm** - Dr. Natsuyama's slide presentation, "Sacred Places in Bhutan", Lecture Hall

**April 23, Wed. 1:00pm** - Docent Executive Committee meeting for Committees to give their year-end reports, Lecture Hall

**May 14, Wed.** Time tba - Annual Year-End Luncheon/ Meeting at Oahu Country Club

**May 19, Mon.** - DOTs' graduation



**Joyce Azama**, on behalf of the Docent Room Committee, reports:

## **Docent Room Update**

The Docent Room Committee (formerly Docent Library Committee) reduced the number of books by more than half in order to maintain only those that pertained to the HAA collection and which contained brief excerpts that could be read before tours. Books which were duplicates, suitable for research, lengthy, or not relevant were sent to the Allerton Library where they can be circulated for two weeks. In the future, we would appreciate it if you would make your donations of art materials directly to the Allerton Library.



The Committee also systematically organized the DVD collection, which includes an inventory list in each of the DVD binders. DVDs and videos are the only materials available for circulation from the Docent Room. Please remember to PRINT when signing out for them and to fill in the return date upon return.

The Committee is still in the process of refining the practices and procedures as well as the arrangement of the Room. To ease entering and exiting, we have requested that the door be altered so that it opens out toward the hall. Until a security system is installed, we ask for your cooperation in turning off the light when you leave the Room and no one remains.



We are thrilled to have the Docent Room and ask for your support in keeping it neat, clean, and orderly. Your assistance in placing materials back in their proper places would be greatly appreciated.

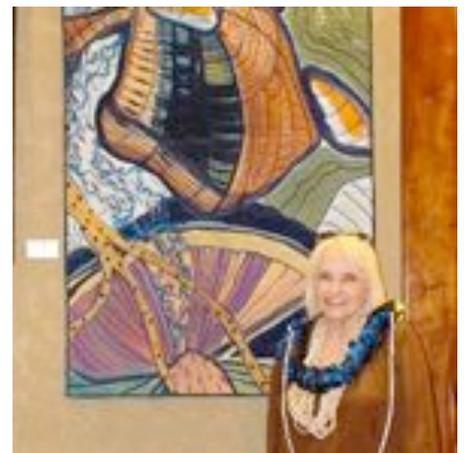
Thank you!

Docent Room Committee (Joyce Azama, Camille Gillette, Merle Hashimoto, Jim Marsh) & Friends (Pam Honbo, Allison Roscoe, Janet Hirata)

## **Artists Among Us**

**Charlene Hughes**’ “Ovulation” quilt: **SOLD!**

Charlene’s quilt “Ovulation” sold to a husband and wife recently at an “All Things Hawaiian” art show at Honolulu Country Club. When Charlene mentioned that she was a nurse, he responded that he is a surgical resident at Northwestern/Passavant and Wesley – where Charlene trained. Small world!





The **Annual Quilt Show** will be at Linekona from April 25 to May 4. It's closed on Mondays. The exhibit presents quilts made by the Hawaii Quilt Guild - both traditional and contemporary quilts. An "opportunity" quilt will be available. This exhibit is free. Charlene and friends will be overjoyed to see you. It is a fabulous place to take tutu, mom, aunty and, of course, groups of friends.

Last July I asked friends to draw a picture of me - as they see me. I was not interested in artistic ability, but in having fun. Here is the result. The quilt was entered into a juried art show and accepted!!!! It was not really "made" by me, but by exuberant friends – 11 docents and two other HAA people.

Co-Chairs Mary Flynn and Charlene Hughes announce:

# EYE OF THE BEHOLDER IV

Many Honolulu Academy of Arts docents are also practicing artists, thus bringing the eye of an artist to those beholding art. Eight years ago, a group of newly graduated docents held an exhibit of docent original art at The Gallery on the Pali at the First Unitarian Church of Honolulu. Approximately every 2 years, the Outreach Ad Hoc Committee has organized another "Eye of the Beholder." The scope of docent creativity is expanding and always exciting.



Start thinking about what you might enter! This is your chance to exhibit your original artwork, learn how to enter a show, see what other docents are creating, sell your art, and/or party with other docents and guests at the reception. Volunteers to help with installation and the reception will be warmly welcome. A complete prospectus and entry form will be available by June.

<u>Dates:</u>	Exhibit on View	July 13 to August 15, 2008
	<b>Opening Reception</b>	<b>Friday, July 18 5-7 PM</b>
	Art Drop Off	Saturday, July 12, 2 PM
		(Installation must be complete before 6 PM)
	Art Pick Up	Friday, August 15 1-2 PM

Fees:            \$5 per artist entry fee

On all sales, 20% recommended donation by artist to the Unitarian Church, 80% to the artist.

## **Continuing Education**

**Eleanor Jamieson** remembers:

### **Moments with Val Ossipoff**

Val built our home in Waiialae Kahala when Bishop Estate opened their undeveloped land to home owners. It was 1958, and, at that time, Bishop Estate leases required that homes be built with a 25-foot setback from the sidewalk, 15 feet from each side boundary, and only one story in height. This resulted in a unified, garden look. Unfortunately, when the City and County of Honolulu took over and created a fee simple status for these lots, they failed to incorporate the lease setback requirements. Now, houses of two stories are built right out to the sidewalk and almost to the side boundaries. The overall appearance is now... quite different.

Before planning the house, my husband Bill and I met with Val on the site to discuss orientation of the house to the lot.

Val stated, "Since the wind comes from the northwest..."

Bill interjected, "Val, the wind here comes from the northeast."

Val said, "I checked it out."

Bill added, "I have been sailing these waters since I was a kid right up until the day of Pearl Harbor."

The subject quickly changed.

A few days later, I answered the telephone, and the voice said, "Bill, you're right. The wind comes from the northeast." BANG went the phone!



A year before we worked with Val, I kept a scrapbook of pictures and articles from various house magazines that contained ideas I had hoped to use in my home. I carried this to Val's office for several meetings. When I mentioned this, he just waved it away with a "Later." After six or seven meetings, I concluded that he was never going to review my scrapbook cuttings, so for the next visit, I left it home. Wouldn't you know it! I was greeted with, "Where's the book?"

"I left it at home."

"Go get it."

"Now?!"

"Yes."

I drove back home for the scrapbook. We went through this very slowly and deliberately – which pleased me no end.

One of my pet desires was to have a special bath area like one of the picture's. It was not a standard bathroom. The john had its own compartment with its own door. At right angles to this was a long, waist-high counter with jalousie windows looking over the garden outside. On either end was a wash basin and medicine wall cabinet. Two people could simultaneously get ready for the day. Directly across from the john's door was its mate opening into a tile-walled shower with floor to ceiling glass outer wall with glass door. Both glasses overlooked a small, fenced-in garden. This glass formed the outer wall of the house.

I got the shower with glass wall that I wanted. But this is not the end of the story. A few years later, Val built a new home for himself further out of town right on the beach. We were invited to a dinner party one evening – one of his Wine and Food Society affairs. He was a master cook with all the fanfare of a top French chef. Who could say no to this! During the evening, I had to use the facilities and was directed to his bath area. When leaving, I noticed a door slightly ajar, and my curiosity got the better of me. I took a peek. Lo and behold! There was my glass wall shower overlooking the beach. I returned to the party and laughingly said to Val, "You're a copycat." He silently pondered for a few moments, and then replied, "I like to look at those nudes walking the beach early in the morning."

Val was one of the most organized individuals I have ever known. He set the subject for meetings, he set the pace, and that's the way it was. Seems the setting on the site came first, then the outer structure, then the windows and door placements – all this before any details. With some clients he went on to discussing the furniture, fabrics, placement, just like an interior decorator. Since I already owned my furniture, and had our color scheme, we never got into these subjects. I have noticed that most of his homes have simple straight lines – most of them unbroken – giving a feeling of space. His attention to ventilation and the weather was a major asset. Many windows were across from doors to take advantage of the breeze. He was in complete command of the planning process and how it evolved. I have always felt we ended up with a super small house that suited our needs to a "T." Many times I wish I still lived there.

## **Education Department**

### **Education Office News**

**Gallery 12, the American Gallery**, will reopen with three parts: 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century decorative art with red walls; the center will displays a classic picture gallery with seating; and the third will showcase 20<sup>th</sup> century decorative arts and fine arts. All our friends will be there plus new additions by Norman Rockwell, Andrew Wyeth, Stuart Davis, Morris Pendergast, Ralston Crawford, Frederick Remington's sculpture "Mountain Man" and chairs by modern designers. It will be a multi-disciplinary installation. A diagram of the new installation is on view on a bulletin board in the Docent Room.



## Traveling HAA Art Pieces

**Whistler's "Lady Mieux"** will be at Brescia, Museo di Santa Guilia, until the end of May. Brescia is in Lombardy, in northern Italy.

**Taisho Chic** is still touring Japan.

**Albrecht Durer** is at the Blanton Museum of Art at the University of Texas.

An **American arm chair** is at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts.

The **Pintoricchio Madonna** and child (with the travelers in the rocky mountain in the top left) will be in Umbria from February to June.

The **Modigliani "Seated Nude"** will be in Japan from April to June. She will be at Himeiji in June and July, and then in Iwate Museum of Art until September.

The **Artmobile** is touring.

Fifty of **Michener's prints, "Exquisite Visions"**, will be at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Calder's "Two Acrobats"** will be at the Pompidou in Paris from Spring through the Fall.

**Van Gogh's "Wheatfields"** will be in Vienna from September to November.

## New Exhibits



### **All About Art: Architecture**

#### **How's Your House?**

Gallery 30      November 27, 2007 – August 17, 2008

New exhibit features houses around world and Hawai'i to explore the influence of culture, environment and materials on regional architecture around the world. Works of art depicting Hawaiian architecture will demonstrate the changes through history.

A Reading Room provides books about architecture. There are opportunities to draw, design, and build buildings in the Art Activity Space.



## Pathways: The Evolution of Japanese Buddhist Prints

Michener Gallery, Gallery 21

January 29 - March 31, 2008

### Osaka Prints

Michener Gallery, Gallery 21

April 1 – June 1, 2008

## The Dragon's Gift: The Sacred Arts of Bhutan

Galleries 27 and 28

February 23 – May 23, 2008

Gallery 23 Temple Altar

Gallery 14 Textiles from the Academy Collection, Feb 24-April 20

Downstairs:

Gallery 31 will feature: dance exhibit, art activities, clothing, books, masks, instruments, and a film database of dances.

Gallery Hall: Painting Conservation, Thangka Painter.



## Chinese Calligraphy: Selections from the Permanent Collection

Sullivan Gallery, Gallery 16

March 19 - July 20, 2008

Qian Dian (1744-1806) *Calligraphy Couplet*, China, Q'ing dynasty (1644-1911).

## 77 Dances: Japanese Calligraphy by Poets, Monks, and Scholars, 1568-1868

Gallery 14

May 1-July 6, 2008

A seal-script triptych by Chō Tōsai (1713 - 1786), from the Edo period.



## One Way or Another: Asian American Art Now

Organized by the [Asia Society in New York City](#), this exhibit brings together 17 artists from across the country who challenge and extend the category of Asian-American art.

Gallery 28

June 18 - August 24, 2008



## Shu: Reinventing Books in Contemporary Chinese Art

Originating at the [China Institute Gallery](#) in New York, this exhibition is guest curated by Wu Hung, the Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Art History at the University of Chicago.

Gallery 27

June 18 - August 2008



## Leland Miyano -- Catherine E.B. Cox Award Winner

Commissioned site-specific installations by Honolulu artist and landscape designer Leland Miyano. Miyano's sculptures and installations reflect issues of the natural world and cycles of regeneration.

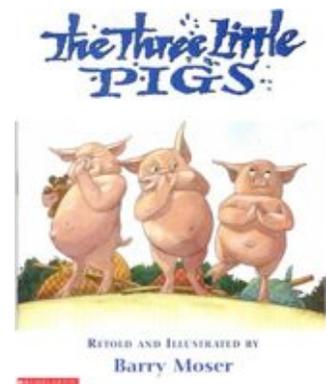
Gallery 29 & 4

June 18 - August 2008

## Barry Moser: The Art of the Book

Gallery 31

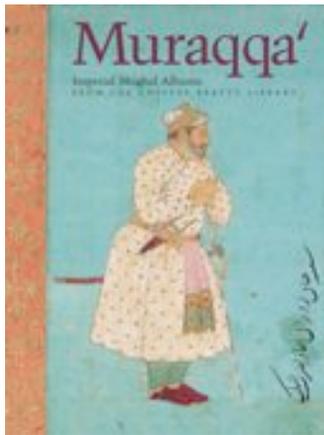
June 16 – August 10, 2008



## All About Textiles

Gallery 31

September 2008 – mid-August 2009



## Albums from the Chester Beatty Library

December 4, 2008 - March 1, 2009

### Tour & Tea Schedule for March, April, May & June 2008

March 18, 20	The Dragon's Gift: The Sacred Arts of Bhutan	<u>Cathy Levinson</u>
March 25, 27, 30	9x7: Issues and Dialogues @ Linekona	<u>Myra Kent</u>
April 1, 3, 6	The Dragon's Gift: Textiles of Bhutan	<u>Charlene Hughes</u>
April 8, 10, 13	Love Stories from India	<u>Karen Thompson</u>
April 15, 17	America the Beautiful	<u>Maeona Mendelson</u>
April 22, 24, 27	Windows and Doors	<u>Carol Bonham</u>
Apr 29, May 1, 4	Whistler's Other Art	<u>Stephen McClaran</u>
May 6, 8, 11	The Dragon's Gift: The Sacred Arts of Bhutan	<u>Ernestine Tabrah</u>
May 13, 15	Rejuvenation of Bhutan's Treasures	<u>Allison Roscoe</u>
May 20, 22, 25	East Meets West	<u>Hannelore Herbig</u>
May 27, 29, June 1	Buddha Stories: Jataka Tales	<u>Manu Chakravartty</u>
June 3, 5, 8	Whistler's Other Art	<u>Stephen McClaran</u>
June 10, 12	China's First Art Form	<u>Cecilia Doo</u>
June 17, 19, 22	Portraits in Western Art	<u>Cookie Stephan</u>
June 24, 26, 29	Science Samplers	<u>Jim Marsh</u>

Add **your** name and Tea Tour theme to the list! Call or email Hannelore Herbig (735-7780, [hherbig@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:hherbig@hawaii.rr.com)) with your idea for the July and August time slot.

## Travel

Mif Flaharty updates:

### *Kyoto and Beyond....*

**October 18 – 29, 2008**

Many of the sites and activities planned for this trip have been chosen specifically to enhance our background in Japanese culture and art as they directly relate to the Academy's collection. For example, the Academy's 14<sup>th</sup> century Shinto-Buddhist syncretic image of Kasuga Shine is now on exhibit in Gallery 20. Currently scheduled during our Kyoto and Beyond trip to Japan (October 18-29), we will have an opportunity to actually see this historic shrine when we visit Nara. However, other activities were selected to generally broaden our understanding of Japanese culture, without specific reference to our collection...or just to have fun! There will be festivals to enjoy, a Noh workshop to attend, and of course, a flea market for browsing.



The trip is filling up, but there's still room for additions to the group! So, if you've been thinking about joining this exciting opportunity to travel to Japan with your fellow Academy friends, it's time to "start the ball rolling." Contact Mif Flaharty or Dorothy Bicks if you have questions, or just want to "kick start" the process of becoming part of *Kyoto and Beyond...*

Maeona Mendelson reports on:

### **Christmas in Cairo**

We didn't expect so much Christmas festivity when we arrived in Cairo. Hotel lobbies were filled with poinsettias, lavishly decorated trees and Christmas caroling every evening. Christmas night for local youth meant dancing all night - especially in the Buddha Bar in our hotel. It was, after all, to Egypt, that Mary and Joseph fled.

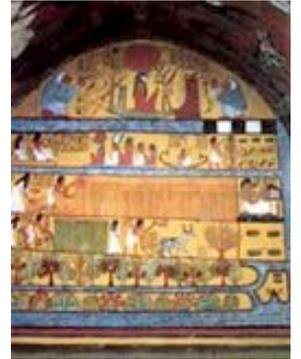


This year holy days for Muslims and Christians were celebrated in close proximity. Although the only evidence for tourists of the Eid-Al-Adha were the animal hides for sale on the streets, families were remembering Abraham's faith and willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac through an animal sacrifice, family feast and gathering.

Everyday was gorgeous with 75°F weather and blue, cloudless skies. This was obviously the right time of year to visit. Although the evenings

on the Nile were cool and sometimes windy, we enjoyed the leisurely pace of watching rural life along the river's edge.

I've wanted to visit Egypt for years and to concentrate on viewing the art and architecture of Pharaonic Egypt. We were warned of the crowds and chose a private guide with Kensington Tours. The crowds were only oppressive at Giza. Each site along the Nile is under restoration and we found the visitor centers and tram systems were very efficient especially at the Valley of the Kings.



Our favorite tombs were in the Valley of the Artisans and the Valley of the Nobles. The colors of the wall decorations were brilliant, especially the blues, reds and ochre. The figures were much more animated than I imagined and a testament to an appreciation for domestic life and family intimacy.



We spent two days at the Cairo Museum. Our guide took us to old friends from our art texts – King Chefred with the beautiful falcon Horus wrapped around his neck, the seated scribe from Sakkara, and of course, the bounty from the tomb of King Tutankhamen. A major surprise was to see the sculpture of Akhenaton for the description in texts hardly captures the grotesqueness of the figures with their heavy features, swollen bellies and breasts. Unlike the Kuan-Yin that captures the feminine within the masculine to evoke a sense of universal compassion, the combined male and female attributes were less than ideal. I am not sure what was intended.



Only when I visited Giza did I feel a profound sense of sadness – “mono no aware”. I didn't realize the buses were practically parked at the base of the pyramids. Still, after the shock, nothing could take away from the grandeur of these amazing structures.



Luxor Temple at Night

**Katie Ishol** was recently in Portland where she enjoyed visiting the Portland Art Museum's current exhibit, “The Dancer: Degas, Forain, Toulouse-Lautrec” which runs until May 11, 2008 and features more than 110 works.



## In Closing

### Quotations from Pearl S. Buck:

- ✚ If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday.
- ✚ The truth is always exciting. Speak it, then. Life is dull without it.
- ✚ Growth itself contains the germ of happiness.
- ✚ The secret of joy in work is contained in one word – excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it.



By popular request, here is **Cookie Stephan's** recipe for her favorite chocolate cake which she served recently to her DOT classmates:

### COOKIE'S CHOCOLATE SOUR CREAM POUND CAKE

1 cup boiling water	1 teaspoon vanilla
2 squares unsweetened chocolate	2 cups sifted flour
! cup butter, softened	1 teaspoon baking soda
1 3/4 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed	1/4 teaspoon salt
2 eggs	! cup sour cream

powdered sugar



In small bowl, pour boiling water over chocolate; set aside.  
Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease 9 x 5 x 3" loaf pan.  
Beat butter, brown sugar, eggs, and vanilla until light and fluffy.  
Sift flour, soda, and salt, and add alternately with sour cream to above mixture.  
Beat in cooled chocolate mixture.  
Pour into pan.  
Bake 60-70 minutes or until tester comes out clean.  
Cool 15 minutes before removing from pan.  
Remove to cake rack and cool completely.  
At serving time, sprinkle with powdered sugar.

**Deadline** for the May issue of the Docent Newsletter is **Monday, May 5, 2008**.

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Levinson, Editor 2007-8