



Maritime Art Sails into the North Fork

October 18, 2012

by Pat Rogers

DISPATCH - OCT 18, 2012 (1:30 p.m.)

GREENPORT, NY

A juried exhibition showcasing art inspired by the sea arrives at Brecknoch Hall. "Maritime Art Show" presents works by 28 artists selected by jurors Alan Bull and Vivian Sheehan. Around 93 artists applied to be part of the exhibition sponsored by East End Arts (EEA) of Riverhead, NY.

"Maritime Art Show" has an opening reception tonight from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The show remains on view weekends through Oct 28, 2012. The art ranges from seascapes to figurative. Exhibiting artists include John Stefanik, Christina Stow, Michael McLaughlin, Michael Withers and Alex Ferrone.

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"High Tide Against The Rocks" by John Stefanik. Photo, 27 x 42 inches.

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"Maritime Art Show" is part of the month-long Arts Alive Long Island. Arts Alive Long Island aims to showcase art and culture available on Long Island, NY. The inaugural program pairs existing cultural happenings with "Signature Series Events," according to Arts Alive Long Island. It takes place throughout October.

"Bridging all of the Arts on Long Island over the course of a month is another great way to showcase Long Island as a wonderful place to live, work and play," said Kirk Kordeleski, President & CEO Bethpage Federal Credit Union. "Many Long Islander's venture to New York City for cultural events and don't realize there are many great venues right here that are family friendly and affordable, which is why we are proud to present Arts Alive LI."

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"Symmetry At Sea" by Michael McLaughlin. Photo, 19 x 25 inches.

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On the North Fork, the celebration takes a maritime heritage focus. The festival unfolds in multiple

venues with a range of events celebrating various aspects of life on and by the sea.

Exhibitions that are part of The Maritime Heritage of the North Fork Festival take place in Greenport at Brecknock Hall, Sirens' Song Gallery and East End Seaport Museum and Maritime Foundation. In Orient, the Oysterponds Historical Society is presenting an exhibition that includes art. Other programs includes lectures, concerts and more.



"All Blues" by Alex Ferrone. Photo, 30 x 40 inches.

Immediately following tonight's art opening at Brecknock Hall is a lecture and mini-concert of Sea Shanties sung by Frank Hendricks. "Songs of the Sea: The Lesser Known World of Shanties and Fo'c'sle Songs" will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Fo'c'sle Songs were sung by sailors in the 19th century for recreation and work. Sea Shanties were the work songs of the tall ships, according to EEA.



"Sisyphus" by Christina Stow. Digital photo-archival print, 20 x 16 inches.

Jurors for the "Maritime Art Show" selected a single work for Best in Show. The award went to Michael Withers for his color reduction print "Catch of the Day." Withers studied and taught at the School of Visual Arts in New York City. He also studied painting at Cooper Union and the 92nd Street Y in New York before moving to the North Fork and began his interest in color reduction prints. Withers has exhibited at South Street Gallery in Greenport, NY and East End Arts Gallery in Riverhead, NY.



"Catch of the Day" by Michael Withers. Color reduction print, 20 x 20 inches.

There are two additional art shows in The Maritime Heritage of the North Fork Festival.

"Mermania & Other Fantasies" is exhibited at Sirens' Song Gallery through Nov 1, 2012. The group show features art with mermaid as goddess ruler of an amniotic sea by gallery owner and

artist Caroline Waloski. The Sirens' Song Galley is located at 516 Main St, Greenport, NY. www.sirensongallery.com

Historic maritime art is on view through Oct 27, 2012 at the Orange Webb House, Village Lane, Orient, NY. The exhibition includes over 20 maritime-theme paintings plus scrimshaw, artifacts and documents. The show is open on Saturdays only from 2 to 5 p.m. www.oysterpondshistoricalsociety.org

BASIC FACTS: "Maritime Art Show" has an opening reception tonight (Thursday) from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Brecknock Hall at Peconic Landing in Greenport, NY. The show continues on weekends through Oct 28, 2012. The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Brecknock Hall is located at Peconic Landing, One Brecknock Rd, Greenport, NY.

The juried exhibition is sponsored by East End Arts, Peconic Landing, Brecknock Hall Foundation, East End Seaport Museum and Maritime Foundation. The Maritime Heritage of the North Fork Festival takes place throughout October at various venues. For details and event listings, visit www.eastendarts.org.

Arts Alive Long Island programming can be found at www.artsaliveli.org. Events include concerts, art exhibitions, walking tours, theatrical performances, pumpkin carving and more. Arts Alive Long Island will be held throughout October in locations across Long Island.

Arts Alive Long Island is presented by the Long Island Arts Alliance (LIAA) and Bethpage Federal Credit Union with additional support from Long Island Community Foundation. October was selected for Arts Alive LI to coincide with National Arts and Humanities Month.