



Exhibition Reunites New York State Artists from the NYFA 'MARK' Program

July 21, 2013

by Pat Rogers

DISPATCH - JULY 21, 2013 (10:05 a.m.)

EAST ISLIP, NY-

The Islip Art Museum is showcasing art made by alumni of The New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) in its "MARK" exhibit currently on view through Sept 1, 2013. The show has an Opening Reception on July 21, 2013 from 1 to 4 p.m. The NYFA's MARK program is designed to provide career building skills for artists living outside of New York City. A series of workshops assists artists in developing business and marketing skills designed to foster their professional careers.

The exhibition "'NYFA 'MARK' Artists: New York Foundation for The Arts MARK Program Alumni Exhibition" is a reunion of sorts. Islip Art Museum Exhibition Director Beth Giacummo curated the show. An artist in her own right, Giacummo was accepted into the program for the 2009 term. The following year, she trained as a NYFA MARK Alumni Artist Consultant. The idea for a sprawling show that would include artists from all the MARK locations was born shortly afterwards.

"As a NYFA devotee, the opportunity to curate the exhibit is a way for me to give back, giving my fellow MARK artists an opportunity to reunite for a museum exhibition and bring NYFA to artists who are not yet familiar with their amazing opportunities and resources," said Giacummo. Her art is not included in the exhibition.

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Installation view of "NYFA 'MARK' Artists: New York Foundation for The Arts MARK Program Alumni Exhibition."
Courtesy Islip Art Museum.

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The MARK program is designed to assist artists in locations across New York State who do not live in New York City. The idea is that living in suburban or rural locations presents a unique set of challenges for artists who don't live in the center of the art world.

The exhibition at the Islip Art Museum presents art by 41 artists from 12 MARK headquarters. Long Island MARK centers are Riverhead and Huntington (East End Arts and Huntington Arts Council).

From Upstate New York, MARK headquarters are based in Woodstock, Hudson, Syracuse, Buffalo, Potsdam, Norwich-Utica, Troy, Catskill, Ithaca and Rosendale.



Installation view of "NYFA 'MARK Artists: New York Foundation for The Arts MARK Program Alumni Exhibition." Courtesy Islip Art Museum.

Artists exhibiting in the Islip Arts Museum show include Yura Admas, Dennis Bertram, Laura Cannamela, Robert Carioscia, John Cino, Oreen Cohen, Giada Crispiels, Joanne Dumas, Ginger Ertz, Paul Farinacci, Shanti Grumbine, Kate Hamilton, Pat Hauck, Erica Hauser, Roman Hrab, Michael Krasowitz, Dan Lachacz, Rob Licht, Sara Lynch, Leslie Parke and David Powell.

Also, Thea Lanzisero, Claire Lesemann, Wayne Montecalvo, Laura Moriarty, Gina Occhiogrosso, Barbara Page, Iacopo Pasquinelli, Jennifer Gioe Peper, Larry Poole, Anne Raymond, Doug Reina, Anne Seelbach, Kathleen Sherin, Lindsay Stern, Suzy Sureck, Pamela Topham, Angela Voulgarelis, Jessica Warner, Leigh Yardley and Deborah Zlotzky.



Installation view of "NYFA 'MARK Artists: New York Foundation for The Arts MARK Program Alumni Exhibition." Courtesy Islip Art Museum.



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At the Opening Reception on July 21, Lanzisero will perform "Go With The Flow: Interactive Performance." The participatory art performance invites people to participate in the "process of building structures," according to Lanzisero. This "process" can be movement, dance or a game.

The museum explains that "Through this physical interaction of seeing, interpreting and play, a better understanding of contemporary art emerge."

The performance piece was inspired by FLUXUS performances, states Lanzisero on her website. Recently, her installations have been exhibited at galleries in New York City, at New Museum during

its IdeaCity Streetfest, at Sculpture Key West in Florida, the Fountain Art Fair with the Hullabaloo Art Collective and others. In 2011, Lanzisero work was part of the “Earth Matters” exhibition at the Heckscher Museum of Art.



Installation view of “NYFA ‘MARK Artists: New York Foundation for The Arts MARK Program Alumni Exhibition.” Courtesy Islip Art Museum.

MARK Artists receive formal training on business and professional development during the annual MARK Bootcamp. The boot camp weekend provides opportunities for networking among members, educational class settings and personalized development training. MARK Artists are based throughout New York state and come from a variety of art disciplines.



Art by JoAnne Dumas installed at the Islip Art Museum.
Courtesy Islip Art Museum.

BASIC FACTS: “NYFA ‘MARK’ Artists: New York Foundation for The Arts MARK Program Alumni Exhibition” has an Opening Reception on July 21 from 1 to 5 p.m. The show remains on view through Sept 1, 2013. The show was curated by Beth Giacummo.

The Islip Art Museum is located at 50 Irish Lane, East Islip, NY 11730. www.islipartmuseum.org.

For information on the New York Foundation For The Arts and the MARK program, visit www.nyfa.org.

The Opening Reception on July 21 will feature an interactive art performance piece “Go With The Flow: Interactive Performance” by Thea Lanzisero. For information on the piece and her work, visit www.thealanzisero.com.

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