

Creators & Collectors Tour 2004

- Meet nationally known artists who live and work in Sarasota
- Explore their studios
- Experience their private homes

Friday, March 19, 2004
Saturday, March 20, 2004
10AM - 4PM



TICKETS \$17 AT:
Van Wezel Box Office
Venice Art Center
Art Center Sarasota
Longboat Key Center for the Arts
Joan Michlin Galleries, St Armands Circle
The Broken Egg, Siesta Key
DG Ace Hardware, all stores
Davidson Drugs, all locations
Jessica's Framing Studio, 2nd at Lemon
Paper Pad I, Sarasota Paper Pad II, Venice
For information and more
ticket sale locations call: (941) 330-0680



On the HORIZON

'Straight Ahead for Jazz'

The Jazz Club of Sarasota's 24th annual festival is set for March 21 through 27. Under the theme of "Straight Ahead for Jazz," the sonic celebrations include two outdoor events: "Jazz in the Park," at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 21, at Philippi Estate Park and "Jazz on the Bayfront" from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, March 25, at the water's edge by the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall. (These events are free, but you'll need to bring your own blankets and chairs.) The Jazz Caravan Trolley is a moveable feast of musical delights,

stopping off at downtown Sarasota's hot jazz clubs from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26. (This costs \$15.) Two concerts also will be taking place inside the Van Wezel: "Jazz on the Upbeat" includes performances of Johnny Frigo, Joe Vito, and the Dizzy Gillespie Alumni All-Stars at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26. Tickets are from \$35 to \$25; "All that Jazz" features Judy Roberts, Two for Brazil, and the Don Scaletta Jazz Project at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27. Tickets are from \$25 to \$35. Call 1-800-826-9303 to reach the Van Wezel. To reach the Jazz Club, call 316-9207.

'Creators and Collectors Tour'

The Sarasota Fine Arts Society will be taking participants inside the homes and studios of some of our area's most talented visual artists: Bill Buchman, Richard Capes, Virginia Hoffman, Joseph Melancon, Sally Sloan, husband and wife artists Suzie and John Seerey-Lester, and Adrienne Winer.

This year's tour takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 19 and 20. Tickets are \$17. Call 330-0680. □



Bill Buchman's "Nude Directions"

At home with the artists

Creators and collectors tour visits artists on their home turf

By MARTY FUGATE
Arts and Entertainment Editor

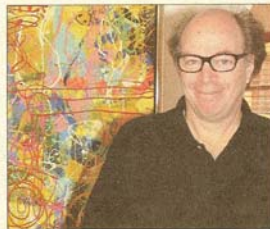
The Sarasota Fine Arts Society's "Creators & Collectors Tour" of artists' homes and studios took place last weekend. You've probably seen their art before; most are frequent exhibitors to the Longboat Key Center for the Arts. Here's a glimpse at the artists themselves:

Virginia Hoffman

Virginia Hoffman, looking like a modern-day reincarnation of Rosie the Riveter



behind her protective face mask, is hard at work welding one of her pieces. Much of her work is in metal and glass — everything from stained and etched glass, to furniture, to sculpture. While she'll happily make sparks fly to create her art, she's recently discovered a cooler medium: digital photography. "Usually I'm working with a blowtorch or a grinding tool getting all hot and sweaty," she says. "With digital imagery, all I have to do is sit down at a computer and go clickety-click. It's great."

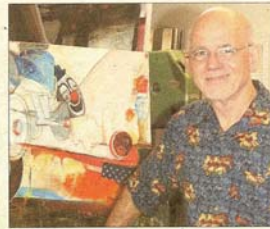


Bill Buchman

Bill Buchman's home is the realm of a renaissance man or a split personality, depending on how you look at it. You can tell he's a musician — here's a keyboard, there's a wall filled with vintage jazz LPs and old issues of Downbeat. But he's also a visual artist. Almost all available wall space is filled with his exuberantly colored abstractions. At second glance, his work is not so schizoid — try synaesthetic, instead. There's color for the ear in his music and jazz made visible in his paintings. Buchman smiles and adds, "I also write poetry."

Joseph Melancon

Joseph Melancon has years of experience creating props and improbable objects for museums, playhouses, record companies and ad agencies in Texas and the West Coast — giving a face to Jay Jay the Jet Plane or a rocket pack to a rock star. Now that he's moved to Sarasota, he uses that talent as a painter and assemblage artist. He thinks outside the canvas and through the canvas — cutting boxes into them, incor-



porating toys, specially molded figures and other strange elements. At the moment he's working on a circus series. "I'd heard about Sarasota as a circus town as a kid, years before I ever moved here." Now that he's here, he feels right at home.

Richard Capes

Richard Capes has a shambling home/studio compound. The exterior of the two structures may seem lackadaisical, but there's nothing lackadaisical about Capes. The interior is stuffed with paint-



Virginia Hoffman's "Fish out of Water"

ings, watercolors and drawings, mostly of historic buildings in Sarasota, but also diverging to more abstract art. Capes has a handful of works-in-progress going on various easels. When he's stuck with one piece, he moves to another and works constantly. "I'm up at 5 o'clock every morning," boasts Capes. "I learned work ethic from my parents who were in the restaurant business." It seems they taught him well.

Sally Sloan



Sally Sloan is both a painter and a mixed-media artist, creating unusual collages and assemblages of everything from tea bags to machine parts, often with reference to the art of the Far East. Magically, once an object has been incorporated into one of her works, it's almost impossible to recognize it for what it is. She's perfectly happy to reveal her magic tricks, because how she did it isn't important. "You have to

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invite the eye to come in," she says. "You have to tease the eye with mysteries."

Adrienne Winer

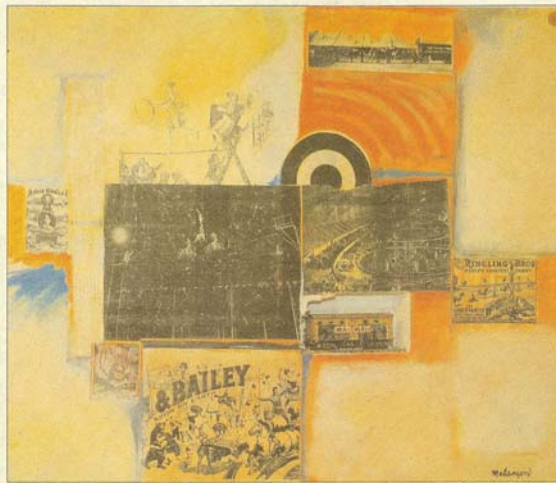
Adrienne Winer has a love affair with stone. "Subtractive art is easy," she says. "I like to create by taking away." Her original



materials are usually wood or stone; Carrera marble is her favorite. What she creates has a smooth, organic look, all fluid and molded, with a family resemblances to the work of Henry Moore. She'll often have these cast in stainless steel or bronze. Each holds a hint of mystery.

John Seerey-Lester

Manchester native John Seerey-Lester is noted for his wildlife scenes; his wife, Suzie Seerey-Lester, is famous for paintings of sea creatures. "Treetops," their home, resembles a National Geographic special — it's stuffed with African masks and mementos. Their passion for ecology is clear, but it was an artist's eye that created it, not the other way around. He's equally fond of plein air depictions of street scenes and meditative portrait studies. "I paint what I paint because it's beautiful," he says. "I'd like that beauty to hang on for awhile." □



Thinking outside the canvas — part of Joseph Melancon's circus series Photos by Marty Fugate



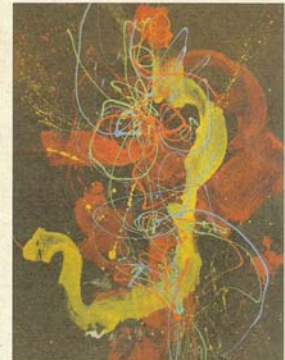
Wild about art — Suzie and John Seery-Lester



John Seerey-Lester — a portrait of the artist as a coffee creamer



Joseph Melancon looks on the sunny side.



Paint is music in the hands of Bill Buchman.



Jackson Pollock eat your heart out — Bill Buchman's energetic garage floor

4 BILL BUCHMAN

THE ART OF JAZZ

Bill Buchman is not only a painter but also a trained jazz musician and author of poetry and children's books. His brightly colored, spontaneous abstractions display a sure sense of color, balance and musicality. They can be seen in Sarasota at Galerie des Artes as well as in New York and Copenhagen.

After many years abroad Bill now creates music as well as paintings in Sarasota. He teaches figurative drawing, modern art history and the creative process at the Ringling School of Art and Design Continuing Studies Program, the Longboat Key Center for the Arts and Art Center Sarasota. He also plays piano in a jazz trio Friday and Saturday nights in the Ca d'Zan Room of the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

"Harmony is my keynote," Bill explains. "Many ideas from the realm of music provide me with inspiration. A broad spectrum of ideas and techniques including European modernism, the artistic philosophy and methods of Chinese and Japanese painting as well as Renaissance and classical concepts provide bearings for my ongoing voyage into uncharted territory."

Bill studied with Victor D'Amnica at the Museum of Modern Art's Institute of Modern Art, East Hampton, N.Y., and with the leading American figurative painter Fletcher Martin at the Albany Institute of Art. He studied piano at the New England Conservatory of Music and received bachelor's and master's degrees there.

HOME and STUDIO: The front hall and gallery area around a sunken living room display many of Buchman's large abstract canvases. On the living room's right wall is "Jaws," a tribute to the famous trumpeter Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis, with whom Buchman played. Visitors will hear "Out of the Blue," Buchman's newest CD. Copies of this disc, his books and posters will be displayed in the dining room. Throughout the house a wide variety of Buchman's work can be seen, including figurative studies, abstracts and semi-abstract paintings. In the studio, don't miss the framed page of medieval Gregorian chant above the piano. The garage serves Bill as a workshop, and here he will be available to demonstrate his techniques.

FINE ARTS SOCIETY OF SARASOTA

2004 CREATORS & COLLECTORS TOUR

FRIDAY MARCH 19 10 - 4
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FOR ENTRY, PRESENT THIS GUIDEBOOK AT EACH LOCATION