



DECEMBER 2003 - JANUARY 2004

OPEN STUDIOS WRAP Many thanks to the 75 BAA members who opened their studios, to the residents who graciously greeted the public, shared their homes with artists, and suffered the intrusion with grace. Thanks to our volunteers and specifically to our coordinator Felice Regan, gallery director Deb Olin, Cody Ultzman and Lee MacCormick for the excellent food so elegantly presented, Alden Zecha for sharing his space, Danika Swanson for publicity, Owen Strazzi for his Paper Prayers, Riki Moss and Eliza Grinnell for their graphic work, Peter Marquez and Connie Blaszczyk for the fabulous Toast benefit, Jason Vantomme for the webwork, Bob, Juan, Mike and Jorge for spiffing up the building and then parking the hordes - thank you all!

So what was it like? While we don't collect sales figures or make statistical comparisons year to year, we know that "results" were mixed. While many of the painters sold work, other artists did not. Clearly the crowd has diminished since the hayday of our open studios- although not increasingly. There were actually a few hundred more people here than last year (the first year we began officially counting), 1592 by Bob's count, but way down from the 3000 or more people who came to Brickbottom when it was the only open studios event in town.

Now, as you surely know, there are events in the Boston area every weekend between April and December, each one competing for a limited audience and publicity. Many of you commented that the public seemed less like "families on outings" and more like knowledgeable buyers, while at the same time, the galleries, reps and press no longer

attend. There are ways we can stand out in the future: hire a professional PR agency, (like the South End Open Studios, for example), expand our budget to include more advertising, find a unique "theme": In other words, we need more professional planning, more money, more volunteers. There are problems that seem always to

elude us: how to get people into the bakery building, whether to ask for donations, how to best use the gallery - and new ones, such as what happens when artists move into the Joy Street studios and how to time a BAA benefit.

That's all in the future (the near future, because planning starts now) - meanwhile, let's congratulate ourselves on a job well done. Thank you all for your wonderful art and opening for artists' hours.

THE BAA BENEFIT BASH AT TOAST: SUCCESS! Over 65 people made donations, with the BAA grossing over \$1400 before expenses. A great

time was had by all. The evening helped to promote awareness of Brickbottom and its artists in the Boston community at large. The Benefit also helped to promote Open Studios. We were mentioned in the Globe's "Go!" column, the Boston Phoenix, as well as a feature article in the Weekly Dig. At Toast, artwork was displayed by Alyson Shultz, Diane Novetsky, Chris Mesarch, Pauline Lim, Obie Simonis, Riki Moss, Aileen Marie Vantomme, and Cheryl McCaffrey. Thru the Keyhole provided great entertainment -thank you Jessica! And thank you to the

BAA members who joined us at Toast. We appreciate your enthusiastic support.

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SEND YOUR NEWS FOR THE BAG AND THE WEBSITE, AS WELL AS IMAGES OF YOUR ARTWORK (100 DPI MAXIMUM WIDTH OF 200 PX) TO:

brickbottomartist@rcn.com

WITH "NEWS" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.



WELCOME HARLAN ALTEPETER !

GALLERY 2003

Affordable Art show
December 5-21. Hours:
Friday-Sunday 12-5,
Opening Party: Dec. 5, 6-
8PM. Small Gallery, Paper
Prayers, proceeds go
to Boston Family and
Pediatric AIDS Project.

GALLERY 2004

Jan 9- Feb 9 Three Artists: Maggi Brown, Philip
Ravenburg, Bryce Vinokurov
Feb 15-March 20, Members Show
March 27-April 24, "Land, Sea, Sky", group show
April 28 - May 29, Mobius Invitational
June 5-June 26, Somerville Charter School
Sept-Oct, Trial Runs
Nov, Open Studio directory show
Dec, Affordable Art Show

SALON EVENTS

Dec 18 7:30 The Poets of Ibbetson Press

BRICKBOTTOM ANNUAL XMAS BASH

Wed. Dec 17th 6-9:30 in the lobby

MEMBER'S SHOWINGS

WALLY AND CELIA GILBERT have been juried by
Carl and Paula Belz into the show "Energy"
now at University Place, Mount Auburn Street,
Cambridge, to Dec 6th.

ROSAMUND PURCELL at Tufts until December 14th.

DEBRA WEISSBERG at the DeCordova until January.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

CAMBRIDGE ARTIST ASSOCIATION National deadline
Jan. 23 at 24 Lowell Street Cambridge 02138.

SMALL WORKS: the 27th Annual Art Competition at
80 Washington Square East Galleries, NYC,
212-998-5747

**DEADLINE JANUARY 9, 2004 THE SAN DIEGO ART
INSTITUTE:** prospectus at www.sandiego-art.org
SUBSCRIBE TO [HTTP://WWW.ARTDEADLINES.COM](http://www.artdeadlines.com)

**FROM NOW ON, THE BAGUETTE WILL COME OUT
QUARTERLY AND WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE
LOBBY, ON THE WEBSITE AND VIA EMAIL. IN
BETWEEN BAGS, AN UPDATED CALENDAR WILL
BE PRINTED AND POSTED. KEEP CHECKING THE
WEBSITE "EVENTS" SECTIONS FOR UPDATED
NOTICES AND CALENDAR, CHECK THE "ABOUT"
SECTION FOR MEMBER INFORMATION.**

CALENDAR

Fri. Dec 5: 6-8, Affordable Art Opening - gallery
Wed. Dec 17th: 6-9:30, Xmas bash, lobby
Thurs. Dec 18th: 7:30, Poets in Gallery
Tues. Jan 27: 7-9, Award Ceremony Surrounds Show
at the Institute of Contemporary Art

NEW SOMERVILLE GALLERIES: LUX

257 Highland
ave. 617.625.9257
Gallery 108 on
Beacon just below
Washington

JOY STREET STUDIO

OPPORTUNITY: 86 Joy Street: twelve work-only
studios. Brickbottom residents are being given
preference - It's a fantastic opportunity for stu-
dio space on the block! 617-625-6410 - joystreetst
udios@aol.com.

ILLUMINATIONS TOUR: Date: Saturday, December
20th, 2003. Snow date: Sun., Dec. 21st, 2003
Tours leave Somerville City Hall (93 Highland at
intervals from 4:30 - 8:30 on. Contact:
<rachel@somervilleartscouncil.org>

PROPOSED ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER

Specifically, the purchase of the Somerville Ar-
mory building. Get on the mailing list: and con-
tact susan_berstler@yahoo.com

BAA GALLERY SHOW AWARD

The January 2003 exhibition in the Brickbottom
Gallery, "Surrounded", work by Jorg Fraske,
Keith Maddy, Isabel Riley, and Nancy Murphy
Spicer is the recipient of a New England AICA
(International Association of Art Critics) Award.
The ceremony is Jan. 27, 2004 at the Institute of
Contemporary Art, Boston, 7-9PM.



Celia Gilbert, Oil on canvas

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