

Turning Points

online

May 2013

Issue: 21

FROM THE CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2013: A Year of Activity and Collaboration

Throughout the winter, the staff and volunteers have created a lot of events in collaboration with other partners. These programs and partnerships are important to us on many levels and help further our efforts to present, promote and preserve art in wood.



Albert LeCoff
Co-Founder &
Executive Director

We were very pleased, when former Center trustee Charles Hummel, Curator Emeritus of Winterthur and Adjunct Professor of Art History at the University of Delaware, offered to present a seminar to benefit The Center, entitled ***Caveat Emptor: Fakes, Forgeries and Reproductions*** on May 23, 2013. The interest in this program has inspired new and renewed partnerships and will provide a great educational experience for individuals interested in all aspects of fine art and craft. Particularly exciting is that Freeman's stepped up to offer their space for the program and this recalled several good experiences I've had with the auction house... [read more.](#)

Letter from our Board President Richard Goldberg

I have a most exciting announcement. The Board has decided to honor our founders, Executive Director Albert LeCoff and Alan Lecoff for their years of service to The Center and their dedication to the creation of

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THANK YOU

The Board and staff wishes to express it's gratitude to our members, supporters and funders. It is through your generosity and involvement that The Center remains a vital resource for Art in Wood.

contemporary wood craft as a major art form. We will hold an event on Saturday, November 9th to properly recognize their efforts. A save-the-date and details will follow. We hope you will support The Center and honor our founders by your response and presence at our event.



3 Long Points by Jakob Weissflog. African blackwood with sapwood.

We have had significant activity at the Center since the last issue of Turning Points. We have mounted several exciting exhibitions culminating with the present joint show highlighting the work of Mark Gardner and the Weissflogs. The juxtaposition of Mark's large pieces with the Weissflogs' small work makes for an enchanting contrast.

The Board has been reviewing our three-year business plan [...read more.](#)

Upcoming Exhibition

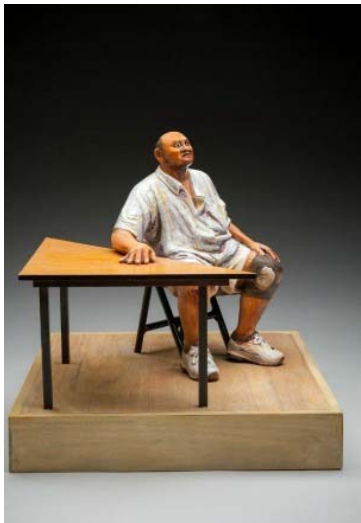
by Robin Rice

Susan Hagen: Social Studies

Exhibition Dates: June 7 - July 20

Opening Reception: Friday, June 7, 2013

Meet the Artist Lecture: Saturday, June, 8 2013



Bruce by Susan Hagen

Chunks of wood are not identical. Anyone who uses a lathe or a chisel or any woodcarving tool can tell you that. People, like wood, are shaped and refined by circumstance but each begins with qualities that endure. "Social Studies," Susan Hagen's upcoming summer show of wood sculpture at The Center for Art in Wood, explores specific groups within the larger society through the representation of specific people who have been, as we all are, shaped by

complex forces.

Social Studies brings together work from four projects executed over the last seven years--**The Lost**

CAVEAT EMPTOR

Fakes, Forgeries & Reproductions



To benefit
The Center for Art in Wood

presented by
Charles F. Hummel
Curator Emeritus and Adjunct
Professor, Winterthur
Museum & Garden

Thursday, May 23, 2013

9:30 am-3:00 pm

at Freeman's 1808 Chestnut St.

Philadelphia

\$75 | \$65 for Members of The Center
(Optional boxed lunch \$15)

This mini-course includes two illustrated lectures on the subject of fakes, forgeries, and reproductions of decorative arts made or used in America.

[Members Register HERE](#)

[Non Members Register HERE](#)

or Call The Center at 215-923-8000

Co-sponsored by:
The Clay Studio
Moderne Gallery
Snyderman-Works Galleries

Share your ideas...

Take our 5 question survey and tell us how we can better serve you with new programs and opportunities.

[Click for Survey](#)

Army, Recollection Tableaux, The Teenage Project and **People of Philly**. The detailed, representational figures in linden wood [...read more](#)

From the Collection **Intelligent Design** **at the Michener Art Museum**

by Connie Kimmerle, Curator of Collections Michener Art Museum

The strong studio craft tradition of southeastern Pennsylvania represents a significant collecting opportunity for [The Michener Art Museum](#), and the Museum is currently focused on actively building its permanent and loan collections in this area while sharing these works with its visitors. Intelligent Design, currently on view at the Michener, highlights studio craft in the Delaware Valley region from its earliest beginnings to the diversity of expression today.



Vessel by David Ellsworth. Cocobolo rosewood.

Over the last century, studio craft artists of southeastern Pennsylvania have been creating objects in which the work's design flows out of its function, its power to elicit emotions and ideas, and its ability to reference a plurality of ideas and styles. The Michener's exhibition features wooden, metal, and ceramic work from the studio shops of such makers and designers as Frederick W. Harer, Wharton Esherick, George Nakashima, Mira Nakashima, Phillip Lloyd Powell, Paul Evans, Toshiko Takaezu, Robert Dodge, David Ellsworth, Stephan Goetschius, Peter Oliver, Matthias Pliessnig, Mark Sfirri, Derek Weidman, and Robert Winokur. [...read more](#)

Whittling Workshop at Bartram's Garden
with Professor [Donald Fortescue](#)

Then,
[Join or Renew](#)
your Membership NOW!

Every \$1 of membership will be generously matched with a \$2 donation from **The Windgate Charitable Foundation**. These funds help support the growth and development of The Center, its exhibitions, ITE residency and public programs.

Free Gallery Talk
Join us in our
Gallery
on
Saturday,
MAY 25, 2013
1-2 PM
to hear
Artist Mark Gardner



Mark Gardner Vessel Suspended.
Cherry, paint.



Artist Donald Fortescue reviews work by participating students from University of the Arts, Bucks County Community College and Indiana University of Pennsylvania at the Bartram's Garden workshop March 28th and 29th. Student pieces created on site during that program will be incorporated into the design of Fortescue's submission to the Challenge VIII: Bartram's Box Remix

Innovative Education Programs

Rachel Bliss Reminds Us that Making Art Is for Everyone

by Robin Rice

This June it will be a year since [Rachel Bliss](#) joined The Center for Art in Wood as Education and Community Outreach Coordinator. Bliss is a successful studio artist and a successful working artist who has done illustrations for publications that include Time Magazine, The New York Times, and The New Yorker. One of Bliss' unique qualifications for her role at The Center is her in-depth, practical experience collaborating with wood artists. Her impressive list of collaborators includes furniture-maker [Jack Larimore](#), sculptor and turner [Michael Hosaluk](#), and the kinetic sculptor [Arthur Ganson](#).



Rachel with Participants at Arden Theater Co. Pinocchio project

Bliss's **From Tree to Me: Journeys in Wood** programs for The Center range from Saturday afternoon workshops open to the general public to educational programs in schools, and now the recently inaugurated turning classes in our Community Room with its five new lathes.

New in Our Museum Store



From Tree to Me Workshops

[Register or get additional information HERE](#)

Pinocchio Puppet-Making Workshops

Saturday, May 25 | 12 - 4PM or
Saturday, June 15 | 12 - 4 PM -

Figurative Wood Sculpture Workshop with Susan Hagen

Saturday, June 22 | 12 - 4 PM



Lots of Tops

Artists - Call for Entries

Wharton Esherick Museum
20th Annual Thematic
Woodworking Competition
[For Prospectus Click Here](#)

...[read more](#).

Bartram's Boxes

By Beth Feldman Brandt

We travel at risk of health and untold loneliness
to uncover what has been seen only by Creek
or crocodile among the brambles.

How we love each fruit or flower for its singularity,
the way we love a wife's touch, a son's quick mind,
a daughter's attentiveness.

Ours is the commerce of curiosity, seeds gathered,
sifted, tenderly nestled in moss, until with sunlight
and breath, each will spark like tinder,

reveal its secret - beauty, fragrance, usefulness -
brilliant as sunset, dark as coffee, a balm -
sent to bloom across oceans like the children
who blossom in our absence.

We are men of science. Men of faith.
This is our praise.

(c) 2012

*This is one of the poems included in the creative
collaboration between artist Claire Owen and poet Beth
Feldman Brandt, participants in the Challenge VIII:
Bartram's Boxes Remix.*

Visit [Beth Feldman Brandt's](#) & [Claire Owen's](#) websites to learn
more

Publications

by Judson Randall

The Center 's Explosive Growth of Publications

To many these days, the liquid crystal display on all
manner of electronic devices has become the
alternative to the progeny of Johannes Gutenberg's 1450
invention: the printing press that brought forth words and
images on paper.

But there are many holdouts, notably Albert LeCoff,
executive director of The Center for Art in Wood.

"Even in the internet age," he says, "we see that people
still like tangible books. Artists have a real product to
show their supporters, and repositories such as the library



FEB31st

wood eyewear collection



Feb 31st,

an innovative Italian company, is
launching its latest designs of
custom-made tulip wood eyewear
with

Margot & Camille Optique on
Thursday, June 13, 2013 at

The Center for Art in Wood. Choose
your shape, and color
combinations at our

Cocktail Party from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Then have your original eyewear
made for you within weeks.

Please RSVP by June 10th via
email to

contact@margotcamille.com.

Collaborations

Hidden City Festival to run May 23-June 30

Hidden City Philadelphia will
present its second summer
festival featuring world-class
contemporary artists at
forgotten or hidden sites
throughout the city.

Performing and visual artists are
creating installations that
include music, sculpture, and
activities that engage audiences
and invite participation, all
inspired by the history and
architecture and the artists'

at the American Craft Council in St Paul, Minnesota, still maintain research areas featuring real books." No e-readers for this crowd.



Turning to Art in Wood: A Creative Journey - The Center for Art in Wood's most elaborate publication was the 2011 portfolio/book documenting the Center's 25th anniversary. The portfolio was produced in a box, upper right, and included essay pamphlets, individual portraits of the art works in the exhibition and a pamphlet with thumbnail images of every art piece in The Center's collection by year.

As though to emphasize the point, The Center for Art in Wood embarks this year on its most productive period as a publisher... [read more.](#)

Visit the Center

The Center is open
Tuesday - Saturday 10am to 5pm
and by appointment 215-923-8000

Get your daily Center fix
[On the web](#)



THE
CENTER
FOR ART
IN WOOD®

The Center for Art in Wood is an arts and educational institution whose mission is leading the growth, awareness, appreciation and promotion of artists and their creation and design of art in wood and wood in combination with other materials. The Center is located at 141 Third Street in the heart of Old City Philadelphia and is a favorite destination for artists, collectors and families.

visions of the future of each site.

Included in this summer's festival is the **John Grass Woodturning Company** and its artistic partner The Center for Art in Wood. Other sites are located in a wide array of neighborhoods and are as follows:

Germantown Town Hall, The Athenaeum of Philadelphia, Historical Society of Frankford, Congregation Shivtei Yeshurun-Ezras Israel, Hawthorne Hall, Fort Mifflin, and Globe Dye Works.

"People think they really know Philadelphia, but they don't know *all* of it," said Thaddeus Squire, founder of Hidden City Philadelphia. "This festival gives residents and tourists alike the chance to explore some of the overlooked things that make our city great. By incorporating works of art at each location, visitors should be able to gain a deeper understanding of what made the city tick, and why this deep history is still relevant today."

Tickets can be purchased on line at [Hidden City Festival 2013](#) or over the phone by calling 267-428 0575.

[Forward email](#)



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The Center for Art in Wood, formerly the Wood Turning Center | 141 N. 3rd Street | Philadelphia | PA | 19106