

Newsletter

ART ALLIANCE OF THE RIVERSIDE ART MUSEUM

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A Very Important Date *by President Jackie H*

"I'm late, I'm late, for a very important date..." so states the White rabbit in Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. At this time of year, our committees are very busy filling positions and getting ready for the spring project. At times, we can feel "as mad as a March hare." This was a common phrase in Carroll's time and referred to the hares' behavior at the beginning of the long breeding seasons. While our concerns are of a different nature, we can relate to the feeling of anxiety and worry.

While there exists some amazing illustrations of the hares in Carroll's stories, especially those of John Tenniel, my favorite artistic illustration of a typical March hare is Albrecht Durer's masterpiece "A Young Hare." Also known as "Durer's Rabbit", the painting is of watercolor and gouache. Durer created it in 1502 while living in Nuremberg, Germany. Its realistic qualities

are impressive. The artist used a dry brush technique to split the hair on the brush in order to get such fine lines for the hare's fur. This painting is part of the Batliner Collection of the Albertina Museum in Vienna, Austria. Has anyone visited this museum?

Along with our nominating and spring project committees, our clean team has been equally industrious on tackling the cleaning of the basement of RAM. Under the guidance of Debby Phillips, this team of wonders has transformed the space into an organized and cleaner storage room. Likewise, our spring project committee is going to need the help of every member to make our fundraising effort a success. Now is the time to start cleaning out your closets and donating art items to our Art Swap event. March is the time to start spring cleaning, and remember, don't be late for a very important date!

Our next General Meeting March 17, 2011 At RAM

6:00 p.m. Social Time

6:30 Program

7:00 General Meeting

Our Guest Speaker will be:

MJ Abraham, Director of the Riverside Art Museum

Come hear about the new and exciting vision for the museum.

Mark Your Calendars: April 21, 2011- One of our most popular programs: Art Alliance members will share art and stories from their personal collections. Sign-ups will be available at the March meeting or you can e-mail me at gogochabot@earthlink.net if you are interested. Limited to first 8 sign ups.

Sure, Why Not? Art Alliance Award for March

Our Sure Why Not award for March goes to one of new members who has not hesitated to sign up to help our club in several big ways. She was a member of Debby P's Clean

Team and worked arduously down in the dust rodent infested basement. She also agreed to be the club's treasurer for next year. Hats off for Carolyn P!

New Member Drive happening now!

At the March general meeting, packets for new members will be available. Please sponsor someone (or several "someones") to become a new member of Art Alliance. We would like to have a nice, large group to present at the annual meeting in May. Pick up a packet for each person you want to sponsor, sign the sponsor line, and have the prospective member complete the rest of the packet and return it per directions in the packet. You can also call either Kathy A or Lucile A and we can send a packet to you. Thanks for your help in keeping Art Alliance strong!

Nominating Committee posts slate of officers for 2011 -2012

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate for the 2011-2012 Art Alliance Board of Directors Officers. This slate will be presented at the March General Meeting and then voted on at the April General Meeting.

President	Judy F
President-Elect	Lucile A
Treasurer	Carolyn P
Secretary	Doreen A
Membership	Anne D/Jean A
Nominating	Jackie H
Off the Wall	Sue S
Spring Project	Unfilled

Respectfully submitted: Sharon B, Anje C, Kathy C, LaVonne D, Heather H, and Selina B, Chairperson.

ART SWAP - NOW COLLECTING!

We are now collecting items for our 'Art Swap' portion of the Collectibles Festival, our spring fundraiser, May 5 - 7th. You only need to make two decisions!

- What items do I want to get rid of?
- Will I consign or donate them outright to the museum?

The first question is easy enough - we accept about anything that is even somewhat collectible, including decorative plates and ceramics, antique-type things (which might include all sorts of small decorative objects, clocks, gadgets), old linens, glassware, sculpture, rugs, and of course all kinds of artwork, framed or unframed - that includes framed posters and prints! Now is the time to clean out your closets and bring us at least three items that we can use for Art Swap. If you have any questions, call Kathy A.

Question #2—Consign or donate outright? That's easy, too. If you would like half the cash back, please consign. This might make sense if you feel the object is somewhat valuable. (However, if you think the item is VERY valuable, please consider having it appraised at our appraisal faire with Bonham & Butterfield's). If you just want the write-off, or feel that it's better just to sell it without worrying too much about its sales price, please donate!

Bring all items to the next Art Alliance General Meeting, or call Kathy and she will arrange to have the item picked up.

This is your chance to de-clutter and do a good deed - help the Art Museum!!

Off the Wall 2011 Brainstorming Session!

In the interest of making Off the Wall 2011 the biggest, best, most terrific event it can possibly be, we would like to get as much feedback and as many ideas as all our creative minds can muster. If you would be interested participating in a brainstorming session (date to be announced at the March general meeting) - please zap me an email - or give me a jingle - and I will make sure you are invited to the session. If you agree to

brainstorm, this does not mean you have committed yourself to be a part of the OTW committee (although that would be nice!) We simply want your ideas and input - what works, what doesn't, what could be changed, etc. - no idea is too crazy!! And, if you don't want to sit in on the brainstorming session, but have ideas, just send them along and I will present to the group!! Sue Simonin, 359-7236 or susansimonin@hotmail.com

Only two issues left - please consider sharing your secret, easy recipes that make you look like an entertaining goddess! Submit one of your own or ask an Art Alliance friend to share her signature dish with the membership!

Email your recipes to Lori B

Healthy Tzatziki Dip with Baked Pita Chips

Wouldn't you love to find this tasty snack at an Art Alliance meeting?

PITA CHIPS:

1 whole wheat pita bread, quartered
Cooking spray
Salt and pepper, to taste

TZATZIKI:

1 container (6 oz.) Yoplait Greek Yogurt - Plain*
1/2 cup grated cucumber
1 clove garlic, pressed
salt, to taste

Method

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly spray pita bread with cooking spray and season with salt and pepper, to taste. Bake 8-10 minutes until golden. In a medium bowl combine yogurt, cucumber, garlic, and salt. Serve with baked pita chips.

*What is Greek Yogurt?

Strained yogurt, yogurt cheese, labneh, or Greek yogurt is yogurt which has been strained in a cloth or paper bag or filter to remove the whey, giving a consistency between that of yogurt and cheese, while preserving yogurt's distinctive sour taste. Sales of Greek yogurt are increasing faster than for regular yogurt because many consumers perceive Greek yogurt – thicker, creamier, less sweet and with more protein – to be healthier than regular yogurt.

Compete for this month's art expert prize!

Submit **title** and **artist** of the two works of art on this page to Lori Beilby at loribeilby@yahoo.com by March 17th. The names of **all** members with correct and complete answers will be placed in the drawing to be held at the general meeting. Must be present to win. Good luck!

Congratulations to February's drawing winner, Donna G. Donna was one of eight members whose names were placed in the drawing for correctly identifying Dantello's "David" and Henri Rousseau's "The Sleeping Gypsy."

Monthly participation in this contest is growing! Thanks to all who have participated, and continue to do so!



1. This Impressionist painting was created in 1873. The models in this work are the artist's sister and her sister's infant daughter. The artist was a French painter who was one of the few female artists who gained immense recognition and fame in the seventeenth century. She was the most comfortable and deft in portraying the daily domestic activities of the contemporary woman of the time. As this artist belonged to a conservative era, she never tried to paint anything unconventional, such as nude figures, street scenes, or urban locales. This painting is considered one such boundary-defined masterpiece.



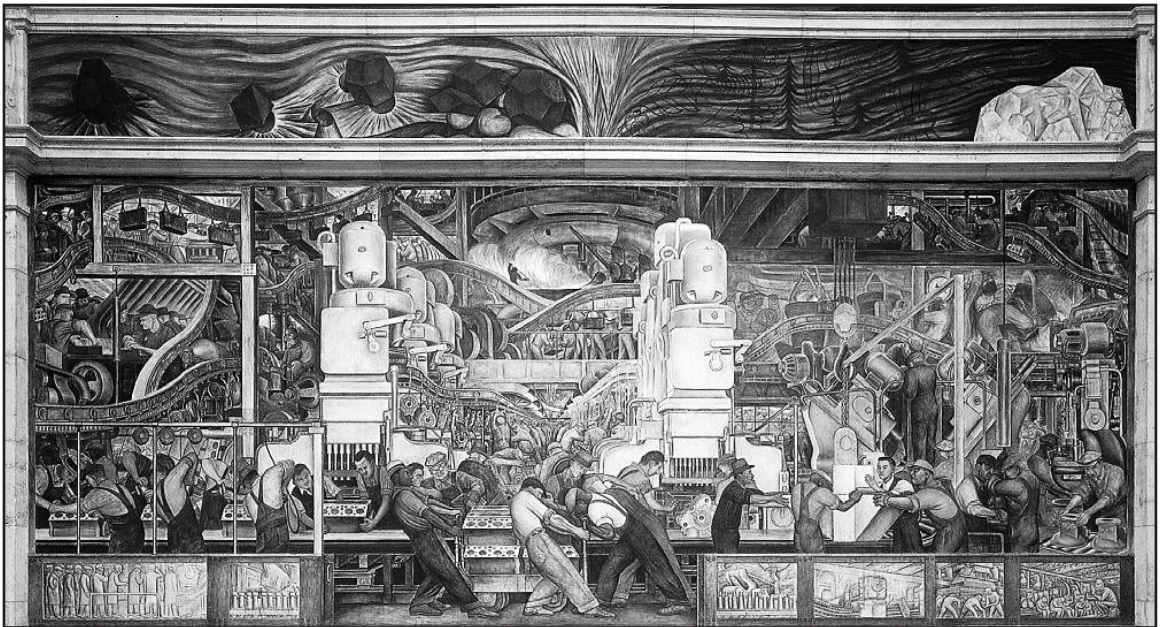
2. This installation artwork was produced from 1974 to 1979 as a collaboration and was first exhibited in 1979. This artwork depicts place settings for 39 mythical and historical famous women. The artist who was the instigator and coordinator of the project, stated that its purpose was to "end the ongoing cycle of omission

in which women were written out of the historical record." This American artist, who is also an author and educator, studied at UCLA and also founded the first Feminist Art program at one of the California State University campuses.

Frescos of Diego Rivera are enjoyed by Jackie H at the Detroit Art Museum

The Detroit Art Museum is a diamond in the rough. Standing amid urban blight, this wonderful place was financed by the Ford family. I had the pleasure of going there when visiting my daughter who was studying in Ann Arbor, Michigan. I was so impressed with the atrium of the museum which displays the fresco of Diego Rivera (1886-1957). In 1932 and 1933 he completed the 27 panels which fill the atrium. "Detroit Industry" is considered the finest example of Mexican mural art in the United States. Rivera believed that art belonged on public walls rather than in private galleries. In this work he explores grand

and complex themes. "Detroit Industry" murals depict industry and technology as the indigenous culture of Detroit. The panels include a tortuous rendition of the Ford Motor company's River Rouge Plant. Other panels depict advances made in medicine and science. Many people objected to the work when it was first unveiled. It was described as coarse, vulgar and un-American. Edsel Ford, patron of the murals, never publicly responded to the outcry. He only issued a simple statement saying "I admire Rivera's spirit. I really believe he was trying to express his idea of the spirit of Detroit."



Join the Fun Committee for an excursion to the PASADENA SHOWCASE HOUSE Saturday, April 30th 9 am - 3 pm

At our February General meeting we took a show of hands to see how many people would rather hire the bus again or just carpool for our trip to Pasadena. After speaking with several members, we have decided to go with Inland Empire Tours again. After all, this IS a GROUP "FUN" trip and if we took separate cars, what would be the point of going together since we would not BE together anyway. Traveling separate defeats the purpose. So we hope you can join us for a great day of fabulous architecture and design, beautiful gardens and, of course, shopping! The cost is \$65 per person, which includes the bus trip, entrance to Showcase and as always, fun and prizes to and from Pasadena.

After our bus ride, we will tour the house, which takes about an hour. Lunch is on our own and is available at several places including a Wolfgang Puck café. There is also a wonderful boutique for shopping! There will be over 40 vendors this year.

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts (PSHA) is a non-profit California Corporation whose members donate their time and talents to produce the annual Showcase House of Design. The women of PSHA are united in their belief in the power and beauty of music. Their goal is to fund programs of music education. More than \$16 million has been awarded to LA Philharmonic and Disney Concert Hall, local symphonies and cultural ed programs since 1948. They sponsor the Music Mobile - equipped with instruments, visited over 100,000 3rd grade classrooms. Their

Youth Concert by the Philharmonic has been attended by over 200,000 4th grade students since 1953. The Youth Competition has awarded \$400,000 in prize money since 1985, ages 16 - 24. This is a wonderful organization. We hope you can join us in supporting PSHA.

A bit about this year's Showcase House - renowned architect, Paul Revere Williams, designed this English County manor in 1927. John Bishop and his wife Lillian, active in Long Beach society, were the original owners. In 1949, it was advertised for sale as the most authentic 17th century English home in this country. It was "architecturally perfect, even to the stables with box stalls and tack and feed rooms, complete in every detail including a riding exercise ring and bridle trails, championship tennis court, a large swimming pool and dressing rooms, picnic grounds and a barbecue adjoining a beautifully landscaped glen." Purchased in 1949, it has remained in the same family for over 60 years.

A fabulous house, beautiful gardens, great food, shopping AND being pampered by your marvelous FUN COMMITTEE....sounds like a perfect day! More information to come following this newsletter. We will be showing a short video about Showcase House at the March General meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Kathi F.



Please join us for our 3rd annual

Bunco Bash

Thurs.-March 24th -6:30 pm

at the Riverside Art Museum

\$15 Cash at the Door

Please bring a cold or hot hors d'oeuvre. Salad, dessert, wine and beverages to be provided by the Fun Committee. Gaming to start promptly at 7:00 pm. \$Cash\$ and fun prizes for winners.

**** Note...if you RSVP to attend and then cannot make it, it is imperative that you call to cancel. We need to know who's coming for the correct table count. Sorry, you may not attend without an RSVP!!**

BRING A FRIEND!!!

HOPE YOU CAN JOIN THE FUN!!!!

WIN \$\$ - PRIZES!!





Calendar

MARCH 2011

- 1 Board Meeting
- 17 General Meeting
- 24 Bunco Bash
- 29 Board Meeting

APRIL 2011

- 14 Past Presidents' Tea
- 21 General Meeting
- 30 Pasadena Showcase House

MAY 2011

- 3 Board Meeting
- 5 - 7 Collectibles Festival
- 26 Annual Meeting

Mark your
calendar:
Our annual
meeting is
May 26th!

Riverside Art Museum
3425 Mission Inn Ave.
Riverside, Ca 92501