



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC.

2014/2015

Report for the year ended July 31, 2015

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I am honored to be writing again on behalf of the trustees of the New Canaan Society for the Arts, Inc. The 2014-2015 season proved to be another success due to the extraordinary efforts of the Co-Directors Arianne Kolb and Eleanor Flatow. The season included six amazing exhibitions, creative new programming and the introduction of exceptional performances by the Madera Winds and Caramoor. The season was also marked by the huge success of our fundraiser Monaco Grand Prix.

Over the year we redefined our strategic plan. The goal was to develop a plan that will allow for steady growth in the years ahead while strengthening our mission to enrich our community through exceptional exhibitions, education programs and cultural experiences. After a lengthy search, we are excited to introduce our new Executive Director Valerie Garlick. She comes to us with an impressive and diverse background in the arts and arts management in Connecticut and New York. She received an MA and MFA and is an artist herself. She has brought that sensibility to her past work as curator, exhibition juror and educator. Her leadership and administrative experience, technological skills, enthusiasm and innovative ideas along with her devotion to fostering community arts appreciation will ensure the continued growth of our organization.

We are looking forward to the 2015-2016 season which will include the 38th Annual Members' Show, Annual Photography Show, Spectrum, Art in the Windows and the return of the High School Show *Through Our Eyes*. Programming will include the Artist Talks, Children's Art Workshops and performances by the Madera Winds and we will also have Caramoor back at the Carriage Barn.

We look forward to another wonderful season full of artistic expression and inspiration. Please visit our website for up to date information on our opening receptions and programming (www.carriagebarn.org).

Sincerely,
Serena Gillespie
President, Board of Trustees
New Canaan Society for the Arts, Inc
September 2015

OUR MISSION

The mission of the New Canaan Society for the Arts, Inc. is to promote the visual and performing arts, and to enrich the community through exhibitions, education, and cultural experiences, and to operate the Carriage Barn Arts Center. The Carriage Barn Arts Center offers artists opportunities to exhibit their work in an exceptional gallery space in a unique nineteenth-century stone barn. Exhibits, lectures and educational workshops, concerts and other events are held in this adaptively reused historical building on the grounds of a former estate, now Waveny Park.

OUR HISTORY

The New Canaan Society for the Arts (NCSA), a member-supported, non-profit cultural organization, was founded by a group of artists and art-lovers in 1895. Much as it is today, the organization's goal was to encourage creative expression, celebrate artistic achievement, and enrich the community as a whole. Little is known of the Society's early years and how long it remained active. It was not until 1977, when a plaque was discovered, that a group of New Canaan residents banded together to re-establish the New Canaan Society for the Arts, Inc. This group of artists and art lovers petitioned the town for the use of the Carriage Barn in Waveny Park, which had remained empty since the purchase of the estate in 1967. Dedicated volunteers restored the charming 100-year old Carriage Barn and within the year opened the doors to offer unique cultural experiences in an exceptional gallery space to the New Canaan community and beyond.

Today the Carriage Barn Arts Center is home to six premier Art Exhibitions annually, including three major juried events, as well as curated Exhibitions featuring both Members and invited artists. In 2011, the Barn launched an initiative designed to showcase the work of talented high school students — and every spring, the Barn sponsors Art in the Windows, which places art in retail shops in New Canaan for the enjoyment of pedestrians and shoppers.

The Carriage Barn is open five days a week from September through June (closed Mondays & Tuesdays). Entrance to the Gallery is free and all Exhibitions are open to the public.

Exhibition Overview

2014 Annual Members' Show

The Carriage Barn Arts Center celebrated the diverse work of its strong contingency of current artist members in its annual Members' Show. All subjects, styles, and media were exhibited in this expansive group art exhibit, in which approximately 150 artists displayed one representative work. This show also highlighted the outdoor sculptures of renowned sculptor Carole Eisner.

At the opening reception, the Carriage Barn Arts Center celebrated winning and receiving the Editor's Pick of Moffly Media's Best of the Gold Coast. It was a great honor for the Carriage Barn to be recognized as one of the leading arts venues in Fairfield County. The programming that was held during the exhibition included a free concert by Madera Winds, an Artists' Talk, and Children's Art Workshops led by exhibiting member artist and teacher Nancy Scranton.



Small Works

The Small Works! art exhibition highlighted small scale art. The work on view by 50 artists, mainly from Connecticut and New York, ranged from delicate drawings, paintings, and photographs to finely crafted sculpture and ceramics. The juror of the exhibition was Lee Findlay Potter, Director of the David Findlay Jr. Gallery in New York, which specializes American painting and sculpture from the late 19th century to the present. Lee is the fifth generation of art dealers in her family and her father David Findlay is a long-time resident of New Canaan.



35th Annual Photography Show

This group art show highlighted the history of photography as well as the development and evolution of the camera. Approximately 120 works from 75 contemporary artists were selected by the juror of the exhibition, Robert Gurbo, who is the Curator of the Estate of André Kertész and the André and Elizabeth Kertész Foundation in New York. He is the author of *André Kertész: The Early Years* and *André Kertész: The Polaroids*. In the late 1970's, Gurbo began working for André Kertész (1894-1985), one of the most inventive, influential, and prolific photographers in the medium's history.

A wide range of subjects, styles, processes and printing techniques were included in this exhibition. Noteworthy techniques included Carrie Brady's interactive metal photo collages that could be rotated and rearranged by the viewer. The lenticular photos by Miggs Burroughs acted as prisms and changed as the viewer shifted position. Ralph Baskin's photographs were produced using an infrared converted camera and then processed with a thermal infrared filter. Such processes, while sometimes difficult to comprehend for the viewer, produced stunning results. The jewel-like quality of Hal Schwartz's platinum palladium prints stemmed from his application of 24k gold leaf. Dan Lenore's striking blue image of a Nautilus shell was achieved using the cyanotype process, in which chemicals produce a cyan-blue print.

In conjunction with the contemporary pieces, the Directors, with the help of exhibiting artist and collector Thomas Mezzanotte, curated a historical section that highlighted some of the cameras and processes employed by photographers over the past 100 years. The exhibition also featured photos by talented middle and high school students. Two lectures were held during the show. The first lecture by exhibiting artist Thomas Mezzanotte was entitled "A Passion for Process: One Artist's Journey through Photographic History" and the second lecture on André Kertész was given by the Juror Robert Gurbo. Two photography workshops for children ages 8 -12 were offered by the artist and teacher Carrie Brady. In addition, exhibiting artist Julie Stauffer taught an iPhone workshop for adults.



Spectrum

This year's exhibition theme, *Elemental Energies*, focused on the four elements, namely earth, air, fire, and water. These four elements of astrological tradition referred to the vital forces or energies that make up the universe. The artwork in the show was grouped according to these four categories. The works in a variety of

media (with the exception of photography) by a group of about 45 contemporary artists were selected by the juror of the exhibition, Amy Smith-Stewart, who is the Curator at the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield.

The artwork in the show ranged from paintings, prints, and mixed media collages to sculptures made of metal, glass, and found materials. The assemblages and sculptures of David Barnett, Robbii Wessen, and Lubomir Tomaszewski referenced the elements of earth, air, fire and water. The New York artist Henry Richardson created a series of glass sculptures inspired by ice caves. His unique technique consists of combining traditional tools of stone sculpting with recent technological innovations in bonding glass. The show also included the works of Domingo Zapata, a Spanish-American artist, who creates bold and energetic paintings, layering fantasy and reality, luring the viewer into his potent, cosmically beautiful world. His striking *Fire Engine Plane* focuses on the explosive quality of an airplane's engines spinning in the sky.

The programming that was held in conjunction with the exhibition included two children's workshops, an Artists Talk, and Caramoor also hosted a performance by the Calidore String Quartet.



Va Va Vroom!

The Carriage Barn Arts Center celebrated artists' captivation with the romance, power and styling of motoring vehicles in its *Va Va Vroom! The Art of the Vehicle* exhibition. The show featured contemporary paintings, drawings, photographs and sculptures by 35 artists as well as vintage advertising posters, motorcycles and car models. Curated by Marianne Brunson Frisch, an art and automobile curatorial and public relations professional, the display highlighted the reciprocal influence of both realms of creative expression.

This group art show honored the history of the 19th-century Carriage Barn. Automobiles, motorcycles, bicycles and planes are evocative muses for fine artists. Symbols of freedom and fantasy, emblems of power and beauty, these "rolling sculptures" have sparked our collective imaginations. Works in all media focused on the various modes of transportation, from the past to the present. Max Itin's *Fins* photographic study of a 1959 Cadillac Eldorado iconizes this symbol of 1950s American automobile design. Miggs Burrough's

Indian lenticular photograph merges two images that alternate as the viewer passes by, conveying adventures from the motorcycle's storied past. The masterfully rendered *Radial Engine* pencil drawing by Andre Junget detailed the elegant craftsmanship of a vintage airplane. Alan Sosnowicz and Ken Scaglia draw and paint reverent portraits of cars, spotlighting their signature features. David Barnett's fanciful flying contraptions are intricately composed of extraordinary found materials. The drama of motorcar and motorcycle racing was captured in the graphically charged prints and advertising posters by mid-20th-century French illustrator Geo Ham on loan from Doug Zumbach. Ham's dynamic compositions heightened the excitement for motoring and aviation competitions, including the 24 Hours of Le Mans and Monaco Grand Prix.

Vintage motorcycles took the stage with three bikes from the collection of New Canaan-resident Buzz Kanter. These two-wheeled sculptures included a British 1930s JAP racer, an American 1947 Indian Chief and a 1966 Café Racer Ducati. Together with a 1915 Harley-Davidson motor and early racing posters, these works demonstrated the inventive ingenuity of engineering and design.

A symposium explored the interrelationship between motoring vehicles and fine art. The collectors Buzz Kanter, Doug Zumbach and Kent Bain, and the artists Chris Osborne and Alan Sosnowicz were among the panelists. Two workshops for children were offered by the artist and teacher Nancy Scranton.



Art in the Windows

The Eighth Annual Art in the Windows exhibition opened on May 30th. The display was organized by the Carriage Barn Arts Center and the New Canaan Chamber of Commerce, featured 63 local artists in 72 New Canaan store windows. This exhibition showcased paintings, drawings, prints, photography, mixed media, and sculpture. The purpose of the exhibit was to promote artistic talent in the town center while increasing customer sales for merchants. This collaboration exemplified the power of partnership between artists, merchants and non-profits.

The event was kicked off with Pop Up ART DAY! Local artists were working “en Plein Air” and there were free art activities for children in the downtown Pop Up Park.

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC BALANCE SHEET

	<u>2,015</u>	<u>2,014</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and short term investments	\$ 230,243	\$ 229,027
Accrued interest	-	-
Accounts Receivable	-	-
Petty Cash	0	95
Prepaid expenses	0	56
	<u>230,243</u>	<u>229,178</u>
CAPITAL ASSETS - furniture and fixtures	<u>3,212</u>	<u>1,098</u>
OTHER ASSETS:		
CBAC Permanent Art Collection	<u>106</u>	<u>106</u>
	<u>\$ 233,561</u>	<u>\$ 230,382</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accrued liabilities	\$ 1,145	\$ 6,307
Payroll taxes	2,647	1,829
Deferred revenue	1,081	1,998
	<u>4,873</u>	<u>10,134</u>
FUND BALANCES:		
Endowment	61,500	61,500
Restricted	7,192	19,171
Unrestricted	159,996	139,577
	<u>228,688</u>	<u>220,248</u>
	<u>\$ 233,561</u>	<u>\$ 230,382</u>

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	2015			2014		
	Temporarily			Temporarily		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
REVENUES						
Art classes/ Workshops/ Lectures	\$ 3,765	-	3,765	\$ 50	-	50
Art sales commissions (net)	13,445	-	13,445	20,926	-	20,926
Direct public support	20,370	-	20,370	18,727	-	18,727
Exhibition fees	17,375	-	17,375	14,770	-	14,770
Foundation grants/ Restricted Funds	10,173	7,192	17,365	7,578	19,171	26,750
Membership dues	20,575	-	20,575	27,225	-	27,225
Rental - facility	15,729	-	15,729	21,039	-	21,039
Rental - apartment	0	-	0	0	-	0
Show donations/ Prizes	7,550	-	7,550	600	-	600
Special events (net)	32,058	-	32,058	36,739	-	36,739
Other	230	-	230	125	-	125
Net assets released from restriction	19,171	(19,171)	-	15,900	(15,900)	-
	160,441	(11,979)	148,462	163,679	3,271	166,951

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

	2015			2014		
	Temporarily			Temporarily		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
EXPENSES						
Accounting	700	-	700			
Advertising	2,290	-	2,290	378	-	378
Classes/ Workshops/ Lectures	4,037	-	4,037	16	-	16
Bank charges	584	-	584	40	-	40
Barn sitters	0	-	0	450	-	450
Building renovation project	7,850	-	7,850	632	-	632
Building maintenance	1,045	-	1,045	1,219	-	1,219
Computer consulting and equipment	2,145	-	2,145	-	-	-
Credit card and paypal fees	1,918	-	1,918	1,592	-	1,592
Custodial	3,713	-	3,713	4,035	-	4,035
Database	738	-	738	914	-	914
Depreciation	4,110	-	4,110	145	-	145
Exhibitions	11,055	-	11,055	11,656	-	11,656
Insurance	6,104	-	6,104	6,046	-	6,046
Memberships	150	-	150	150	-	150
Payroll	69,134	-	69,134	67,881	-	67,881
Payroll taxes	6,153	-	6,153	6,325	-	6,325
Payroll processing fees	400	-	400	436	-	436
Police Fees	1,352	-	1,352			
Postage	887	-	887	1,048	-	1,048
Printing and copying	842	-	842	1,875	-	1,875
Refuse	738	-	738	709	-	709
Rental	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies	901	-	901	1,259	-	1,259
Telephone	1,378	-	1,378	1,342	-	1,342
Utilities	10,580	-	10,580	13,965	-	13,965
Website	349	-	349	657	-	657
Other	2,292	-	2,292	1,499	-	1,499
	141,445	-	141,445	124,269	-	124,269

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

	2015			2014		
	Temporarily			Temporarily		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Increase (decrease) in fund balances						
before investment income	18,996	(11,979)	7,017	39,410	3,271	42,682
Investment income						
Unrealized (loss) gain	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest income	1,422	-	1,422	1,119	-	1,119
	<u>1,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,422</u>	<u>1,119</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,119</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCES	\$ 20,418	(11,979)	8,439	\$ 40,529	3,271	43,801

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC
STATEMENT & FUND BALANCES

	<u>2015</u>			
	<u>ENDOWMENT</u>	<u>TEMPORARILY</u>	<u>UNRESTRICTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>FUND</u>	<u>RESTRICTED</u>	<u>FUND</u>	
		<u>FUND</u>		
Balance, Beginning of Year	\$ 61,500	\$ 19,171	\$ 139,577	\$ 220,248
Increase (decrease) in fund balances	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,979)</u>	<u>20,418</u>	<u>8,439</u>
Balance, End of Year	\$ <u>61,500</u>	\$ <u>7,192</u>	\$ <u>159,996</u>	\$ <u>228,688</u>

	<u>2014</u>			
	<u>ENDOWMENT</u>	<u>TEMPORARILY</u>	<u>UNRESTRICTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>FUND</u>	<u>RESTRICTED</u>	<u>FUND</u>	
		<u>FUND</u>		
Balance, Beginning of Year	\$ 61,500	\$ 15,900	\$ 99,047	\$ 176,447
Increase (decrease) in fund balances	<u>-</u>	<u>3,271</u>	<u>40,530</u>	<u>43,801</u>
Balance, End of Year	\$ <u>61,500</u>	\$ <u>19,171</u>	\$ <u>139,577</u>	\$ <u>220,248</u>

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Increase (decrease) in fund balances	\$ 8,439	\$ 43,801
Adjustments to reconcile increase in fund balances to net cash provided from operating activities:		
Depreciation	4,110	145
(Increase) decrease in operating assets:		
Accrued interest	0	142
Accounts receivable	0	(355)
Petty Cash	95	
Prepaid expenses	56	(132)
Increase (decrease) in operating liabilities:		
Accrued liabilities	(5,161)	(27)
Payroll taxes	818	(173)
Deferred revenue	(917)	78
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>7,440</u>	<u>43,479</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Purchase of capital asset	<u>6,124</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase (decrease) in Cash and Short Term Investments	1,216	43,479
Cash and Short Term Investments - Beginning of Year	<u>229,027</u>	<u>185,548</u>
Cash and Short Term Investments - End of Year	\$ <u><u>230,243</u></u>	\$ <u><u>229,027</u></u>

OUR SPONSORS AND DONORS

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*Every effort was made to include all of our 2014/2015 supporters. Please accept our apologies if any are not included.

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2014/2015 EXHIBITION CO-DIRECTORS:

Arianne Faber Kolb
Eleanor Flatow

CURRENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Valerie Garlick

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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