



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

2018/2019

Report for the year ended July 31, 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Thank you for making 2019 yet another remarkable year for the New Canaan Society for the Arts. This year marked 42 years of service for the organization, promoting the visual and performing arts; enriching the community through exhibitions, education, and cultural experiences; and operating the Carriage Barn Arts Center. Hilary Wittmann, our dedicated Executive Director, has done an incredible job at expanding our outreach while strengthening our programs and services.

We have once again been able to present a wider range of creative exhibitions and introduce the inspiring work of our artist members to a broader cross section of the community.

A few program highlights include:

- Celebrating the interests and talents of our artist members working across all subjects, styles and media in art with our 41st annual *Members' Show*.
- Introducing a *Calling All Animal & Pet Lovers!* community exhibit that showcased animal-themed artwork in painting, drawing, photography, digital art and sculpture.
- Launching a *Capturing Waveny/New Canaan* exhibit and sale where area arts painted, drew, sculpted and photographed outdoor throughout New Canaan.
- Hosting a series of successful *Art, Wine and Jazz* nights with local musicians.
- Presenting *Deck the Walls*, a wreath exhibit and auction featuring the works of local artists and artisans to raise funds to support the operation of the Carriage Barn Arts Center.
- Enriching our community's teen experiences through art with the seventh annual *New Canaan High School Student Exhibition* featuring 113 works in all media.
- Presenting the 29th annual *Spectrum Contemporary Art Show*, a juried exhibition of original, contemporary artwork in all media by local and regional artists.
- Partnering with the New Canaan Chamber of Commerce to exhibit *Art in the Windows* in downtown New Canaan storefronts.
- Developing a series of artist workshops, including a collage and watermedia workshops that explored both watercolor (transparent) and gouache (opaque) paints as well as collage.

Our ongoing goal is to keep our overhead low while increasing our service to the community, and you truly make this possible. The New Canaan Society for the Arts is stronger than ever due to our continually expanding community who comes together to donate time, resources, and talent in support of our important mission.

Thank you for wholeheartedly being a part of the New Canaan Society for the Arts. We are looking forward to so much more in 2020!

Sincerely,
Angela Piscitello
President, Board of Trustees
November 5, 2019

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, a member-supported, nonprofit 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 reestablish 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 premier art exhibitions, including juried events, as well as curated exhibitions featuring both members and invited artists. In 2011, the Carriage Barn launched an initiative designed to showcase the work of talented high school students — and every spring, the Carriage 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 Arts Center is open five days per week from September through June (closed Mondays and Tuesdays). Entrance to the Gallery is free and all exhibitions are open to the public.

EXHIBITION OVERVIEW

41st Annual Members' Show

The New Canaan Society for the Arts annual member show celebrated the range, interests, and talents of artist members working across all subjects, styles, and media in art.

**CARRIAGE
BARN
ARTS
CENTER**

2018 MEMBER SHOW

Opening Reception: September 9, 3-5pm
September 9 - October 13



Gallery Hours: Wed-Sat 10am-3pm & Sun 1-5pm
Carriagebarn.org / 203.594.3638
Waveny Park, New Canaan CT



“Capturing Waveny” Plein Air Event & Exhibit

On Saturday, October 6 artists participated in “Capturing Waveny” throughout the park. Completed works were exhibited and for sale in the gallery. Congratulations to Elizabeth Hasegawa Agresta whose piece Past, Present & Future was selected as “best in show” by the Waveny Park Conservancy. Honorable mentions to Jeanne McDonagh and Elizabeth Higgins. Thanks to all who participated and we look forward to expanding the exhibit in 2019!



Art for ALZ: Memories and Reflections

This was a juried exhibit of work by local and regional artists that represents their connection to or feelings about Alzheimer's and the themes "Love and Light". This year's exhibit featured "Interstellar," an installation by Rhode Island abstract expressionist painter Paul M. Coté. His work can be found in numerous public and private collections including the Smithsonian, Harvard University, Mass General Hospital and the Alzheimer's Association.

During the exhibit there were two live performances of Paul M. Coté working to the sounds of DJ Chakram and Raven King band. Coté created a synchronicity of movement, music, energy, and painting.

A one-of-a-kind Coté piece made up of 100 individual 10"x10" canvases exhibited and sold to benefit the Alzheimer's Association.



CARRIAGE BARN ARTS CENTER presents **ART FOR ALZ** exhibition & sale / Oct. 26 - Nov. 3, 2018
Benefitting the CT chapter of Alzheimer's Association

also featuring Paul M. Coté's installation "Interstellar"

Exhibiting Artist: Julia Anstorp / Gigi Barnett / Murray Beaver / Jean Benoit / Lisa Berger / Paul Berger / Tara Blackwell / Sonia Bombart / Nancy Breakstone / Tom Brenner / Bevi Bulwinkle / Trace Burroughs / Susan Chamberland / Eric Chiang / Heidi Lewis Coleman / Rosa Colon / Reid Dahill / Loren DePalma / Joseph Dermody / John Diamond / Eugene Dierio / Abaneth Dobbins-Adair / June Eschbaum / Phyllis Feinberg / Maria Frasca / Joyce Grasso / Jutta Gross / Jennifer Hill / Gretchen Hoffman / Bill Pickett / Benice Horowitz / Richard James / Joan Jardine / Nicki Kimes / Nicki Kimes / Christina Kumb / Lisa Laible / Nancy Landauer / Nicholas Lepore / MIA Lipskik / Barbara Macdonald / Elena McCoy / Jeanne McDonagh / Susan McHale / Irene Millmore / Mort Slotnick / Midge Monat / Julie O'Connor / Kiyoshi Otsuka / Don Perley / Rachel Peterson / Mary Pat Piro / Melissa Post / Jennifer Glover Riggs / Julia Rose / Christina Sarno / Erika Scully / Judi Silvano / Pamela Skoddar / Juliette Telavani / Caroline Temlock-Teichman / Ann Teitelman / Marjorie Tenschuk / Richard Ventre / Judith Vivell / Kathryn West / Agnieszka Zwierz

Thanks to our sponsors:

Stewart's SPIRITS KOBRAND BRIGHTVIEW SENIOR LIVING ON NEW CANAAN BELTRANO LAW The Greens

2018 Deck the Walls Exhibit

This invitational exhibit featured pieces less than \$200 and all sales benefitted the New Canaan Society for the Arts. During the exhibit, the Carriage Barn also included an artisan marketplace as well as a wreath and centerpiece auction.



DECK THE WALLS

small works / artisan market / all items \$200 or less



Open through Dec. 14



39th Annual Photography Show

With over 780 entries, we were impressed by the wide variety of subject matter and approaches photographers employed. The images selected display exceptional creativity and skill and highlight the diversity of photographic practice among the submissions.

– Jurors, Susan Carlson & Claartje van Dijk, International Center of Photography



39th Annual Photography Show

January 12 - February 15

About the Jurors

Susan Carlson is an assistant curator at the International Center of Photography, where she has organized and co-organized exhibitions, including *Perpetual Revolution: The Image and Social Change* (2017) and *Winning The White House: From Press Prints to Selfies* (2016). She holds a BA in Art History with a minor in Cinema and Media Studies from Carleton College and an MA in Modern Art: Critical and Curatorial Studies from Columbia University. Claartje van Dijk is assistant curator, collections at the International Center of Photography where she conducts research on the over 150,000 historical and contemporary photos and objects in the ICP Museum's collection.

The International Center of Photography (ICP) is the world's leading institution dedicated to the practice and understanding of photography and the reproduced image in all its forms. Since its founding in 1974, it has presented more than 700 exhibitions and offered thousands of classes, providing instruction at every level.

“Through Our Eyes” – 7th Annual New Canaan High School Exhibition

New Canaan High School’s 7th annual art exhibition featured 130 works in all media by 115 current art students in grades 9-12. In this exhibition, the New Canaan Public School District celebrates the skills, creativity, and the personal voice of its New Canaan High School art students. Through Our Eyes VII was presented by the New Canaan Society for the Arts and sponsored by Bankwell, HTG Investment Advisors, William Raveis Real Estate, and The Fritz Eager Foundation for Art Education.



29th Spectrum Contemporary Art Show – “Ditto”

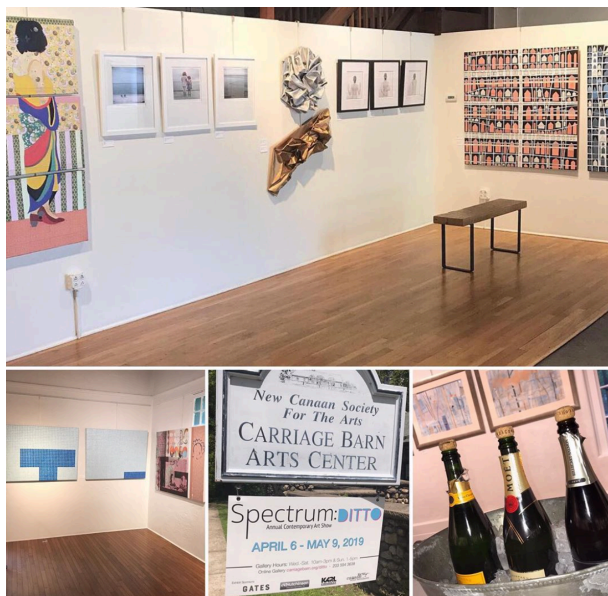
In the Spring, the Carriage Barn Arts Center hosted the 29th annual Spectrum Contemporary Art Show – “Ditto”. Spectrum was a juried exhibition of original, contemporary artwork, and invited submissions in all media.

Through a partnership with Voltz Clarke Gallery, Blair Clarke and Sarah Tortorich were the selected jurors for “Ditto”. Voltz Clarke is a New York City based gallery that maintains a roster of national and international emerging to mid-career artists. This exhibit gave artists the opportunity to showcase multiples – a pair, diptych, triptych or group of pieces that relate to each other. Selected works highlighted the juxtaposition, contrast, comparison, expansion, connection, and separation between the pieces. Jurors looked for submissions of two or more pieces that made statements that were both subtle and obvious as well as complementary and conflicting. Media included painting, prints, drawing, photography, and mixed media. In addition, sculpture that included two or more different pieces that were thematically related and made sense when exhibited together were included.

The jurors also selected a few “Artists to Watch” who were recognized at the opening and throughout the show and who were invited to participate in a special presentation at the Carriage Barn Arts Center.

About the jurors:

Blair Clarke founded Voltz Clarke and saw immediate success with the pop-up formula as executed with her first exhibition, Kaleidoscope. For this collaboration with Ingrao, an elegant townhouse in uptown Manhattan, Clarke placed contemporary works by then unknown British painter Natasha Law and eccentric ‘dripper’ Shane Bradford. Thus, began her signature curatorial gesture of presenting emerging talent to sophisticated audiences in unexpected venues. It was a natural progression for a flagship gallery to be opened after over a dozen years of private art advisory. Voltz Clarke Gallery held its first exhibition in the Fall of 2015 and has continued with rigorous programming ever since.



positions as Director of Galerie Timothy Tew in Atlanta, Georgia and Exhibition Director at Sanford Smith & Associates in Manhattan. Blair Clarke is a member of Art Table, Save Venice, Young Collectors of the Guggenheim and The Young Friends of the Louvre.



Sarah Tortorich grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana and moved to New York City in 2017 to complete her Masters Degree in Arts Administration from the University of New Orleans. Prior to receiving her Masters, Tortorich earned her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Loyola University in New Orleans. From there, she gained over four years of experience working in the art world at Arthur Roger Gallery. After completing her internship at Artspace in Manhattan, the move to Voltz Clarke Gallery was a natural fit.

The Art of Being a Girl Arts Showcase

The Carriage Barn partnered with LiveGirl for the 2nd year to host “The Art of Being a Girl” arts exhibit and celebratory event. The submissions were by local and regional artists in all media that represent “an expression of the feminine essence.” The event featured an artisan and performing arts showcase to benefit LiveGirl, a 501c3 nonprofit organization that provides year-round leadership development and mentoring for girls in grades 5-12 proven to build self-esteem, social emotional intelligence, and foster diversity. In 2018, LiveGirl served over 1,200 young women in its free of charge programs across Fairfield County and is currently partnering with the Connecticut Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs to expand its middle school mentoring program statewide.



11th Annual Art in the Windows Exhibition

In partnership with the New Canaan Chamber of Commerce, we brought the art to downtown New Canaan. The exhibit kicked off with a Color Walk along with activities for kids and receptions in multiple stores along Elm and Main Streets.



Art for Animals

Together with Spencer's Run Dog Park, we put together a community exhibit showcasing animal-themed artwork in painting, drawing, photography, digital art and sculpture, along with poetry. Participation was open to all levels and ages. Prizes were awarded for youth (16 and under) and adults in various categories. Proceeds from the event benefitted the New Canaan Police Department K-9 Program.



The Art for Animals committee with NCPD Officer David Rivera and K9 Apollo. L-R: Jeff McCullagh, Stephanie Conti, Rona Siegel, Amy Allen, Officer Rivera and Apollo, Hilary Wittmann, Siobhan Sack, Allyson Halm, Sue Bird, Holly Schulz, Jana Harvey. Not pictured: Steve Benko, Gaby Beecher, Marcos Torno, Michael Dinan, Ruth Bagshaw, Kit Devereaux.

PROGRAMS

Music

- Michael Louis Smith with Brooklyn Circle
- New World Chorus
- Art Wine & Jazz (wine from Milvinos LLC and jazz quartet led by David DeJesus)
- Treetops Chamber Music Society



Tours

- Jean-Michel Basquiat at the Brant Foundation (NYC)



Workshops

- Kids Workshops



- Adult Workshops & Other Events

Join Us for drinks & hors d'oeuvres at
GATES
10 Forest Street, New Canaan
Thursday, Nov. 29th 5:00-6:30pm
Celebrating a new photography exhibit by CBAC members
Timothy Hardy & Jeanna Shepard



Photo: The Remedy by Jeanna Shepard a portion of sales benefits the Carriage Barn



CARRIAGE BARN ARTS CENTER

Annual Meeting & Artist Talk

Thursday, Jan. 24 at 7pm

*Members and guests are invited to join us for the Election of Trustees
followed by an artist talk by eight photographers with work in the current exhibit*



MIGGS BURROUGHS



MARGARET LEWIS



BARBARA EHLERS



TIM HARDY



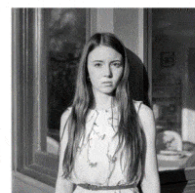
ÁRPÁD KRIZSÁN



ELLEN HOVERKAMP



PAUL BERGER



JEFFREY KELLNER

Talks

Collector & Patron Preview Party and Champagne Tasting Co-hosted by Rachel Pearst during the 39th Annual Photography Exhibit

Rachel joined Phillips in 2015 after eight years in the auction industry. She previously served as the Director of Photographs at Heritage Auctions, working with Photographs, Fine Art, and Historical collections around the United States and holding auctions in Los Angeles, Dallas, and New York. During her tenure, she brought numerous private and corporate collections to the photographs, modern, and contemporary markets. Most recently she was Head of Sale for the *Henri Cartier-Bresson: The Eye of the Century* auction and managed the exhibition *That Day: Laura Wilson, Pictures in the American West*. She graduated from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Arts in Art History and previously held a position assisting the Registrar at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art.



Rachel Pearst: Specialist, Associate Vice President, Photographs, PHILLIPS New York



NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC BALANCE SHEET

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and short term investments	\$ <u>251,682</u>	\$ <u>233,227</u>
CAPITAL ASSETS - Fixed Assets Net	<u>1,126</u>	<u>2,134</u>
OTHER ASSETS:		
CBAC Permanent Art Collection	<u>106</u>	<u>106</u>
	<u><u>252,914</u></u>	<u><u>235,468</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accrued liabilities	3,597	627
Payroll taxes	1,268	1,101
CT Sales Tax	78	0
Rental security deposit	<u>1,850</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>6,793</u>	<u>1,728</u>
FUND BALANCES:		
Endowment	61,500	61,500
Temporarily restricted	8,538	8,700
Unrestricted	<u>176,083</u>	<u>163,540</u>
	<u>246,121</u>	<u>233,740</u>
	\$ <u><u>252,914</u></u>	\$ <u><u>235,468</u></u>

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

	2019				2018		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total		Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
REVENUES							
Art classes/ Workshops/ Lect.	\$ 6,500	-	6,500	\$	14,155	-	14,155
Art sales commissions (net)	16,605	-	16,605		9,567	-	9,567
Direct public support	22,235	-	22,235		14,088	-	14,088
Exhibition fees	20,728	-	20,728		16,479	-	16,479
Found. grants/ Restr. funds	6,100	-	6,100		-	2,500	2,500
Membership dues	23,355	-	23,355		23,975	-	23,975
Rental - facility	39,813	-	39,813		26,655	-	26,655
Rental - apartment	0	-	0		3,355	-	3,355
Show donations/							
Prizes/Sponsorships	9,300	-	9,300		9,013	-	9,013
Special events (net)	13,620	-	13,620		33,862	-	33,862
Other							
Net assets released from restriction	162	(162)	-		10,982	(10,982)	-
	<u>158,418</u>	<u>(162)</u>	<u>158,256</u>		<u>162,129</u>	<u>(8,482)</u>	<u>153,647</u>

NEW CANAAN SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, INC

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

	2019				2018		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total		Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
EXPENSES							
Advertising	\$ 1,928	-	1,928	\$	1,512	-	1,512
Classes/ Workshops/ Lectures	5,661	-	5,661		8,123	-	8,123
Bank charges	60	-	60		30	-	30
Weekend/Rental Coverage (Barn Sitters)	4,751	-	4,751		3,689	-	3,689
Building maintenance	1,897	-	1,897		325	-	325
Computer consulting and equipment	1,278	-	1,278		810	-	810
Credit card and paypal fees	3,037	-	3,037		2,852	-	2,852
Custodial	2,690	-	2,690		1,260	-	1,260
Database	889	-	889		1,232	-	1,232
Depreciation	1,008	-	1,008		1,197	-	1,197
Exhibitions	21,173	-	21,173		31,545	-	31,545
Insurance	5,110	-	5,110		4,684	-	4,684
Memberships	375	-	375		240	-	240
Payroll (Incl. Part Time and SubContr.)	72,354	-	72,354		75,199	-	75,199
Payroll taxes	5,633	-	5,633		4,213	-	4,213
Payroll processing fees	1,328	-	1,328		1,366	-	1,366
Police Fees	0	-	0		397	-	397
Postage	775	-	775		399	-	399
Printing and copying	1,138	-	1,138		890	-	890
Professional Services	541	-	541		800	-	800
Refuse	737	-	737		791	-	791
Supplies	2,379	-	2,379		1,731	-	1,731
Subscriptions	660	-	660		417	-	417
Telephone	55	-	55		144	-	144
Utilities (Heat, Electric, Water)	10,253	-	10,253		7,365	-	7,365
Website (Tech Maintenance)	597	-	597		322	-	322
Other (Other Exp. & Rental Exp.)	355	-	355		551	-	551
	<u>146,662</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,662</u>		<u>152,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>152,083</u>
Increase (decrease) in fund balances before investment income	<u>11,756</u>	<u>(162)</u>	<u>11,594</u>		<u>10,045</u>	<u>(8,482)</u>	<u>1,563</u>
Investment income							
Unrealized (loss) gain	-	-	-		-	-	-
Interest income see above in Revenues	<u>787</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>787</u>		<u>786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>786</u>
	<u>787</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>787</u>		<u>786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>786</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCES	<u>12,543</u>	<u>(162)</u>	<u>12,381</u>		<u>10,832</u>	<u>(8,482)</u>	<u>2,350</u>

SPONSORS AND DONORS

FOUNDATIONS & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

New Canaan Community Foundation
Waveny Park Conservancy
New Canaan Preservation Alliance

EXHIBITION AND EVENT SPONSORS*

Alzheimer's Resource Center	Gates Restaurant	Newcanaanite.com
April + Kelly	The Greens at Greenwich	Palmer's Events & Catering
Austin Patterson Disston Architects	Houlihan Lawrence	A Pankratov & L Schwartz
Bankwell	HTG Investment Advisors Inc	Reynolds + Rowella Accounting and Consulting
Beltrano Law	Hutchinson Tree Care Specialists	Ring's End
Boyd Law Group	Holly & Noah Lapine	Santella Electric
Bright View Senior Living of New Canaan	JANACO	Sorelle Gallery
Brooks & Falotico	Karl Chevrolet	Stephanie Conti Photography
Brown Thayer Shed Insurance	Kobrand Fine Wine and Spirits	Stewart's Spirits
Cathy Kangas Foundation for Animals	Maplewood at Strawberry Hill	Stony Creek Brewery
Charter Oak Brewing Company	Melissa Rwambuya/William Raveis	Venture Photography
Coeur de Cuvee Champagnes	New Canaan Alarm	WAG Magazine
CT Cottages & Gardens	New Canaan Board of Realtors	Wallman Law Firm
DiRusso + Brooks	New Canaan Music	Walter Stewarts
Fritz Eager Foundation for Art Education	New Canaan Veterinary Hospital	Waveny LifeCare Network
The Fuzzball Buddies	New Canaan Wine Merchants	William Ravies Real Estate

*Every effort was made to include all of our 2017/2018 supporters. Please accept our apologies if any are not included.

CURRENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Angela Piscitello, President

Anderson Kenny, Vic President

Collene Torres, Treasurer

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TRUSTEES

Ruth Bagshaw

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Connie Brown

Afsie Djabbari-Aslani

Allison Donaldson

Serena Gillespie

Suzanne Lavieri

Phil Williams

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HILARY WITTMANN

CONTACT INFORMATION

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