

Musings...

MEMBER NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 2018

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

THE NEW DOMESTICS
MAY MEMBERSHIP MONTH
OUR OCEAN'S EDGE
E. CHARLTON FORTUNE
JOAN SAVO
YOUNG DONORS



Lisa Solomon's *Senninbari* installation is made of cotton rope and is approximately 12 feet high by 24 feet wide. Photograph courtesy of the artist.

The New Domestics, Finding Beauty in the Mundane

Where is the beauty in something that is ordinary, humdrum, or tedious? Eight artists in our upcoming exhibition, *The New Domestics, Finding Beauty in the Mundane*, have found some absolutely fabulous answers.

The history of women's domestic arts has long been acknowledged, but the beginnings of "high art" by women can be traced to the "second wave of feminism" from the early 1970s. That movement began to elevate the long-established roles assigned to women by exploring the subject of women's work directly. The artists of *The New Domestics, Finding Beauty in the Mundane* continue this tradition by focusing on how stereotypically domestic processes can transform commonplace household materials into art that grapples with larger social and environmental concerns.

Lisa Solomon incorporates archetypal domestic materials that question identity and the meaning of "women's work."

Victoria May's themes revolve around the tension of opposites, symbolic of struggles inherent in the human condition that allude to society's love of materialism at the cost of natural resources.

Katherine Sherwood's focus is the intersection of art and medicine. Her work questions our perception of body, time, and identity.

Mitra Fabian's work pits organic against electronic materials, revealing the odd contradictions that often underpin our lives.

Maria Porges' lifelong relationship with the printed word lies behind her exploration of books as both sculptural material and subject matter. In their new

life as art objects, they both reclaim their value and demonstrate the decreasing role of the printed word in a digital media world.

The Temple Sisters (Holly and Ashlee) work in tandem to create mixed media work which reflects a fascination with the effect of time and memory upon domestic and public issues.

Susan Abbott Martin's use of hand-embroidered textiles often stimulates nostalgia and empathy for the worker behind the textile.

Judy Shintani uses deconstructed women's garments to center our senses and memory, serving as powerful sources for connection and storytelling.

—Gail Enns, Guest Curator



The New Domestics, Finding Beauty in the Mundane on view July 20 – October 28, 2018. Learn more at montereyart.org



From the Executive Director

Dear MMA Members and Friends,

Women artists are not only "as good as the men," as male critics used to say in the 1950s, some of them have blazed new trails where no man has gone before.

To see what we mean, just drop by any exhibition this year at MMA.

From the wildly creative Pop Art images of local artist Alyssa Endo, to the mid-century paintings of Joan Savo, each exhibition surprises and delights in its own way. The work of Joan Savo includes a great new acquisition—a 1957 abstract that reflects the "Beat" aesthetic of that era.

By bringing to light important women artists past and present, we hope to inspire greater inclusion and dynamic exchanges about women's art, identity, and cultural impact.

We invite you to share your thoughts and experiences about your Museum visit, and hope to see you in our galleries soon!

Artfully yours,

Stuart A. Chase

Executive Director,
Monterey Museum of Art
schase@montereyart.org

May is Membership Month!

With National Museum Day falling on May 18, we have chosen May as Museum Membership Month. It's our way of saying "thank you" to the community, as well as offering a few special opportunities only available to Members including:

- A special viewing hour for *E. Charlton Fortune: The Colorful Spirit*
- A day for Members to bring a friend to visit the Museum for free
- Members-only wine and hors d'oeuvre openings and events throughout the year

If you are not already a Museum member you're missing out! Along with financial savings, special perks, and being part of a community that is passionate about art, Contributor level members and above have access to over 800 affiliate museums throughout North America.

A few other May Membership Month incentives for both Members and Non-Members:

- Receive a free month of membership when you honor an important woman in your life by giving them the gift of membership.
- Enter our weekly Contributor Membership Raffle! If you win as a current Member, you may give the Contributor Membership (\$125 value) as a gift.



May Membership Month perks include *E. Charlton Fortune The Colorful Spirit* catalogue plus more.

- Receive a free *E. Charlton Fortune: The Colorful Spirit* catalogue and an MMA tote bag* when you join or upgrade to a Supporter Membership (\$300) or a Donor Circle Membership (\$1,000+).

We look forward to seeing you in our galleries soon!

**If you are currently a Supporter Member, you must upgrade to a Donor Circle Membership to receive the incentive.*



Learn more about Museum membership at montereyart.org/members or email membership@montereyart.org

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018

TRIBUTES

In honor of Stuart Chase
by *Dan Baldwin and Anne Ylvisaker*

In honor of Stuart Chase
by *Nicola Samra*

In honor of the impactful contributions made in 2017–2018 by former MMA teammates: Leslie Hallman, Katy Lack, Erika D'Auria, Patricia Bolen, and Kinsey Dickson by *Frank Chezem*

Our Ocean's Edge

A Convergence of Beauty, Art, and Conservation

A fine arts photographer, Jasmine Swope has traveled the world capturing landscapes, from Southwest deserts to the English countryside, to the volcanoes of Iceland. The focus of her true passion, however, are waterscapes. "As far back as I can remember," she says, "I've been happiest near a body of water."

That joy led Jasmine to collaborate with author Dwight Holing on a photo documentary exploring the shores of California's Marine Protected Areas.

The result is *Our Ocean's Edge*, an art-book and photo exhibition that has traveled the country and will be on view at MMA June 14 – September 10.

Jasmine's quest took her up and down California's 1,100-mile-long coastline. Hundreds of hours were spent on the rocky outcroppings of dozens of protected sea preserves. Her use of long exposures and large-format black and white, give her images a soft luminosity, like mysterious landscapes glimpsed on another planet.

Blending images with Dwight's narrative, *Our Ocean's Edge* hopes to inspire a deeper connection to the natural world. "It's crucial to our survival here on Earth," Jasmine says.



Point St. George Reef Offshore State Marine Conservation Area. Photograph by Jasmine Swope.

"Our Ocean's Edge hopes to inspire a deeper connection to the natural world."

"Elkhorn Slough and the Ed Ricketts State Marine Conservation Area are two of 17 Marine Protected Areas in Monterey County," adds Rachel Saunders, Director of Conservation at the Big Sur Land Trust.

The biggest danger to our coast? Lack of awareness. "Chemicals tossed in storm drains and discarded plastic that birds and fish mistake for food are common hazards," Rachel says. "We have to remember we share beaches and the sea with other beings. It's like we're visiting someone else's home."



Our Ocean's Edge on view June 14 – September 10, 2018. Learn more at montereyart.org

MEMORIALS

In memory of her husband J. Ritchie Dunn by *Carol Anne Swenson-Dunn*

SUPPORTERS *Year of the Woman 2018*

Sandra and Ned Dewey
Susan DuCoeur
Judith and Frank Marshall
Old Monterey Foundation

➔ Would you like to join the ranks of supporters of the Year of the Woman 2018 or special exhibitions throughout the year?

Contact Deanne Glaser at 831-372-5477 x105 or email advancement@montereyart.org

Events Calendar **#yearofthewoman**

APR

↪ NEW MUSEUM HOURS

The Museum has new hours of operation:

- Open Daily 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Closed Wednesday (except for school tours)

↪ NEW

Host Your Event at MMA La Mirada

MMA La Mirada is now available to rent for limited private functions. For more information, please contact Operations Coordinator, Maureen Halligan, at (831) 372-5477 x101 or events@montereyart.org.

Sunday, 4/1

Easter

11:00 am – 5:00 pm
The Museum is open!

↪ WORKSHOP

Tuesdays, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24

Makers Tuesdays: Silk Painting Workshop with Dianna Shea O'Briant
6:00 – 8:00 pm
\$140 Members, \$180 Non-Members

In this hands-on silk-painting workshop, Dianna takes you step-by-step through conceptualizing, drawing, color mixing, and painting on silk canvases. You'll experiment with several techniques and create your own masterpieces to take home.

↪ FREE

Saturday, 4/7

Free Family Fun Day: Who Runs the Art World? Girls!

11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Free Family Fun Day at the Museum offers educational art activities for all ages. Today's theme "Who Runs the Art World? Girls!" includes creative art projects inspired by the colorful work of women artists past, present, and future.

Sunday, 4/15

Currents: Kim Campbell, exhibition closes

Friday, 4/20

Currents: Robin Sawyer, exhibition opens

Saturday, 4/28

Women in Art Spring Gala (at Tehama Golf Club)

5:30 – 11:00 pm

Celebrate women in art at this decade-themed black tie gala! Enjoy cocktails, music, dinner, a live auction, art, and an after party—all to support the Museum's exhibitions and educational public programs which serve our community. To purchase tables, tickets, or for more information, please visit montereyart.org/gala.

MAY

↪ MEMBERS ONLY

Friday, 5/4

Bring a Friend to the Museum Day

11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Members are invited to bring a friend to the Museum for free. Stroll the galleries and delight in art together!

Friday, 5/4

Stuart A. Chase Lecture (at Hopkins Marine Station, Boatworks Lecture Hall)

1:00 – 5:00 pm

As part of the annual three-day Steinbeck Festival, and in step with the theme, "The Women of Steinbeck's World," Executive Director Stuart Chase will give a lecture on MMA's Year of the Woman 2018 during the Festival's seminar talks. Visit steinbeck.org for tickets and details.

↪ FREE

Monday, 5/7 and 5/21

Mommy and Me Mondays

10:00 – 11:00 am

New moms with infants are invited to drop-in for a casual meet-up, conversation, and an exclusive tour through our galleries. A great chance to meet other moms and introduce little ones to the world of art!

Mondays, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21

Lecture Series: Salon Jane

1:00 – 2:00 pm

Free for Members, Public Free with Admission

An engaging lecture series featuring photographers from the upcoming Salon Jane exhibition. Salon Jane is a group of six internationally recognized Monterey Bay area photographers whose captivating work pushes the boundaries of their craft.

Sunday, 5/13

Currents: Robin Sawyer, exhibition closes

↪ FREE

Friday, 5/18

National Museum Day
11:00 am – 5:00 pm

To celebrate National Museum Day, the Museum invites you to visit for free! We are an American Alliance of Museums accredited museum—the only accredited art museum between San Jose and Santa Barbara!

Friday, 5/18

Currents: TBD, exhibition opens

↪ FREE

Saturday, 5/19

Free Family Fun Day: Summer Fun

11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Free Family Fun Day at the Museum offers educational art activities for all ages. With "Summer Fun" as today's theme, kids can preview and explore the kinds of projects offered in our upcoming summer camps!

↪ MEMBERS ONLY

Friday, 5/25

Members' Morning for

E. Charlton Fortune: The Colorful Spirit

10:00 – 11:00 am

Free for Members

Members are invited to sip some coffee and enjoy the exhibition during this special viewing hour.

Friday, 5/25

Opening Reception for

E. Charlton Fortune: The Colorful Spirit

5:30 – 6:30 pm, Members' Reception

6:30 – 7:30 pm, Public Reception

Free for Members, Public Free with Admission

JUN

↪ SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 6/4 – Friday, 6/8

Little Inklings

Ages: 5 – 8

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

\$180 Members, \$200 Non-Members

Kids can let their imagination loose in this fun printmaking class where they'll design and create linocut prints, batik, sun prints and even their own tote bag! Instructor: Museum Educator, Claire Fuerst

➔FREE

Friday, 6/8

A Lecture on E. Charlton Fortune by Scott Shields, Ph.D. (at MIIS Auditorium)

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Members' pre-registration through 5/18, Public registration 5/18 – 6/8

Scott A. Shields, Ph.D. is Associate Director and Chief Curator at the Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento. Shields will chronicle E. Charlton Fortune's fascinating biography and colorful artistic legacy through stories, anecdotes, and powerful paintings.

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 6/11 – Friday, 6/15

Robotics using LEGO WeDo

Ages: 6 – 8

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

\$215 Members, \$235 Non-Members

Build and program robots in this fun introductory robotics class using the LEGO® WeDo® system. Learn simple programming skills, engineering concepts, and robot components. Use teamwork to complete several projects using tilt and motion sensors.

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 6/11 – Friday, 6/15

Robotics using LEGO EV3 System

Ages: 9 – 12

1:00 – 4:00 pm

\$215 Members, \$235 Non-Members

Build and program robots using the new LEGO® Mindstorms EV3 system. Learn mechanical and software design, loops, problem solving, and teamwork to program, build, and control your robot to avoid obstacles, pick up and carry objects, and play sounds.

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 6/18 – Friday, 6/22

Seedlings

Ages: 5 – 8

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

\$180 Members, \$200 Non-Members

A fun-filled week of indoor and outdoor nature projects where kids can get their hands dirty! Experiment with flower pressing, gardening, making mosaics, and creating nature-inspired crafts. Instructor: Museum Educator, Dianna Shea O'Briant

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 6/25 – Friday, 6/29

Creature Creations

Ages: 5 – 8

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

\$180 Members, \$200 Non-Members

Take a walk on the wild side! This week kids will sculpt, paint, draw and collage their favorite animals, bugs, and other critters while experimenting with different art media and techniques. Instructor: Museum Educator, Stephanie Langley

➔MIX & MINGLE

Friday, 6/29

Ferment Event

6:00 – 9:00 pm

\$10 Members, \$15 Non-Members, Punch cards for purchase day of event

To celebrate "The Year of the Woman" we're calling attention to some of our most amazing local wine, beer, and kombucha vendors that are women-owned or operated. Drop by to mix and mingle. Great raffle prizes! This is a 21 and over event.

Saturday, 6/30

Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association Pop-Up (at MMA La Mirada)

9:30 am – 5:00 pm

\$100 Members, \$125 Non-Members

Enjoy a day-long plein air painting workshop in the gardens of MMA La Mirada with assistance by Ellen Howard from the MBPAPA. Artists can paint among the beautiful rose gardens, cypress trees, stone pathways, and charming courtyards of this historic adobe setting. Space is limited, reserve early.

Upcoming

Sunday, 7/1

Open Painting in the MMA La Mirada Gardens

9:30 am – 3:00 pm

\$15 Members, \$20 Non-Members

A special opportunity for the public to create and relax among the beautiful rose gardens, cypress trees, stone pathways, and charming courtyards of this historic adobe setting.

Wednesday, 7/4

Fourth of July

1:00 – 5:00 pm

The Museum is open!

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 7/9 – Friday, 7/13

STEM Challenge with LEGO

Ages: 8 – 12

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 7/9 – Friday, 7/13

Stop-Motion Moviemaking with LEGO

Ages: 8 – 12

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Wednesday, 7/11

Annual Members' Meeting

5:30 – 7:00 pm

MMA Members are invited to learn and share thoughts about our "Year of the Woman 2018" programs and exhibitions, as well as plans for our 25th annual *Miniatures* exhibition, and MMA's 60th Anniversary in 2019.

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 7/16 – Friday 7/20

Mind Over Medium

Ages: 12 – 16

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 7/23 – Friday, 7/27

Mine, Craft, Build: Adventure Game LEGO

Ages: 5 – 7

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

➔SUMMER CAMP

Monday, 7/23 – Friday 7/27

Mine, Craft, Build: Adventure Game LEGO

Ages: 7 – 11

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Monday, 8/13 – Monday, 9/10

Miniatures 2018 Submissions Accepted

Visit montereyart.org for submission details and guidelines.

➔SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, 9/29

Fall Fundraiser

One of our most popular annual events, this is a fantastic evening of art, wine, and music. A great way to connect with the local community and lend support to the Museum's mission!



Visit us at montereyart.org for additional details about the Museum's upcoming programs and events.



Archival materials from E. Charlton Fortune include press clippings, travel notes, diaries, and other personal notes. Photograph by Frank Chezem.

Beyond the Canvas

Part of Roxanne O'Weger's job as Curriculum Coordinator at MMA is to research featured artists and share her insights with visiting schools and volunteer docents. Her encounter with the work of E. Charlton Fortune turned out to be a personal goldmine:

"A part of my heart went out the door with *Hatton Ranch*—E. Charlton Fortune's Carmel Valley landscape—the day it was packed up for *E. Charlton Fortune: The Colorful Spirit*. Several years ago, I discovered my passion for art as well as art education while pondering that painting.

In writing this piece for *Musings*, I was thrilled by the chance to explore our E. Charlton Fortune archives. I dove deep into boxes of files and letters, travel diaries, and scrapbooks. I found her letters to be witty and a little

self-deprecating, with the occasional peppering of off-color language, but generally gracious.

Seeing her friendships and hardships spread out before me, I was getting to know 'Effie,' the charming and fiercely independent woman.

Not afraid to challenge the status quo, she held true to her belief that art by women didn't have to be delicate or feminine, but could be bold and vigorous. It is how she managed to succeed as a female artist in a male-dominated art world.

She was also direct and authoritative when it came to matters of liturgical art, a project that was close to her heart.

What captured my attention most was a small notebook containing her observations about life and art. One passage was circled and underlined, and it read 'The art of this period will be judged harshly by children now in their parents' arms. The following generation will have a more balanced judgement. What survives takes a precarious place in art history.'



E. Charlton Fortune, *Hatton Ranch*, 1920, oil on canvas, Bequest of Robert J. Dwyer, 2010.

I think Ms. Fortune would be gratified to know that her paintings paved the way for women artists everywhere, and are being used today to teach our newest generation about great art."



E. Charlton Fortune: The Colorful Spirit, on view May 24 – August 27, 2018. Learn more at montereyart.org



Joan Savo (1918–1992), *Untitled Abstraction*, 1957, oil on panel, 23.75 x 11.75 inches. Gift of Marc H. Hinchey in memory of his mother, Margi Hetchel Carey, 2017.031.

Joan Savo

From the Museum's Permanent Collection

The work of Joan Savo (1918–1992) is widely familiar on the Monterey Peninsula. Active in San Francisco during the 1950s and 60s, and later in Pacific Grove, Savo is distinctive for her broad-brushed human figures that evoke drama and mood. She had many exhibitions, including a solo exhibition at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor in 1964. One San Francisco art critic described her work as “Profound... achieving an inner absorption and sense of the human dilemma.”

In the 1970s, Savo experimented with bold, colorful abstractions. The MMA has many examples of her figurative and later abstract work—yet it wasn't until Marc Hinchey of Houston Texas, presented us with the untitled 1957 painting on the left, that we acquired our first abstract from Savo's mid-

century work. With its geomorphic forms and tribal motifs, it's a delightful interpretation of the “Beat” aesthetic of that era.

Special thanks to Docent Council President John Greenwald for pointing Mr. Hinchey in our direction.



This new acquisition (left) and other Savo works from MMA's collection on view March 15 – April 22, 2018 in *Joan Savo Through the Years*. Learn more at montereyart.org

**Contribute to making art
a reality for everyone in
our community!**

Women in Art Spring Gala
Tehama Golf Club
April 28, 2018, 5:30 – 11:00 pm

1900...1920...1960...1980...What era inspires you?
A Decade Themed Black Tie Gala
Cocktails, Music, Dinner, Live Auction,
Art, and After Party

Gala Chairs
Monica Graham and Adriana Hayward

TICKETS AND TABLES AVAILABLE

To purchase, please visit montereyart.org/gala,
email gala@montereyart.org or call
831.372.5477 x105.



2017 Spring Gala attendees celebrate during the live auction in support of the Museum's many education programs and exhibitions.



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Musings...

Musings is a quarterly publication for
Members of the Monterey Museum of Art

OUR MISSION

The Monterey Museum of Art expands
a passion for the visual arts and inspires
an appreciation of California art—past,
present, and future.

OUR VISION

MMA is a celebrated center where art
and community intersect.

STAY CONNECTED

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TOP5 Reasons to Become a Young Donor

At the Monterey Museum of Art (MMA) our donors come from all walks of life. One thing everyone has in common is a love for art. Art can be admired at any age, so why should becoming a donor to support the arts be any different? Anyone who donates to support an organization or cause will tell you how good it feels to be a part of something that makes a difference. Here are five reasons why you should become a young donor at the Monterey Museum of Art:

1. Community

Whether you join as a member or make a donation, you become part of a community of people who share your passion for art.

2. Benefits

Membership gives you a full year of free admission, plus invitations to events and special programs, discounts, and other MMA benefits. Also, donations may be tax-deductible.*

3. Education

When you support MMA, you ensure that the Museum's educational programs and activities remain accessible to all.

4. Experiences

As a member, you open yourself to new experiences. These include seeing something you might not otherwise see, sharing a moment with friends or family members, gaining inspiration, and much more.

5. Legacy

When you support MMA as a donor, you make it possible for the Museum to collect and preserve California art for future generations.

** The Monterey Museum of Art is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your gift is tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. Please consult your tax advisor regarding the specifics of deductibility.*



Learn more about becoming a
Museum member or donor at
montereyart.org/members