Interactive Exhibit:
Try your hand at sketching. Visit the interactive art table in the gallery.

In Our Gift Shop:
A limited number of artist signed original lithographs

Le 52 faubourg Saint-Martin by Andre Renoux

On View June 2012

Current Exhibit:

A Parisian Affair!
The Art of
ANDRE RENOUX

www.POLASEK.org
Dear Friends of The Polasek:

I am overwhelmed by the energy that has invaded this museum and am thankful for the support so many of you have lent. In this newsletter we are reporting on the array of activities over the past month, among them the Fourth Annual Winter Park Paint Out, of which I can say without hesitation was the best ever! The dedication of our wonderful staff, our committed Board, and consistent sponsors and donors gelled into a week that was thrilling for the artists and for our community. The founder of this event, Hal Stringer, always brings such passion for the artists and their work that it infects us all. And, this year’s Paint Out Committee Chair and Trustee, David McLeod, supported by Trustee Carolyn Bird and a troop of friends, added a new level of management and organization that yielded a seamless and smooth serious of fun-for-everyone events. We are truly blessed to have their leadership and support.

On another note, recently The Spirit of the Woods, a small bronze by Albin Polasek, came available at auction. This was a Polasek work which the museum did not have. At the same time, we learned that the 1915 Widener Gold Medal, one of Mr. Polasek’s pinnacle career awards, came on the market. The Board challenged each other to raise the necessary funds; and with gentle, loving encouragement by our research specialist, Trudy Furno, rose to the moment; and now, these treasures will come home to The Polasek. A special shout out to Trustees Michael Kakos and Ann Polasek for their unyielding determination in this effort.

Also, look up!!! Soon, along Aloma Avenue in the vicinity of the Museum, you will see new banners that illustrate some of the wonders found here at The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens. If you haven’t visited in a while, plan to come and experience the beauty of this extraordinary place.

—Mark Terry,
President of the Board of Trustees
The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens hosted its Fourth Annual Winter Park Paint Out during the last week of April, 2012. If you were fortunate enough to participate, you know what a great week it was! Daily demonstrations were well attended and received rave reviews. In addition, the hustle and bustle around Winter Park and on the museum grounds was inspiring. Our generous sponsors enhanced the experience by providing wonderful food, beverages, and helped underwrite the week’s memorable activities. Twenty-five artists both from in town and out of state found inspiration here and created over 200 original paintings, exceeding the records of all Paint Outs of past years. For the fourth year in a row, the Paint Out Garden Party was a sellout.

Planning for the 2013 Paint Out will soon be underway, and next year’s event promises to be even more exciting! To be sure you don’t miss a single minute of the 2013 Winter Park Paint Out, visit our website at www.polasek.org as details become available. You’ll want to be a part of it!

Thank you to our Generous 2012 Winter Park Paint Out Sponsors
You Are Greatly Appreciated!
A Big Thank You To Our Wonderful Volunteers!!!!
Trudy Furno

The Polasek Museum is indebted to a fantastic group of “indoor” volunteers who make our operation run smoothly. After learning the ropes in the gallery, receptionists hospitably welcome guests, process admission fees, give a brief overview of what can be seen and enjoyed at the Polasek Museum, sell merchandise in the gift shop, and stay abreast of changing information to answer visitors’ questions during their stay. Some of our volunteers have studied the art and history of Albin Polasek and perform docent duties, showing groups through the historic home and chapel, imparting interesting information tailored to each group’s guests. Also, our volunteers step up and pitch in when there is a special event on the horizon. Call 407 647-6294 if you’d like to be a part of our volunteer corps!

We gratefully acknowledge the time and devotion each contributes to the Museum! Thank you to the following incredible people who have regularly helped the Polasek over the past year:

Kristie Altman, David Andrukiewicz, Margaret Barnes, Angelique Barton, Frank Billetter, Lisa Duda, Margo Cooper, Ilene Fallow, Katie Folse, Sarah Khalaf, Georgia Langdon, Veronica Lee, Lourdes Lopez, Stephanie Lopez, Elizabeth Nelson, Molly Omens, Victoria Otero, Patty Piazza, Gail Peck, Sara Pratt, Cherri Ramgoolam, Tanya Ressetar, Susan Vernon-Devlin, and Lou and Anita Williams

Welcome to new volunteers
Lauren Ferrara, Patrick Hanley, Caroline Marshall, Kevin Mercer, Jarrod Pope, Arielle Study, and Sabrina Tucker

THANK YOU to all!

Become A Member Today!
Call Bena at 407-647-6294  Email: bgreene@polasek.org

Volunteer Opportunities
Call Trudy at 407-647-6294  Email: tfurno@polasek.org

Photo: Randall Smith
A Model Experience
By Curator Rachel Frisby and Trustee Pam Paisley

This year’s Paint Out was my first experience with “Plein Air Painting.” It was absolutely magical to see the artists bring fresh, wet paintings in every day. It was even more of a conjuring trick to see their paintings take shape within a few short hours! The painting demonstrations throughout the week were well attended, enlightening, and incredibly entertaining. Participating artist, Bill Farnsworth, taunted and demonstrated on how to integrate figures into the landscape. But he did more than that.

Several of the other 212 paintings created during the Paint Out also included figures, but Bill’s painting stood out to me as not just a figurative painting, but a true portrait. It was special because not only portrayed the model’s physical likeness and surrounding, but it forever captured the inner spirit of the individual. Anyone who knows Pam Paisley, the model and one of our beloved museum trustees, can tell you that she is happiest and most in her element when she is just as the paintings title suggests, “in the garden.”

This painting also brings to mind other classic portraits created by master artists such as Jean-Honoré Fragonard, Mary Cassatt, or Seymour Joseph Guy, who all depicted lovely ladies, seated, and reading a book. But I have always wondered what’s it like to sit for a portrait? Here to answer that question is the model herself, Pam Paisley.

When a model was sought for the Bill Farnsworth demonstration, I simply thought it would be a relaxing opportunity to spend an hour sitting in the sun reading in the gardens — without having to weed. The tableaux was set: model seated in Adirondack chair wearing a flowing dressing of a solid color and a straw hat. Creating the composition was clearly a garden-design exercise, and we ran into trouble almost immediately. My only flowing dress was yellow linen and so was the chair!!!! Not enough contrast! One would disappear against the other. I could shop for a new dress or paint the chair. Painting the chair definitely would require less effort and I had always wanted a cobalt blue chair in the garden anyway. Surely, the paint would dry overnight.

Bill placed the now vivid blue chair on a broad plane of rich new grass with a shady background of salvias and wildflowers. He seated me thirty feet from the easel, I could barely hear his explanations, but there was frequent laughter and the occasional call, “How are you doing?” After an hour in the chair and with tiring posterior, with only the occasionally glance over to sneak a peak, Bill finally offered me a break and the opportunity to see what he had created.

It was astounding! There is something quite magic about the starkness of the white canvas and how the painter reveals his subject onto it. It was almost as if the image came out of the canvas. My likeness, with light, shadow and reflection was exposed and complete. The background was yet to come.

Released from the chair, I watched as he recreated our gardens so deftly. With little to no understanding of the painter’s art, I gawked in fascination as Bill skillfully created the dark shadows first and then brought light into the canvas. With a few more brush strokes I recognized the misty shape and form of the agaves. A few more and they were clearly Variegated, just as we saw them. With every stroke and daub, he artfully planted a garden. It was beautiful. How did he do that?

As the other members of Bill’s audience oohed and aahed over the finished piece, I felt a strange affinity with the queens, princesses and all the women whose likenesses gaze down from high on museum walls. Did they too experience the magic of seeing themselves through another person’s eyes?
Notes from the Garden . . .

Summertime and The Livin’ is Easy

Not so for our intrepid gardeners who will endure the already searing heat. This will be a great time for us to stay cool and make improvements to the shade gardens. The fernery will get an infusion of new ferns. Across the way, the Bromeliad Trail will get a terrific tidy up and the plantings around the Rainbow Eucalyptus will be simplified.

Summertime is definitely not so easy for most of the flowers we have enjoyed from November to May. Over the next few weeks you can watch the landscape change. We will be using a several varieties of coleus, Mexican Sage, vinca, gomphrena, torenia and continue to use a variety of salvias, all heat loving summer annuals.

What I Learned at Paint Out

I had a lovely early morning chat with Lexington, NC painter, Howard Frontz, whose comparisons of landscape painting and landscape design revealed interesting artistic similarities. He invoked the concept of the Golden Mean, a ratio of 1.161 derived from an algebraic formula that would interest only some of us! Yet, it is that proportion which when executed yields perfection. It just looks “right.” To ancient Greek philosophers the Golden Mean meant balancing three “ingredients” to beauty: symmetry, proportion, and harmony. The artist and gardener must balance all the elements, either on canvas or on the land, without overwhelming one element or another.

Harold helped me see that both the artist and the gardener ideally use geometric planes in our work: lawns, lakes, sky, all broad expanses of color. These spaces are where the eye seeks to rest. To that we attempt to add other interest; texture, more color, light and line. For the gardener texture is expressed in leaf and plant size and shape, interesting bark, variegation, and uses shadow and negative space. Color appears in the plants and flowers we choose, and in the backgrounds and textures as well. While only the most formal of gardens have perfect mirror-image symmetry, a comforting rhythm can be achieved by balancing similar shapes, sizes and hues in a harmonic repetition.

Harold really helped me see a more structured way of working in the gardens. When something just doesn’t look “right,” I have a new way of assessing why. Thanks Harold! —Pam Paisley

Where Have All the Impatien Gone?

This Spring did you plant Impatiens walleriana, the common impatien that is a standard for shade gardens? Did you watch helplessly as they melted away? You are not alone; we did too. Downy mildew, caused by a fungus, Plasmodiopyra obducsens, is a new threat to impatien and other landscape plantings. Standard garden impatien, including doubles, minis and hybrids such as Fusion® impatiens are considered at risk.

Early symptoms can be very subtle. Look for a slight stippling or chlorosis of the leaves similar to a nutritional deficiency or spider mite injury. Leaves can exhibit a slight flagging or curling downward, sometimes giving the appearance that the plants need to be watered. Under the right conditions, you will see white-colored spores undersides of the foliage, though spores may not always be present, especially in warm and dry conditions. In advanced stages, plants will appear stunted, can drop their leaves and flowers, and collapse.

What to do:

Look for symptoms of yellowing foliage or stunting, and entirely remove (roots included) any infected plant immediately. Remove and dispose of infected plants and do not compost the infected plant material. Downy mildew can be spread short distances via water splash from infected plants and greater distances via windborne spores from infected plants in nearby landscapes. Downy mildew thrives in moist or humid and cool conditions. Overhead irrigation (especially night-time irrigation), crowded plant spacing, shading, or any conditions that result in long periods of leaf wetness will increase risk of infection and the rate of disease development and spread. Spraying with a fungicide appropriate for Downy Mildew may or may not help.

If you simply must have impatien in your gardens look for New Guinea impatien and Sunpatiens which are not considered susceptible - for now. Sadly, our major local suppliers have indicated they will not be growing impatien for the foreseeable future.
A Call For Volunteers - We Need You!

Like Uncle Sam, we need you! All of you who admired the beauty of the gardens as you strolled the Paint Out, we need you. If you thought the gardens look good, they could look great! Many hands make light work, and we have fun at the same time. An hour or two of your time on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday morning would be a tremendous boon. I have visited many Volunteer-based gardens and the Polasek outshines them all. You too could share in our pride. Contact Pam or Byron in the garden or call the office at 407-647-6294.

Garden Wish List . . .
♦ Hoses - 25 or 50 ft
♦ sprayer nozzle attachments for hoses (these break with great regularity)
♦ Osmacote
♦ Preen
♦ Round UP
♦ 28 oz hand spray bottles for chemicals
♦ zip ties
♦ cheap cotton gloves
♦ new hedge shears

Please contact the office 407-647-6294. Thank you so much!

All gardening is landscape painting.
- Unknown

What’s In Bloom in June at The Polasek . . . Photos courtesy of Janine Edmondson

Brugmansia hybrid - Angel’s Trumpet
Rudbeckia hirta - Tiger Eye
Cosmos bipinnatis - Garden Cosmos
Rosa hybrid - Rose
Gallardia pulchella - Blanket Flower
Help Fill Polasek’s Desk! Donate Office Supplies to the Polasek Museum

—July 9th – August 9th 2012—

Each year, hundreds of people from Central Florida and beyond come to the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens to share in our inspired world of natural beauty, art and history. Our lush gardens, exquisite 200-piece collection, and diverse exhibits stimulate the mind, heart and senses...and reinvigorate the soul. We realize that when most people visit the Polasek, boring old Office Supplies are likely the last thing on their minds. However, the cost of simple items – such as printer paper, cleaning supplies and ink cartridges – greatly restricts our ability to direct more resources to our valuable exhibit, conservation, garden and educational programs. Please, this summer, Help Fill Polasek’s Desk! Your efforts will help keep the Polasek experience alive so it continues to be a source of inspiration for all who visit. Thank you so much for your support!

If you have questions or would like to donate an item not listed, please contact Michelle Martino at mmartino@polasek.org or 407-647-6294.

Items can be dropped off at the Museum at 633 Osceola Avenue, Winter Park
Mondays – Saturdays 10:00am-4:00pm
& Sundays 1:00pm-4:00pm

Here is a current list of the items needed most:

**Ink Cartridges**
- HP Color LaserJetCP3505dn
- HP Office Jet 6310/All In One
- HP Laser Jet 1006
- Kodak ESP7 / All In One
- Epson Stylus NX400
- HP Office Jet 4500

**Office Supplies**
- Copy Paper Letter & Legal
- Envelopes/ Letter
- Envelopes/ Window
- Pens & Sharpies
- Bubble Wrap

**Gift Cards**
- (Any Amount)
- Sam’s Club
- COSTCO
- Target
- Office Depot
- Home Depot
- Walmart
- Any other supply store!