On View
September 2012

Current Exhibit:
Life in the Fast Lane: The Art of David DeLong

Concert Series:
Ayako Yonetani at The Polasek: 8th Annual Series
November 11
January 20 & March 24

Announcement:
See page 7 for details on the Michael J. and Aimee Rusinko Kakos Garden Challenge Grant!

www.POLASEK.org
The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens is a 501(C)(3) public charity, nonprofit organization whose budget is funded by donations and memberships. All donations and dues go to support its preservation, maintenance and operation. Please give generously. We need your support!

Rob Sharpstein
Vice President of the Board of Trustees

I have had both fun and satisfaction working with many organizations in the community over the years. But there is something about The Polasek that has really touched my heart. We have Albin Polasek’s artwork in a beautiful setting, and so much more. There is a palpable spirit that permeates the property and inspires everyone who commits to The Polasek to rise to a higher level of purpose. We can feel its rich history and become impassioned to see it continued in perpetuity.

On a busy day and running a little late, I am pushing to get to a meeting at The Polasek. As soon as my car rolls into the museum property, I can feel a sense of peace and calm come over me. It lowers my blood pressure and helps me appreciate life; and as I look around at the lush gardens filled with beautiful sculptures from the Czech master, I know that this is what I love about this jewel of Winter Park.

Whenever on property, it is nice to see what Pam Paisley and volunteer crews have been doing in the gardens or examine a newly conserved sculpture. There is so much to love about this museum, but world-class sculptures in the midst of beautiful gardens on a lovely lake are what I enjoy most. These surroundings make me want to pause and reflect as I hurry through life.

And there is so much more to appreciate about The Polasek. There is the rich story of Albin Polasek—the great Moravian sculptor. After a prestigious and productive career that included heading the sculpture department at the Art Institute of Chicago for 30 years, Polasek chose Winter Park as his “retirement” home. Albin continued to produce many major pieces here even after suffering a stroke. Many sculptures can be seen in Central Park, City Hall and St. Margaret Mary Church. Polasek’s house, chapel and gardens are full of his great works. And we continue to add to the collection.

This past year we were proud to have been part of an international effort to resurrect Polasek’s Woodrow Wilson statue in Prague. This sculpture was destroyed by the Nazis and its molds were subsequently destroyed by the Soviets except for the mold of Wilson’s head which was hidden for years. This effort was spearheaded by the American Friends of The Czech Republic (AfOCR). We hope to participate in future cooperative projects with the AfOCR and Czech Republic to highlight Albin Polasek’s works and Czech culture in Winter Park and beyond.

The Polasek will host a number of visiting exhibits throughout the year including the upcoming exhibit “Life In The Fast Lane: The Art of David DeLong.” This exhibit focuses on the culture of motorcycle racing. It is fun to stop by the Museum to see the latest exhibit, visit the house and chapel, and then stroll through the sculpture gardens. Once the Museum museum has energized us, we enjoy popping over to Park Avenue for a leisurely lunch or glass of wine.

I invite you to stop by The Polasek and experience the artwork and the peaceful beauty of the sculpture gardens. You may just fall in love with The Polasek as I have. We welcome new and old friends to become members of the Polasek family.
The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens offers three unique year-round experiences for visitors with its outdoor sculpture gardens, changing exhibition gallery and tour of the historic Polasek home and chapel.

**Gardens and Outdoor Sculpture:** Three acres of gardens on the shore of Lake Osceola provide a colorful backdrop for numerous outdoor sculptures including freestanding and architectural sculptures by Albin Polasek, as well as works by other 20th century sculptors.

**Changing Exhibition Gallery:** Works in a variety of media by local, national and international artists are featured in exhibitions in our museum gallery that change throughout the year.

**Historic Polasek House and Chapel:** Visitors can step back in time and into the life of an artist by taking a docent-led tour through the historic Albin Polasek home featuring his own sculptures, paintings and sculpting tools, as well as his fascinating personal collection of works by other artists, furniture and antiques. Polasek’s personal chapel is an intimate, sacred space and a highlight of the tour.

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**Season Preview Continued on page 5**
First Installment of “The Collector’s Corner”  
By Rachel Frisby

As the Curator of the Polasek Museum I often receive inquiries from the public about artwork. People want to know if their collection or art is “valuable?” Is the art worth exhibiting or purchasing? What type of art is a good investment? What’s “hot” right now in the art scene? And of course the big one- do I like it and will I give them a show? Because of the regular frequency of such questions I thought it would be the perfect time to discuss a subject near and dear to my heart – collecting. This is no simple topic. To begin with, all the terms involved: art, value, taste, worth, investment, good, and bad are all subjective concepts when applied to the visual arts. No two people will like the same thing and no two definitions of what is “valuable” will be the same either. Yet, it is precisely because of its subjectivity which makes collecting art so exciting! Anyone can be an art collector and it’s a hobby that can easily turn into a lifetime passion. Trust me!

If you are a first time buyer or if collecting sounds interesting I’d considered the following:

What kind of art do you like?
What will you do with your art?
Why collect, what is your goal?
Buy a variety of artists, but have focused theme.

I hear this phrase a lot, “I don’t know anything about art, and I wouldn’t know where to begin.” I find that people don’t give themselves enough credit, and let’s face it, the art world can be intimidating. So begin with what you do know- what you like. It sounds like a simple question but I urge you to take a moment now and ask yourself what type of art-work speaks to you? Is there a particular art period, style, or artist that stops you in your tracks and begs for a second look? Or if that question is too broad just consider one step at a time. Do you prefer paintings or drawings, realistic vs. abstract, colorful or subdued, and so on... Narrow your field down until you can express what type of artwork it is that you like.

Next find examples and images of

Perhaps it has to match an existing decor? Do you have a place in mind of where to hang or position it? Sometimes considering where it would fit into your life will help you determine what type of artwork to invest in. For example, if you already have completely full walls and have little storage space then try collecting small works on paper that lay flat and are stackable. Many collectors in my acquaintance rotate their artwork, which allows them to keep collecting indefinitely, and it also keeps the art itself and your living space fresh. If you collect rare or light sensitive works perhaps you wouldn’t display the art at all, but rather store it safely. Thirdly, consider all the reasons why collecting art appeals to you; do you have a goal? Some art collectors do so for the simple pleasure of art appreciation; it makes them happy! No financial gain is necessary or is as rewarding. If this is you, then buy what you like, the sky’s the limit! Joy comes through and is apparent in collections that have it. Perhaps your goal is practical- it’s time to move, or you’re just sick of your boring decorations. Most people tend to buy bits of mass produced artwork like posters or reproductions that are inexpensive, and that fill their space and nothing more. But I say, why continue to spend money on knock off decorations when you can own fine art? If you’re goal is a financial profit then think of your collection as an investment and as strategically as if you were buying stocks. Research and pay attention to current market values. What do critics say about the art or similar art? Is there much of a demand for the artist’s work or could you find a buyer if you tried? What does something similar cost?
Season Preview  continued from page 3

**Good Friday** March 29, 2013
In observance of Good Friday the Polasek Museum will be open **free** to the public. Visitors are encouraged to come and view the many liturgical works created by Albin Polasek including “The Victorious Christ” and “The Stations of the Cross.” Visitors will also have the opportunity to find 20 hidden traditional Ukrainian Easter eggs, or pysanky, in the historic home.

**2013 Winter Park Paint Out**
Monday, April 22 – Sunday, 28, 2013
For this special local event, a selected group of the finest **plein air** artists will capture the landscapes and landmarks of Winter Park with oils, watercolors and pastels painted outdoors with the subject directly in view, rather than in a studio. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the works generated during this week benefit the Albin Polasek Museum. The Polasek gallery and gardens will be open **free** for visitors Monday through Friday, and Sunday during the week of the Paint Out. The Garden Party will be held on Saturday and is a special ticketed event. Please visit [www.winterparkpaintout.org](http://www.winterparkpaintout.org) for more information.

**From Start to Finish: The Florida Sculptors Guild Annual Exhibition**  May 7 - July 21, 2013
Building upon the legacy of Floridian sculptor, Albin Polasek, the Museum presents From Start to Finish: Florida Sculptors Guild Exhibition. Providing an insightful behind-the-scene glimpse, the exhibition will highlight the processes used to create each sculpture. Through photographs, sketches, and models, visitors will see how the art developed from the original concept, the methods and materials used, the stages and modifications involved, and the fulfilled vision— from start to finish. Each piece of contemporary sculpture will be as unique as the Guild’s diverse membership, ranging from talented emerging artists to established professional sculptors. The exhibition is a testament to the beauty in process and the high caliber of art coming from Central Florida.

**Awakening: The Art of Ursula Schwartz** July 30 - October 27, 2013
This introspective exhibit features a sampling of large-scale oil paintings created by contemporary artist Ursula Schwartz. Born in Nelspruit, South Africa, she expresses her unique South African perspective through bold colors, enteric brush strokes, and intimate portraits and figurative work. Poetry written by the artist and her young son will accompany each painting. Schwartz’s paintings reflect the complex nature of modern femininity, and portray an elegant juxtaposition of power and vulnerability. Her work has been exhibited, sold, and collected in South Africa, Europe, and the USA.

**The Holy Art of Imperial Russia: Icons from the 17th C. -Early 20th C.**
November 5, 2013- April 13, 2014
The sacred images on view in this exhibition are of a kind once readily found in even the humblest homes of Russia, as well as its churches and public shrines. Centuries-old artistic conventions are juxtaposed with new, Westernized formal elements and vernacular interpretations of these new forms. For Orthodox Russians, icons served as more than just religious paintings; they were relic-like objects directly linked to the holy figures they depicted. They were seen as comforters and powerful guardians. Icons were the direct line from the real world to the spiritual and appeared everywhere in pre-Soviet Russia. The exhibition will be on loan from Hollingsworth Fine Art.
Notes from the Garden . . .

Seeds from The Polasek Garden

Very often visitors ask, "Where can I get those gorgeous Hollyhocks or those exuberant Black Eyed Susans or perky Argentine Rain Lilies?" Now they, and you, can get them in the Museum Gift Shop. The garden volunteers made a special effort this year to collect seed from these favorite plants. We will also be collecting the seed of the graceful Blackberry Lily as it matures and making them available as well. We know you’ll enjoy all these easy-to-grow flowers in your garden. Many thanks to artist Kathy Chenet, who graciously allowed us to use her irresistible 2010 Paint Out work “Hollyhocks” as the inspiration for the packaging.

Gardener’s Generosity

The “pass along” plant is a tradition as old as horticulture itself. Many of the plants for which we are now noted came to us through the generosity of others; friends, neighbors, Master Gardeners, garden clubs and professional garden organizations. One gardener’s bounty is often bounty for many. Sharing the wealth adds to the wealth of all. It was about six years ago when we approached our friends at Leu Gardens for their assistance in developing the flower gardens and expanding the plant diversity at the Polasek. Executive Director Robert Bowden responded with a hearty welcome and instructions to take whatever we liked to propagate. It was a bonanza! We were kept very busy nursing these many cuttings before they went into the ground. One little snip of a plant soon became ten bushy, healthy plants, and we were on our way to the lush gardens you enjoy today. This summer we have had the pleasure to be on the receiving end of a similar request. Orange County Extension Agent Keri Leymaster wondered if we might let her take some cuttings for the new Discovery Gardens at the County Extension Center on Conway Road in Orlando. Of course, we could do no less than welcome her to take cuttings of all that interested her. For The Polasek, it was a small but defining moment that said we are a place of plant profusion and abundance, and we were finally able to pay it forward. Of course, if you have something interesting in your garden, don’t hesitate to pass it along!

Things are Heating up in the Garden

by Nancy Tyree

Things are heating up in the garden, and I don’t mean just the weather! July and August bring a flurry of butterfly activity in the garden.

If you happen to have some of the Sennas (commonly known as Cassias) in your yard you are likely seeing the medium size yellow butterfly known as the Cloudless Sulphur. These butterflies zip around with a rapid and seemingly haphazard zigzag flight. They know where they are going and if you watch closely you might catch them quickly landing on one of your Cassias. Mark the spot and come closer. If you look very closely you can spot the tiniest orange/yellow egg. Within a few days the caterpillar will emerge but you may miss it; it will be no bigger than a gossamer thread!

Keep checking from day to day. Eventually the caterpillar will be large enough to see. You must look closely though because it is the same color as the leaves it is feeding upon. Watch daily and you will see a beautiful iridescent blue pattern along its sides. As it grows it will feed on the yellow blooms and begin to turn yellow. At this point it is probably ready to make its chrysalis from which a new butterfly will emerge. In the four years I’ve been watching I’d never been able to find one of the chrysalises.

I’ve been told the caterpillars wander off and climb “way up high” which perhaps explains the futility of the search; but, hurrah, at last I found one on an iron weed some distance from the "host" plant. I can’t wait to watch the new butterfly emerge. I find these lovely bits of sunshine darting about as delightful as golden coins dropping from the sky!
Another Artist in the Garden

Byron Walker has been our go-to guy for many major improvements to the physical structure of the gardens. His landscape design and DIY skills have been demonstrated in the construction of our wonderful golf cart structure and most recently, the completion of the new and improved potting area, not long ago a messy and not too useful refuge for old pots. Demonstrating his belief that form follows function, we have seen the subtle impact of his design skills in the “Man Carving” bed, the beautification of the parking lot, and the redesigning of bed lines for better flow and ease of maintenance. Above all, he is always concerned about the effect of landscape on the safety of our staff, volunteers and visitors. Although The Polasek does not presently have a formal artist-in-residence program, Byron is a working artist with a studio at McCrae Art Studios in Winter Park, whose work has been recently shown at Arts on Douglas Fine Art Gallery in New Smyrna Beach and at the Casselberry Art House. Recently, he was asked to become a board member for the visioning committee for the Florida Sculptors Guild. His work will appear in the 2013 Artist’s Catalog The American Art Collector. Working at the Polasek has been an inspiring opportunity for him. Byron lives and breathes art and sculpture and loves nothing more than art and conversation in the garden. Stop in for a chat! But, remember, he has work to do!

Or view his work and welcome comments www.bwalkerart.com 407-619-3006.

Our dedicated volunteer crew in the gardens give a fresh look to the area around Albin Polasek’s “Victorious Christ”

L - R: Lynn, Pam, Linda, Tim, Barbara, Paul & Nancy

For garden volunteer opportunities please call 407-647-6294 or email volunteer@polasek.org

Announcing the Michael J. and Aimee Rusinko Kakos Garden Challenge Grant!

Michael and Aimee Kakos have been steadfast supporters of The Polasek for many years. From board service and leadership to outreach and initiative, they have a knack for seeing a need at The Museum and tackling it head on. They do this in a very special, important way – a way that motivates and inspires others to join the charge with them. And they’re at it again! We would like to extend a tremendous THANK YOU to Michael and Aimee for committing a $2,000 matching grant to support the growth and maintenance of The Polasek’s sculpture gardens. Because of their generosity, you can now DOUBLE the impact of your gift to The Polasek Gardens, as the Kakos will match every contribution dollar for dollar up to $2,000. All money raised through this special opportunity is designated specifically to projects and beautification in the gardens. Please, join the cause today! Visit www.polasek.org/support, click on the corresponding PayPal link. Thank you for your support and remember to visit us soon to see your donation hard at work!

With Great Appreciation

For outstanding donated services in our gardens of tree maintenance and removal. Thank you!

info@branchmanagementtreecare.com or 407 339-3444

Each year the museum collaborates with Red Chair Project by decorating a chair and donating it for their auction. This year Byron took the lead with the theme above.
Which brings me to my last bit of advice, **do buy a variety of artists, but have a focused theme.** When you don’t have a theme in mind, you end up with a collection of odds and ends that isn’t meaningful and isn’t valuable to anyone. This is what I am often faced with at the Museum. People approach me with mismatched artwork that doesn’t have a clear theme. It’s usually stuff they inherited from their parents and are trying to unload or exhibit. Having a clear focus transforms “bits of stuff” into a true “collection” worthy of exhibition. This is where knowing what you like comes into play. Find a period, medium, or type of art that speaks to you and try to buy a collection that has some continuity. For example, collect all panoramic landscapes by Florida painters, or original book illustrations, or miniature portraits from the Victorian era, or surrealists’ paintings of cats… whatever it is that you like! You’re art collection may not be what everyone likes, and that’s perfectly fine. But it will be meaningful and therefore valuable to **you.** And who knows, if your collection is unique enough, it may very well be something that a museum would exhibit or a collection you could pass onto family members for generations! If you would like to add to your existing art collection, or perhaps you’d like to start one, The Polasek has a limited number of **signed** Andre Renoux lithographs for sale. (see images page 4) These lithographs are highly collectable works of art by the well-known French artist, and have a trustworthy provenance. We have specifically marked their price very low because proceeds will help support our Museum. This is a deal, make no mistake! If you do a little research, you will see similar Renoux works selling for hundreds and even thousands of dollars. These are a steal for $100-500, depending on size. But hurry in, because the artwork will only be available for sale through September. Often, a memory of Paris or the longing to travel is more than enough to assign meaning to these beautiful lithographs. I highly recommend you stop into The Polasek gift shop and view them in person and see our exquisite “Parisian Affair” Collection.

**Membership and Donation News**

With the Exhibit Season fast approaching, now is the time to renew or join as a Polasek member! Polasek members have a busy upcoming season complete with Exhibit Openings, Concert and Speakers Series and many other special opportunities! Whether you’re renewing your membership or joining for the first time, please consider making an additional gift to the Museum program of your choice. Right now, you can designate your gift to specifically benefit one of the following areas:

- **Impact Fund** – the most critical type of support for the Museum, providing unrestricted dollars that allow the Museum to allocate monies when and where they are needed most — to meet unforeseen emergencies, provide timely support for programs or equipment, or to pursue new opportunities that better serve our community.
- **Sculpture Gardens** – help maintain, grow and care for three acres of nearly century old lush, meandering gardens for all to enjoy.
- **Preservation and Conservation** – become part of history and help ensure Polasek’s storied historic home, chapel, studio and art collection are preserved with quality, honesty, integrity and stewardship.
- **Exhibitions** – support the Museum’s efforts to install diverse, provocative and enriching visiting exhibits for the enjoyment and benefit of our community and all who visit.
- **Education** – help ensure that students, elderly and people living with disabilities get to experience art like they’ve never seen! Donations are needed to make these educational visits and tours possible.

You will be acknowledged for your gift and kept informed about the difference it is making at The Museum. Thank you so much for your renewed commitment to The Polasek!

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR ORGANIZATION CH11467 MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE 1-800-435-7352. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. 100% OF YOUR DONATION IS RECEIVED BY THIS ORGANIZATION.

(See images page 4)
Tai Chi & Meditation

We are pleased to offer a series of five sessions each in The Polasek Gardens

Yang Style Tai Chi Chuan & Qigong

Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Mindfulness Mediation
Life Satisfaction & Inner Peace

Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2012

All classes will be held rain or shine.
Wear comfortable clothing.
General Public: $50/series or $10/session
Museum Members: $40/series or $8/session
Register at www.polasek.org or by phone 407.647.6294

Sculptures and Their Stories
By Trudy Furno

The World War I Memorial in the village of Kenilworth, Illinois, an exclusive suburb of Chicago, is comprised of a large granite boulder affixed with a bronze relief by Albin Polasek situated in a beautiful town park. A classically adorned feminine figure strides across its surface, and her form is framed by the words “Let us make earth a garden where the deeds of the valiant may blossom and bear fruit.” This monument was given to Kenilworth in 1927 by the Ware family to memorialize their son, Manierre Barlow Ware, and four other young men who perished in France during the “War to End All Wars.”

Due to exposure of all kinds of weather and age, the bronze’s condition had deteriorated, and its integrity had been compromised by discoloration and chemical interactions. One of the Polasek Museum’s members, Bill Hinchliff, an architecture and sculpture enthusiast with degrees from Yale and Georgetown who resides in Chicago, became fully aware of the condition of the Memorial.

Bill runs tours in Chicago and its environs focusing on architecture, literature, and history, at times in conjunction with various museums and their memberships. He took it upon himself to fund the repatination of the monument, which was completed this past spring and dedicated at this year’s Memorial Day Parade.

The attached photos will give you a glimpse of what the sculpture looks like at present. Thanks to Bill Hinchliff for keeping us in the loop and restoring this beautiful Polasek work!

The World War I Memorial in its current location

“Let us make earth a garden where the deeds of the valiant may blossom and bear fruit.”

Before and after the repatination

SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday
December 8, 2012
Join The Polasek Volunteers!

A fantastic group of people regularly volunteer at the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens! If you enjoy plants and camaraderie, volunteering in the gardens is for you. If you enjoy history and art, you may want to learn about Albin Polasek and his work and lead tours through his historic home and chapel. Or, if hospitality and retail is your passion, you may enjoy welcoming guests in the Museum's Gallery & Gift Shop. Many opportunities for fun and friendship await you at The Polasek Museum.

Call today 407-647-6294
Or email volunteer@polasek.org