

September 27, 2007

Home & Garden Calendar

Art in the Parks

Arsenal Gallery in Central Park, Third Floor, Fifth Avenue at 64th Street; 311, or (212) 360-8163 outside of New York City.

“The Outdoor Gallery: 40 Years of Public Art in New York City Parks,” is an exhibition of artworks and photographs that chronicles the growth of art in the city’s parks since the inception of the public art program in 1967. The exhibition opened on Sept. 25 and will run through Nov. 23.

Among the original works at the gallery are a sculpture by Keith Haring, who painted the “Crack Is Whack” mural in a New York City playground in 1986; a montage of drawings about the 2005 “Gates” project in Central Park, which was conceived and executed by [Christo](#) and Jeanne-Claude; and a lithograph by Mark di Suvero, whose sculpture, “For Lady Day,” first appeared in 1975 in Battery Park. Open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. No charge.

The outdoor art celebration will continue starting in October, when 40 works will be installed in parks and plazas throughout the five boroughs. In Manhattan, projects will include “Love Wall,” a sculpture by Robert Indiana on the Park Avenue mall at 57th Street; “Free Ride,” a sculpture by Tony Smith in Carl Schurz Park; and “Around the Park,” a video by William Wegman in Madison Square Park.

Other sculptures around the city will include “Jamaica Flux: Workspaces and Windows 2007,” a site specific installation by five artists in Rufus King Manor Park in Queens; “Tibetan Bench” by Elizabeth Egbert, at the Greenbelt [Nature Conservancy](#) Center in Staten Island; and “Plinth, Monument, Stoop,” by George Sanchez-Calderon, in Joyce Kilmer Park in the Bronx. Among the works in Brooklyn will be “The Third Bridge,” a sculpture by Osman Akan in Brooklyn Bridge Park; “Fallen Nest,” a sculpture by Anne Peabody in Fort Greene Park; and “Anytime, Now. Somewhere, Here,” a multimedia work staged in a hut in Prospect Park, by Stefany Anne Goldberg.

A complete listing of works will be available online at nycgovparks.org starting in October.

Chili Pepper Fiesta

[Brooklyn Botanic Garden](#), 1000 Washington Avenue (Eastern Parkway), Prospect Heights; (718) 623-7200.

The 15th annual celebration of all things spicy, from chilies to chutneys, will take place on Sept. 30, from noon to 6 p.m. There will be displays on growing chili plants, cooking demonstrations featuring Latin/Jewish fusion cooking, spicy pickles, Indian chutney and even chocolate and chili pepper recipes. Performances will include the Sesame Flyers Steel Pan Orchestra, a Caribbean steel drum band; the Lost Bayou Ramblers, from Lafayette, La.; Rana Santacruz, a Mexican folk band centered around accordion

players; and Nelida Silva, a Peruvian dancer.

Among the events for children will be a chance to make a paper chili mobile, get a chili tattoo or create their own mild or spicy seasoning mix. All events at the fiesta are free with garden admission of \$8; students and those 65 and older, \$4; those 12 and younger, no charge. A complete schedule is available online at bbg.org.

“Drawing From Life: Maud H. Purdy and 90 Years of Women Artists at Brooklyn Botanic Garden,” an exhibition centered on works by the botanic garden’s first and only staff artist (1913 to 1945), is at the Steinhardt Conservatory Gallery through Nov. 11. It explores how artists drawing or painting very realistic images of the same specimen interpret and portray that plant or flower. The exhibition features more than 50 works, by Miss Purdy and 13 other American women botanical artists, as well as live plants, books, historic photographs, sketchbooks, ceramics and textiles.

The botanic garden is open Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: \$8; students and those 65 and older, \$4; those 12 and younger, no charge.

Furniture Large and Small

Museum of Arts & Design, 40 West 53rd Street; (212) 956-3535.

The museum will offer a series of free evening programs with artists, curators and collectors, starting on Sept. 27 with Thomas Hucker, a furnituremaker whose work is featured in “Inspired by China: Contemporary Furnituremakers Explore Chinese Traditions,” one of two exhibitions at the museum through Oct. 28. Edward S. Cooke, the co-curator of the exhibition, will discuss furniture design with Mr. Hucker. The programs in the series will take place from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Four designers who use reclaimed wood in their furniture will talk about their work and the intersection of sustainability and design, on Oct. 4, and Defne Ayas, a professor of contemporary art and new media at New York University in Shanghai, will speak about contemporary art in China, on Oct. 11. George Beylerian, the collector whose miniature chairs are featured in the museum’s exhibition, “Have a Seat! The Beylerian Collection of Small Chairs,” will speak with Dorothy Twinings Globus, the curator of “Have a Seat,” on Oct. 18. In the final program, Marilynn Gelfman Karp, the author of “In Flagante Collecto: Caught in the Act of Collecting” (Harry N. Abrams, 2006), will speak about the urge to collect on Oct. 25.

The first exhibition at the museum, “Inspired by China: Contemporary Furnituremakers Explore Chinese Traditions” is an exhibition of 27 tables, chairs, stools and altars made in China starting in the 16th century, paired with 27 contemporary studio pieces. The works are by 22 furnituremakers from the United States, Canada, Japan and China, including Garry Knox Bennett, Bonnie Bishoff, Mr. Hucker, Michael Hurwitz, Silas Kopf, Clifton Monteith, Michael Puryear, Wendy Maruyama and Judy Kensley McKie. The exhibition grew out of a 2005 workshop on traditional Chinese furniture at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Mass.

The second exhibition is “Have a Seat! The Beylerian Collection of Small Chairs.” It features more than 350 pieces from the collection of George Beylerian, the founder of Material ConneXion, a materials resource for architects and designers. The exhibition includes miniature chairs in styles including a folding

American canvas lawn chair and Marcel Breuer's 1925 Wassily chair, made of steel and black leather.

The museum is open daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (until 8 p.m. on Thursdays). Admission is \$9; for students and those 65 and older, \$7; members and children 12 and under, free. More information: madmuseum.org.

Building Apartment Buildings

Great Hall at Cooper Union, 7 East Seventh Street; (212) 353-4195.

Robert A.M. Stern, the architect and dean of the School of Architecture at Yale University, will speak about residential buildings in New York City, on Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. Mr. Stern's firm, Robert A.M. Stern Architects, has built or renovated residential towers in Philadelphia, Berlin, Toronto, Boston, Dallas and New York. The lecture, which is free, is co-sponsored by the Municipal Art Society and Architectural Digest magazine. More information: cooper.edu or mas.org.

Textiles in Vienna

Textile Museum, 2320 S Street NW, Washington; (202) 667-0441.

"Private Pleasures: Collecting Contemporary Textile Art," an exhibition of works from the mid-20th-century to the present, will open on Sept. 28 and continue through Feb. 17. It will explore the motivations and passions of collectors, by looking at some of the works purchased by people in the Washington area. The works in the exhibition will include textiles by Olga de Amaral, Lia Cook, Michael James, Louise Nevelson, Robert Rauschenberg, Ed Rossbach and Cynthia Schira.

"Textiles of Klimt's Vienna," an exhibition tracing the history of two design movements in Vienna between 1897 and 1932, will continue through Jan. 6. The two aesthetic movements, the Secession and the Wiener Werkstätte, were intended to inspire artists to challenge the prevailing conservatism in art, and to encourage the public to appreciate culture and the arts in their daily lives.

The Secession group, which included Josef Hoffmann, an architect, and the painters Koloman Moser and Gustav Klimt, held workshops to encourage other painters, cabinetmakers, silversmiths, jewelry makers, leather workers and bronze founders to broaden the audience for artworks. Fabrics were designed for the Wiener Werkstätte movement and produced on a mass scale. The exhibition includes 50 textiles, as well as fabric samples, a sample book and fabric-covered books and boxes.

The museum is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Suggested donation: \$5.

The museum's annual textile symposium will take place from Oct. 19 through 21. "The Collecting Passion" will look at the history and state of collecting from a variety of perspectives, with tours and presentations by academics and collectors. Topics will include collecting 20th-century textiles; wearable artworks; the new collecting strategy of the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art; and the "seven commandments" of collecting. The registration fee, before Sept. 30, is \$260; members, \$215; students, \$175; thereafter, \$305; members, \$260; students, \$215.

Information: textilemuseum.org.

The Grand Entrance

Gallery of the New York School of Interior Design, 161 East 69th Street; (212) 472-1500.

“Making an Entrance: Design Philosophy and the Entry in Western Architecture,” an exhibition of 100 photographs, will be at the gallery through Dec. 21. It explores the history and evolution of the entrance, and its design and metaphorical meanings, from the classical worlds of Greece and Rome through the modern era. A second exhibition, “Beyond the Portal: Great Public Spaces in New York,” a display of photographs taken by Stan Ries of nine public places in New York, will also be at the gallery through Dec. 21. It will include halls in the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Great Hall at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and the Arts; the Veterans’ Room at the Seventh Regiment Armory; and the New York State Senate Chamber. The gallery is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission. Information: nysid.edu.

Rulers and Hammers

Parsons the [New School](#) for Design, 25 East 13th Street, Second Floor; (212) 229-8919.

The annual design-build workshop for graduate architecture students at Parsons, where the architects work with clients to design a real-world project and then build it themselves, will be on display in the exhibition, “Parsons Design Workshop 2007: Margaretville Pavilion.” The Margaretville project consists of a 6,000-square-foot open-sided building in a park overlooking a branch of the Delaware River, on the northwestern edge of Catskill Park. The exhibition, which includes models, drawings and photographs, will continue through Oct. 26. The gallery is open daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission. Information: parsons.edu/aidl.

Great Designers

[Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum](#), 2 East 91st Street; (212) 849-8400.

“Piranesi as Designer” an exhibition at the museum, includes more than 100 prints, drawings and decorative objects about Giovanni Battista Piranesi’s architecture, interiors and furnishings, and his influence today. Piranesi (1720-1778) was the first architect to incorporate decorative elements and ornamental motifs from the Egyptian, Etruscan, Greek and Roman styles. His architectural drawings are on display alongside those of contemporary architects who have been influenced by his design theories, among them Peter Eisenman, [Michael Graves](#), [Daniel Libeskind](#), [Robert A. M. Stern](#) and Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown. The architects will discuss Piranesi’s work in a series of videos.

The exhibition will also examine Piranesi’s lesser-known interiors and decorative objects, including mantels, chimney pieces, tables, chairs, candle stands, mirrors, sconces, vases, urns and teapots. It will continue through Jan. 20.

On Sept. 29, from 1:30 to 5 p.m., there will be a symposium about Piranesi. Participants will be the curators of the exhibition, Sarah E. Lawrence and John Wilton-Ely; Fabio Barry, a lecturer at the school of art history at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland; Andrew Robison, the Mellon Senior Curator of

Prints and Drawings at the [National Gallery of Art](#) in Washington; and David Rosand, the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History at [Columbia University](#). The fee for the symposium is \$25; members, \$20; students, \$10. Reservations are required for all education programs, online or by calling (212) 849-8380.

“Provoking Magic: Lighting of Ingo Maurer” is a 40-year retrospective of works by the designer, who has created lamps and lighting designs for fashion runways, public buildings, monuments and private homes.

Maurer designs play with concepts of color, brightness and shadow, and he has created several site-specific designs at the National Design Museum for this exhibition.

Among the works on display is “Bulb,” a table lamp designed in 1966 as an homage to [Thomas Edison](#); a contemporary desk lamp made with several lenses that reflect light; a “flock” of the designer’s birdlike Lucellino bulbs, which have white wings; an installation of live goldfish and mirrors, which creates an interplay of light and dark shadows; and “Pensatoio d’oro,” a tentlike cube made of gold-plated paper. The Maurer exhibition will continue through Jan. 27.

Among the museum’s other exhibitions are “Looking Forward/Looking Back: Recent Acquisitions in 20th- and 21st-Century Design,” which will run through Oct. 14. The 35 objects include a 1929 chrome-plated steel and elastic-cord chair designed by René Herbst; a 1933 lacquered wood and canvas desk by Paul Frank; the Egg chair designed by Antonio Volpe in 1905; and a 1958 George Nakashima cabinet. Other objects include a 1936 advertising poster by Herbert Matter, a Swiss designer; V2 wall tiles, made entirely of recycled paper by MIO, a Philadelphia company; miniature works by the textile artist Sheila Hicks; and a digital print of the 2003 redesign for the Tel Aviv Museum of Art by Preston Scott Cohen, an architect.

“IDEO Selects: Works From the Permanent Collection,” the fourth in a series of small shows by such guest curators, runs through Jan. 20. IDEO is a design firm whose projects have included the design of the Palm V in 1999, an adjustable office chair for Steelcase Design in 2000 and an insulin injection pen for Lilly in 2005. The 30 objects on display include an array of flashlights with diverse designs from the 1940s to the 1990s, a 19th-century textile panel with instructions for making hand-shadow figures and the 1940s Silver Streak glass iron from the Corning Glass Works.

The museum is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. Admission is \$12; students and those 62 and older, \$9; members and children under 12, free. More information: cooperhewitt.org.

Design in Philadelphia

Ruth and Raymond G. Perelman Building of the [Philadelphia Museum of Art](#), Fairmont and Pennsylvania Avenues, Philadelphia; (215) 763-8100.

The exhibition “Designing Modern: 1920 to the Present” opened on Sept. 15 in the Collab Gallery for Modern and Contemporary Design, a new 2,000-square-foot permanent exhibition space in the Ruth and Raymond G. Perelman Building, itself a new satellite building located two blocks from the main museum building on the [Benjamin Franklin](#) Parkway.

The Philadelphia Museum of Art has some 2,500 objects in its design collection, and the new exhibition

showcases about 140 works, in sections devoted to Art Deco and the Bauhaus (1920 to 1940); American and Scandinavian modern design (1940 to 1960); Italian design (1960 to 1980); and Postmodernism (1980 to the present).

Designers represented in the exhibition, with furniture, appliances, electronics, wallpaper, textiles, lighting and ceramics, include Jacques-Émile Ruhlmann, René Lalique, Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Charles Eames, Eero Saarinen, Gaetano Pesce, Ettore Sottsass, Kaj Franck, Enzo Mari, Arne Jacobsen, Ingo Maurer, Jack Lenor Larsen, Philippe Starck and Karim Rashid. The new gallery is named for Collab, a volunteer committee from the Philadelphia design community which was founded in 1970 to support the modern and contemporary design collections at the museum, through fund-raising, professional awards, and efforts to promote the appreciation of design through lectures, tours, symposia and student competitions. “Designing Modern” will continue through Feb. 29, 2008.

Among the other exhibitions in the Perelman building are a collection of fashions by three Philadelphia designers, James Galanos, Gustave Tassell, and Ralph Rucci (through March 9, 2008); photography by Alfred Stieglitz (through Jan. 31, 2008); and a selection of books, manuscripts and prints from the archives and library of the museum (through February 2008).

The new Perelman building also has a permanent space for part of the museum’s sculpture collection. It currently houses a display of mostly large-scale works by, among others, [Picasso](#), Anselm Kiefer, Sol LeWitt, Mark di Suvero and Richard Long (through May 25, 2008).

The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (the main building only will be open Friday evenings until 8:45 p.m.). Admission is \$14; those 62 and older, \$12; students, \$10; age 12 and younger, free. More information: philamuseum.org.

Art of a Dynasty

Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street; (212) 535-7710.

“Excellence and Elegance: Decorative Arts of the 18th-Century Qing Court,” an exhibition of porcelain, metalwork, jade, lacquer and textiles made during the Qing Dynasty, which was established by the Manchus in 1644, will continue through Nov. 25. The decorative artworks produced through the 18th century are among the finest in the history of Chinese art. The 60 objects on display include a pair of jars finished in celadon glaze with ornate carved dragons; “Boy With Water Buffalo,” a white jade sculpture; and a gilt-silver-filigree box inlaid with semiprecious stones.

Open Tuesday through Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Suggested admission is \$20; students and those 65 and older, \$10. Information: metmuseum.org.

A Japanese Garden

John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden, Dogwood Lane and Oyster Bay Road, Mill Neck, N.Y.; (516) 676-4486.

“The Dynamic Dance: Form & Emptiness,” an outdoor art installation, will be at the garden through Oct. 7. The participating artists have created sculptures from organic materials like bamboo, leaves, bark,

branches, stones and vines. The works are set into the landscape and will change over time, as the materials begin to decay and weather.

The Humes Garden is a project of the Garden Conservancy; information is at gardenconservancy.org/humes.html.

Drawing With David Macaulay

National Building Museum, 401 F Street NW, Washington; (202) 272-2448.

“David Macaulay: The Art of Drawing Architecture,” which will continue through Jan. 21, features more than 100 original sketches and architectural drawings from nine of Mr. Macaulay’s books. He is the author of “Cathedral” (Houghton Mifflin, 1973), “Castle” (1977), “The New Way Things Work” (1998), “Mosque” (2003) and 19 other books. The artist’s explanations of the built environment and his humorous colored line drawings not only reveal the architecture, engineering and construction behind these structures, but touch on some of the historical and social motivations as well. The exhibition looks at the artist’s research methods; how he uses perspective to explain and dramatize architecture; how the illustrations peel back the skin of structures to reveal their components; and Mr. Macaulay’s playful, imaginative style.

The museum is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Suggested donation is \$5. Information: nbm.org.

What Money Can Buy

Museum at the [Fashion Institute of Technology](http://FashionInstituteofTechnology.com), Seventh Avenue at 27th Street; (212) 217-5800.

“Luxury,” an exhibition exploring its subject over the last 250 years, runs through Nov. 24. It looks at the politics of luxury in the 18th century, the explosion of haute couture, the design royalty of the 19th and 20th centuries and the mass marketing of luxury goods today. Among the 150 objects on display are a 1735 brocaded silk dress, a 1950 white silk evening gown with gold embroidery by Dior, gold Chanel gloves from the 1930s and a contemporary Hermès handbag and Louis Vuitton shoes. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. Information: fitnyc.edu/museum.

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