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Series. Read more



"Twice Drawn," part two, to open. Read more

Welcome -- The Skidmore Intercom Faculty-Staff Newsletter is a production of the Office of College Relations. All members of the campus community are invited to submit story ideas or news items, using the contact information provided below. Department chairs and office directors are asked to please print a copy of this document to share with colleagues who do not have regular access to a computer.

We hope you enjoy this electronic newsletter and encourage you to share your impressions via email or telephone.

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Emerson Challenge Grant to Support Zankel Music Center

Skidmore College has received a \$500,000 challenge grant from the Fred L. Emerson Foundation to support construction of the college's Arthur Zankel Music Center. Terms of the challenge call for the college to raise \$4 for every \$1 of foundation funds by November 2007, providing \$2.5 million to support the new facility.

"It is a great honor to carry on the distinguished and happy tradition of collaboration between the Fred L. Emerson Foundation and Skidmore College," said Skidmore President Philip A. Glotzbach. "The Arthur Zankel Music Center and the many activities planned for it will be a shining light for Skidmore and the entire region. We are grateful to the foundation's directors for helping to make this dream a reality," he added. The Arthur Zankel Music Center will serve as a gateway to the Skidmore campus, due to its location at the main entrance. Construction costs are expected to total approximately \$30 million. The 48,000-square-foot building, designed by Ewing Cole, includes three distinct modules: a recital hall and its support areas, an academic wing, and a lobby that connects the two. The 700-seat recital hall, which is expected to draw the general public to a wide array of performances and events, will feature superb acoustics and a full glass wall behind the stage overlooking campus green space.

The building will house Skidmore's Department of Music, which includes nearly 40 full- and part-time professors and instructors, and a curriculum that encompasses some 60 courses in music history, composition, performance, and theory. The lead gift for the music center came from the estate of Arthur Zankel, a financier and philanthropist who was the parent of two Skidmore graduates and a 10-year veteran of Skidmore's board of trustees. He died in July 2005.

Over the past 40 years, Skidmore has benefited greatly from the generosity of Emerson Foundation, which supported a number of initiatives during the construction of the college's Jonsson Campus. In recognition of the Emerson Foundation's generosity, the college named Emerson Auditorium in Palamountain Hall — one of the busiest teaching spaces on campus — for the foundation. Buildings are not the sole interest of the Emerson Foundation, however. In 1992, the foundation provided Skidmore with a \$250,000 challenge grant for the Fred L. Emerson Endowed Scholarship Fund. That challenge required the college to raise \$2 for every \$1 of foundation funds. At the conclusion of three years, Skidmore had \$750,000 to launch the Emerson Scholarship Fund, now valued at almost \$1.5 million. Emerson Foundation Scholarship Funds support New York State students who are seeking a Skidmore education.

Said President Glotzbach, "Skidmore takes justifiable pride in its long-term partnership with the Emerson Foundation to enhance the campus and to assist students with critical financial aid. We are indeed grateful for this new grant and eager to meet the terms of its challenge. The Zankel Music Center will be the most ambitious building project ever undertaken on our campus and a wonderful resource for Skidmore and the community. Achieving this goal would not be possible without the generous support of the Emerson Foundation."

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Classical Guitarist Jason Vieaux Returns to Skidmore

Prize-winning classical guitarist Jason Vieaux will perform a solo recital at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, at Skidmore's Filene Recital Hall, opening the college's Sterne Virtuoso series for the academic year. The event is open to the public, and general admission is \$5, or \$2 for students and senior citizens. Vieaux will present a program by a widely varied group of composers including J.S. Bach, Isaac Albéniz, and Pat Metheny, and including several of his own arrangements.

A top-rated recording artist and acclaimed performer, Vieaux will be in residence at Skidmore for three days, coaching the college's guitar ensemble, interacting with students and music faculty, and presenting a master class. Originally from Buffalo, Vieaux began studying guitar at age eight, becoming the youngest winner in the history of the prestigious Guitar Foundation of America International Competition. He was a Naumburg International Guitar Competition prize-winner, and in 1995 was honored as an Artistic Ambassador of the United States to Southeast Asia.

Vieaux also was awarded the Alumni Achievement Award from his alma mater, Cleveland Institute of Music, where he directs the guitar department. His eight recordings and his popular live performances are frequently broadcast on National Public Radio. An Azica Records artist, Vieaux's *Sevilla: The Music of Isaac Albéniz*, was rated one of the top 10 classical CDs of 2003. His latest release is *Images of Metheny*. Vieaux's early-career recording on Naxos, *Laureate Series Guitar Recital*, sold more than 40,000 copies. A solo CD of Bach lute works is scheduled for a 2007 release by Azica.

Vieaux was a guest artist at Skidmore six years ago, performing as guitar accompanist during a residency by the Philadelphia Orchestra's principal flutist, Jeffrey Khaner. "We've been waiting for a chance to invite him back," said senior artist-in-residence and classical guitarist Joel Brown. "He's a great player, known way beyond the guitar world, but he also had just the right touch when he worked with our students during that visit, giving a master class that left everyone excited and positive," Brown added.

In his upcoming residency, Vieaux will present a public master class at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18, in the Payne Room at the college's Tang Museum. About 35-40 performance engagements per year mean that Vieaux is frequently away from his academic home in Cleveland, but he says he's able to schedule well in advance and to keep up with his students' lessons and his administrative duties, although he admits that his only real hobby is "relaxing."

He says he is continually surprised by the challenges of teaching, particularly with respect to each unique student. "It's amazing how many different ways you can explain a musical concept," he notes.

Vieaux will perform as soloist with two professional orchestras this season, and says he loves performing the concerto repertoire. "When I was in high school, I listened to music all the time; I was addicted to one recording of the Villa-Lobos concerto, and my tastes gravitated to larger orchestrations and arrangements. "I really like playing in a large ensemble, interacting with a big group, and being a soloist riding on the top," Vieaux explains.

Those same textures and layers of color that he listened for in orchestra music now influence his own arrangements, stretching across musical styles. The challenge of writing a transcription, according to Vieaux, is retaining the essence of the music. "On one extreme you can cram too many voices in and wind up having something sound like a heroic technical accomplishment; while on the other hand you can simplify too much, and strip out the texture and all the details.

"The guitarist's ability to 'sing' is an overlooked aspect of the instrument, and it can make for a polyphonic experience," he observes.

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New Version of Twice Drawn to Open

In an age of lightning-fast global technology, drawing might seem to be a painstakingly slow and intimate art form. But it is perennially popular among the many artists whose works will appear in *Twice Drawn* (Oct. 7-Dec. 30, 2006) at the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery. *Twice Drawn* is the second of the two-part exhibition of modern and contemporary drawings that debuted at the Tang last spring. Taken together, the two independent but related installations offer viewers the rare pleasure of seeing masterly drawings in two different contexts, allowing the artworks to be experienced as both familiar and fresh.

The earlier exhibition featured two drawings each from almost 50 artists, both renowned and newly notable. This time the drawings (some of which also appeared in the initial exhibition) represent one work from each of 130 artists. Four solo presentations will highlight six to eight works each from selected artists: Lee Lozano, Jim Shaw, Susan Turcot, and Ed Ruscha.

Other highlights include a massive new Sol LeWitt wall work titled *Wall Drawing #1202, Scribbles: Tubes.* (The piece, which measures 12 feet by 18 feet, will remain at the Tang for the next two years.) Robert Morris's *Blind Time* (1973) contrasts hard, clean geometric shapes with the soft, sensual smudge of powdered graphite, and Dawn Clements's *Shelves* (2003) soars 14 feet high, a sumi-ink-drawn compendium domestic objects in her home.

The second section of *Twice Drawn* will continue the tradition of the first — "an eccentric survey of the last half-century of modern and contemporary drawing" whose artworks were chosen primarily to please the eye of its co-curators, Tang Curator Ian Berry and artist and independent curator Jack Shear. The works are predominantly graphite on paper, but there are also drawings in watercolor, artist's crayon, wash, collage, acrylic, charcoal, and ink. "With very few exceptions, they're all hand-drawn and they all access some unique energy from the process of making something by hand," says curator Berry. "Possibly we are seeing a resurgence of drawing in some of the young artists in the show because they were born into a technologically sophisticated world and are in turn attracted to an art that is made quietly and alone, one piece at a time."

The public events of *Twice Drawn* include a reception 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14; a noon curator's tour Tuesday, Oct. 17; a reading from poet and critic Bill Berkson at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26, followed by a Dunkerley Dialogue between Berkson and Terence Diggory of the English Department faculty; and a gallery talk delivered by Berkson at noon on Friday, Oct. 27.

For more information, call 518-580-8080 or go to hudson2.skidmore.edu/tang.

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Yale Scholar to Give Fiscus Talk



Yale University Scholar Akhil Reed Amar will discuss "America's Constitution Over the Centuries — As Seen from New York," when he delivers the Ronald J. Fiscus Lecture at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13. Free and open to the public, the talk will be in Gannett Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. Amar teaches constitutional law at both Yale College and Yale Law School, where he serves as the Southmayd Professor of Law and Political Science. He is a summa cum laude graduate of Yale College, where he earned a B.A. degree in 1980, and a 1984 graduate of Yale Law School, where he was an editor of *The Yale Law Journal*.

After serving as a clerk for Judge Stephen Breyer at the U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit, Amar joined the Yale faculty in 1985. He is a co-author of a leading constitutional law case book titled *Processes of*

Constitutional Decisionmaking, and the author of several books including the recently published *America's Constitution: A Biography* (Random House, 2005). Laurence H. Tribe, the Carl M. Loeb University Professor at Harvard, calls *America's Constitution* "the best biography ever written about the U.S. Constitution.... Marvelously readable and breathtakingly informative, Amar's biography of our nation's founding document fills a huge void — and fills it brilliantly." The Fiscus Lecture was inaugurated in 1991 by the college's Department of Government to honor the late Ronald J. Fiscus, a Skidmore faculty member from 1980 to his death in 1990. Professor Fiscus was a constitutional law specialist and a key contributor to the development of a minor in law and society at Skidmore.

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Tim Harper, assistant professor of management and business; Dante Cantu, academic advisor, Higher Education Opportunity Program; Mariel Martin, residence hall director; and Kathryn Child, community coordinator in residential life, attended the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in May in Chicago with four students.

Pushkala Prasad, Zankel Professor for Management in the Liberal Arts, participated in a panel titled "A Meeting of Minds: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches to Researching Workplace Diversity" at the June annual meetings of the Administrative Science Association of Canada in Banff, Alberta. She also served as the distinguished visiting fellow at the Institute of Public Interest Accounting during May and June in Calgary, Canada.

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Publications, Exhibitions & Performances

Peg Boyers, executive editor of Salmagundi, is the author of the following poems : "Sacra Conversatione" and "Judgement Day," in Notre Dame Review, No. 23, Fall 2006. "Cup" and "Deposition," in The Paris Review, No. 178, Fall 2006. "Deposition" will be featured Oct. 2 on the Poetry Daily web site. "Lido" appeared in Intertia, Issue 3, August 2006. "Albanico Habanera" appeared in Slate Aug. 1, 2006.

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Jennifer Delton, associate professor and chair, Department of History, is the author of "Good Business: Nondiscrimination Policies and Labor-Management Relations 1945-64," published in the Journal of the Historical Society, Vol. 6, No. 3, September 2006.

Jay Rogoff, lecturer in English, has recently published the following poems: "Cain's Gift" in Shenandoah, Vol. 55, No. 3, Winter 2005; "Butterfly Effect" and "Iconography" in Prairie Schooner, Vol. 79, No. 4, Winter 2005; "Dance Class" in Chautauqua Literary Journal, No. 3, 2006; "The Golden Chamber" and "In Hiding" in Notre Dame Review, No. 22, Summer 2006; and "Sublimated" in The Kenyon Review, Vol. 28, No. 4, Fall 2006; and "Mysteries" and "Poets' Park, Mexico DF" by Southern Poetry Review; Vol. 44, No. 2, 2006.

Jeffrey Segrave, David H. Porter professor, is co-author of a chapter titled "Language, gender, and sport: A review of the research literature," published in the book Sport, Rhetoric, and Gender, Linda K. Fuller, ed., New York: 2006, Palgrave. One of his co-authors is Katherine L. McDowell, Skidmore, B.A., 1965 and M.A., 1995. (She was the first recipient of an MALS degree at Skidmore.) The second co-author is James G. King III, a current MALS student (who also is head women's tennis coach at Hamilton College). To close the Skidmore loop, editor Fuller is the parent of a Skidmore graduate.

Bob Turner, assistant professor of government, is co-author (with Mark Cassell) of "When Do States Pursue Targeted Economic Development Policies? The Adoption and Expansion of State Enterprise Zone Programs," in Social Science Quarterly, Vol. 88, Issue 1, March 2007.

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Art Faculty Exhibition at Schick Art Gallery



Janet Sorensen, Just About Now (detail), 2005, acrylic on board

continue to rotate for annual exhibitions.

Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 1 to 4:30 p.m. weekends. Admission

Greenberg Series Continues

is free.

"Hamas and Hezbollah: Risk, Conflict, and Democracy" is the title of the latest Greenberg Middle East series of events at Skidmore. Robert Malley, Middle East and North Africa program director for the International Crisis Group in Washington, D.C., will give the talk, scheduled at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, in Gannett Auditorium, Palamountain Hall. Admission is free.

An expert on Arab-Israeli conflict, Palestinian politics, Iraq, and North Africa, Malley was special assistant for Arab-Israeli affairs under President Clinton and earlier was an executive assistant to Clinton administration National Security Advisor Samuel R. Berger. Currently Malley directs analysts based in Amman, Cairo, Beirut, Tel Aviv, and Baghdad who report on the political, social, and economic factors affecting the risk of conflict, and makes policy recommendations to address the threats. The team coves events from Iran to Morocco, with a heavy focus on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the situation in Iraq, and Islamist movements throughout the region. Malley also covers U.S. developments that affect policy toward the Middle East.

The Greenberg Middle East series, administered by the Office of the Dean of Special Programs, enables Skidmore to bring to campus scholars who will educate the campus and larger communities on a range of topics concerning political life in the Middle East. Support for the program was provided by Jane Greenberg '81.

Activist, Author Tim Wise to Visit



Activist and author Tim Wise will speak Thursday, Oct. 12, in Gannett Auditorium. Free and open to the public, the event gets under way at 7 p.m.

Wise is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and activists in the U.S., having spoken in 48 states and on more than 400 college campuses. He has trained teachers as well as corporate, government, media, and law enforcement officials on methods for dismantling racism in their institutions, and has served as a consultant for plaintiff's attorneys in federal discrimination cases in New York and Washington State. Author of White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged

Son, (N.Y. Soft Skull Press 2005), and Affirmative Action: Racial Preference in Black and White, (N.Y. Routledge 2005), Wise also has contributed chapters or essays to 15 books.

Wise's visit is sponsored by Raices, SOAR, Ujima, and the Office of Student Diversity Programs.

SEFCU Offers Home Banking

The annual Selected Art Faculty Exhibition, featuring work by members of Skidmore's studio art faculty, opens Thursday, Oct. 5, and remains on view through Sunday, Nov. 5, in the Schick Art Gallery.

An opening reception is scheduled from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Oct. 5 in the gallery, and a gallery talk is planned at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18. The exhibition, reception, and talk are free and open to the public. Eight of 23 studio art faculty are exhibiting in this show: Leslie Ferst, Richard Linke, Trish Lyell, David Peterson, Paul Sattler, Janet Sorensen, Peter Stake, and Joanne Vella. These artists will show a larger number of works than faculty members have exhibited in previous years, when more than 20 artists participated in the annual faculty exhibit.

Similar small numbers of faculty members in groups will

The Skidmore Employees Federal Credit Union now offers the convenience of Internet banking. Members may access their accounts anywhere, at anytime, without charge, by using Skidmore EFCU Online.

The service offers up-to-date information on account balances in any listed account (checking, savings, share certificates, loans, VISA, and more) as well as current transaction history. Members may transfer funds between accounts, make loan payments, perform account inquiries, and view transaction histories via computer.

To get started with online access to Skidmore EFCU, members need to complete an enrollment form. For more information, contact the credit union office at ext. 5883. The Skidmore EFCU office is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is located on the ground floor of Dana Hall, near the Purchasing Office. Membership in the credit union is available to all Skidmore employees and family members.

Media Update

Skidmore faculty and staff who have been featured recently in stories in the mainstream media include the following:

Karen Brackett, director, Early Childhood Education Center, was interviewed for "Studying Abroad in Africa: Three Local Teachers to Take Trip Next Year," published Sept. 4 in The Saratogian.

Sandy Baum, professor of economics, was a source for in "Better Yet, No Tuition," Sept. 18 in U.S. News and World Report. A new study that she co-authored for the College Board, titled Tuition Discounting: Not Just a Private College Practice, was the basis for a story, "Documenting the Shift to Merit" that appeared Sept. 12 on insidehighered.com

Regina Janes, professor of English, is the author of "Off With Their Heads," a letter to the editor of The New York Times Book Review, published Sept. 17.

Sheldon Solomon, Ross Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, was a source for "A New Date That Will Live in Infamy" Sept. 11 in The Daily Gazette. In addition, he was featured in "To Death and Back," a segment of the series titled How Art Made the World, produced by the BBC that aired in July on PBS.

Mary Zeiss Stange, professor of women's studies and religion, wrote "The Daily Show Generation: Political satire isn't making young people apathetic. If anything, it's doing the opposite," an opinion piece published Sept. 12 in USA Today.

Bob Turner, assistant professor of government, was a source for "Sweeney Threatens Suit Over 'Red-Handed' Ads," Sept. 1 in The Post-Star (Glens Falls).

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Christina Grassi, visiting assistant professor, anthropology and environmental studies, is the author of "Variability in Habitat, Diet, and Social Structure of Halpalemur griseus in Ranomafana National Park, Madagascar," published in the American Journal of Physical Anthropology, Vol. 131, No. 1, September 2006.

Jennifer Delton, associate professor and chair, Department of History, is the author of "Good Business: Nondiscrimination Policies and Labor-Management Relations 1945-64," published in the Journal of the Historical Society, Vol. 6, No. 3, September 2006.

Jay Rogoff, lecturer in English, has recently published the following poems: "Cain's Gift" in Shenandoah, Vol. 55, No. 3, Winter 2005; "Butterfly Effect" and "Iconography" in Prairie Schooner, Vol. 79, No. 4, Winter 2005; "Dance Class" in Chautauqua Literary Journal, No. 3, 2006; "The Golden Chamber" and "In Hiding" in Notre Dame Review, No. 22, Summer 2006; and "Sublimated" in The Kenyon Review, Vol. 28, No. 4, Fall 2006; and "Mysteries" and "Poets' Park, Mexico DF" by Southern Poetry Review; Vol. 44, No. 2, 2006.

Jeffrey Segrave, David H. Porter professor, is co-author of a chapter titled "Language, gender, and sport: A review of the research literature," published in the book Sport, Rhetoric, and Gender, Linda K. Fuller, ed., New York: 2006, Palgrave. One of his co-authors is Katherine L. McDowell, Skidmore, B.A., 1965 and M.A., 1995. (She was the first recipient of an MALS degree at Skidmore.) The second co-author is James G. King III, a current MALS student (who also is head women's tennis coach at Hamilton College). To close the Skidmore loop, editor Fuller is the parent of a Skidmore graduate.

Bob Turner, assistant professor of government, is co-author (with Mark Cassell) of "When Do States Pursue Targeted Economic Development Policies? The Adoption and Expansion of State Enterprise Zone Programs," in Social Science Quarterly, Vol. 88, Issue 1, March 2007.

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