

AUGUST 2006

The Arts in Mesquite? You bet!

Accompaniment

MESQUITE ARTS COUNCIL



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MESQUITE ARTS CENTER

The Morality of the Masses



"The history of making art for the dead is lengthier than our habit of making art to save the souls of living human beings, to elevate the morality of the masses, or to instill self-esteem." — from "A Professor's Notes on Public Art" in Public Art Review, by Bradley Nickels — associate professor emeritus at the University of South Florida's School of Art and Art History.

Public art in the United States is a concept with a very short historical record. There are nearly 400 public art programs throughout this country including Mesquite with one ideal being to represent the people who populate these cities. Each program, projects the sum or capacity of the people onto a canvas, or occupies a three dimensional space within its boundaries. Can you imagine the breadth of imagination, the living salvo of vision, that is cast upon the street corner in front of a municipal building or in the park?

Maybe not, but the reality is, *sometimes* people stop and look.

That very act admonishes the self-absorbed bureaucracy and the elitist artist. Even the arts administrator whose never ending committee work, presenting program and grants admin becomes elevated into mind numbing awe — "they really stopped and looked."

Artists describe space, time, rhythm and form into meaningful sounds, images, and movement. Although an artist may bring emotion into the creative process, that element is left up to the viewer or listener once the work is produced for the public. "Sheet Music," by Terri Stone is the latest installation at the Mesquite Arts Center. On a vertical plane outside of the Concert Hall, the copper work appears to be scrolls of, yes you guessed it, sheet music. But, it is so much more. As sheet music is the structure or a set of directions for the musician, this "Sheet Music" occupies the visual space from which all manner of imaginings can occur.

Be sure to stop and look the next time you are by.

“A BAD YEAR FOR TOMATOES” by John Patrick

Directed by Lloyd Turney, Mesquite Community Theatre’s production of “A Bad year for Tomatoes” begins August 11th. Fed up with the pressures and demands of her acting career, the famous Myra Marlowe leases a house in the tiny hamlet of Beaver Haven and settles down to write her autobiography. She is successful in turning aside the offers pressed on her by her long-time agent, but dealing with her nosy, omnipresent neighbors is a different matter.

In an attempt to shoo them away and gain some privacy, Myra invents a mad, homicidal sister, who is kept locked in an upstairs room. She occasionally escapes long enough to scare off uninvited visitors.

The ruse works well at first, but complications result in an uproarious tale right up to the final curtain. Call 972-216-8126 for tickets.



Pictured left to right: Jan Summor, Fayme Eatmon, Bobby Utter, Peggy Baumgardner, Nick Leos, Lois Sheeler & Howard Hughes

W e a v i n g i n T e x a s

Anna Rose Barry, of the White Rock Weaving Center will be exhibiting work in the Main Gallery from September 1st through October 1st. Meet the artists at a reception on September 16th from 6-8p and enjoy nibbles and spirits from Go-Diva catering.

Hand-woven items include shawls, scarves, teapot covers, clothing and towels. Many of the items will be displayed in vignettes resembling what you might find in a table setting. A demonstration of the loom and weaving techniques will be provided at the reception on September 16th.

Viewing hours for the exhibit are Mondays from 8a until 9p except September 4th and Tuesday through Friday from 8a until 5p.



The Green Rabbit

Presented by the Latin Arts Association and the Mesquite Arts Council



The Mesquite Arts Council will present *The Green Rabbit*, a bilingual play about an old Mexican folktale on September 14 and 15 from 10 to 11 AM, and you are invited. *There is no cost for tickets although you must reserve a place for yourself and the students who wish to attend.*

Performances are in the Black Box Theatre, which is located at the Mesquite Arts Center – 1527 N. Galloway, Mesquite 75149. Please call the Arts Council at 972-216-6444, during business hours to reserve your seats. There are a limited number of seats so please reserve early.

The play is designed for kindergarten through 4th grade and lasts 45 minutes. *El Conejito Verde* tells the tale of a mischievous prince

who learns the true meaning of love and loyalty after being transformed into a rabbit. The story is told using handcrafted masks, live musical accompaniment, and lots of interaction between the cast and audience. Please be our guest and plan to enjoy this delightful tale.

This production is presented in conjunction with the Latin Arts Association of Fort Worth and the Teatro de la Rosa Theater Company. Funding is provided by the Mesquite Arts Council, First State Bank, the **RALPH & JEANN WISENBAKER**, and **EDWARD JONES Endowments**.

Mesquite Symphony Orchestra 20th Anniversary Season

Beginning September 9, 2006 and concluding on May 12, 2007 the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra will celebrate their 20th Season. The opening concert will feature pianist Octavio Gutierrez and Beethoven's **Piano Concerto No. 5**, the Emperor. Also programmed will be Giovanni Gabrielli's majestic work for three brass choirs, **Septimi Toni**, Aaron Copland's **Our Town** and the **1712 Overture: For Really Big Orchestra** by P.D.Q. Bach, the nom de plume of Peter Schickele.

The season continues with Americana Jazz on October 14th; That, was Mozart — November 18th; Music of the Season — December 16th; Vienna Fest — February 3rd; Animal Tales — March 24th and the Season Finale is on May 12th featuring cellist Shannon Lee.

The concerts begin at 7:30p and tickets are from \$6 to \$12. The box office opens on the evening of the concert at 6:30p and parking at the Arts Center is free.

Financial support of the orchestra is contributed by the Mesquite Symphony Guild, Symphony Association and through the Mesquite Arts Council's Local Grants Program which is supported by the hotel occupancy tax fund, the Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Art @ Lunch

On September 15th join us for the **Art @ Lunch TOUR at 11:30a**. We will be visiting the Nasher Sculpture Center and the cost is \$20 which includes transportation, admission into the museum, docent led tour and lunch. Reservations are required. Please call 972-216-6444 during business hours.

Hand Watering ONLY!

Even with drought conditions the Jeann & Ralph Wisenbaker Courtyard is thriving. Rich, Benny and Ampu can be found, water-hose in hand, taking care of the raspberry ice bougainvillea, bleeding heart and hibiscus. Early mornings and late afternoons are most comfortable so bring a book and take in the glorious setting.

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www.mesquiteartscenter.org



For information on these events please call the Mesquite Arts Council during business hours at 972-216-6444 or 972-216-8122 for recorded information.

Courtyard COLORS

AUGUST

21-22 Mesquite Community Theatre staged reading series presents *The Four Posters*. 7:30p Admission is free.

11-26 Mesquite Community Theatre presents *A Bad Year for Tomatoes* in the Black Box Theatre.

SEPTEMBER

1-10/1 The Mesquite Arts Council presents *Weaving in Texas* in the Main Gallery

9 Mesquite Symphony Orchestra at 7:30pm

11 The "Monthly Paint-In" begins at 10a.

11-12 Mesquite Community Theatre will hold auditions for *War of the Worlds: A Radio Experience* 7p-9p in the Black Box Theatre.

14-15 *The Green Rabbit*, will be presented each day beginning at 10a, FREE.

15 Art @ Lunch TOUR 11:30a

16 Weaving in Texas RECEPTION begins at 6p

First State Bank 

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