

Main View Gallery



The Center for Self Expression

about

spaces

JUNE 12, 2009 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

MAIN VIEW GALLERY & STUDIO

We began our journey three months ago with one large doll house, several small bird houses, a series of landscapes to be made, soft mobile ideas and the hopes of creating an animated film. A theme was taking shape. Words like scale, scape and scope were floating around our space. Once all of these projects were under way we asked the Studio Artists what the show should be called "space" **Marni Jamieson** replied. With time and too many people responding "the final frontier?" we refined the name to **spaces**.

Painting Classes

Artist **Doug Jamieson** has been working with the Studio Artists since we opened in 2007. We recently divided Doug's class into advanced (water-soluble oils) and basic (watercolor). "My groups used watercolors and oil in our exploration of space in its many forms. Guided by the work of John Constable and Edward Hopper they painted cottages in open fields, lighthouses along the coast and the Center's exterior glowing at night. Various birds were painted captured in flight. We went to outer space for rocket ships influenced by Buck Rogers."

The Mobile Project

The Mobile Project was lead by The Center's Art Instructor **Zena Gurbo**. The inspiration for soft mobiles came from being home with a new baby, an old pair of pants, one bird pattern and the desire to create art that would fill the open spaces in our gallery. "I came in with a couple of ideas for soft hanging mobiles and within a few short weeks these ideas expanded into a fleet of wonderful cloud mobiles and a flock of colorful birds."

Shadow Puppetry

Ivan Potocnik, one of the Center's coaches has been teaching shadow puppetry for the past several months. "Shadow puppetry is something that I have grown up very close to. The sheer craft of shadow puppetry radiates themes of duality, and it is within this conflict of light, dark, tangible existence and SPACE that one may find the true elegance and beauty of the art form. It has been my pleasure to bring this sublime form of Indonesian artistry to my fellow co-workers, peers and friends."

Wood Burning

Anne Vroman has been a coach at the Center since we opened. Anne had this to say "I started a wood burning class to provide the opportunity for people to work with a new medium. As time went on everyone took the skills they learned and applied them to individual pieces. **Wendy Stanton** really enjoyed wood burning and has burned pieces from magnets to the Doll House on display in the **spaces** exhibit. The intricate detail is apparent through the positive and negative spaces that are created through the burning of the wood."

Block Printing

Since we opened, artist **Michael Gordon** has taught a variety of classes out of his Gallery located two doors down from Main View Gallery. Most recently, he has been teaching block printing. Michael said "Space does not have to be the final frontier. Many times it is

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73 MAIN ST., ONEONTA, NY 8 AM-4 PM OR BY APPT.

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s p a c e s



New logo for
The Zebras.
(above)

“These seeds became projects that with time and hard work, became the beautiful, eclectic and cohesive bouquet you see in our gallery today.”
Zena Gurbo

Linda
McCord,
Untitled
lino-block
Cover Art
for spaces
exhibit
(far right)

simply the boundaries of the page you use to write a letter on or a canvas provided for your latest masterpiece. Recently, the space we used to create repeatable art was a linoleum block for prints and note cards. While the blocks themselves are not very large, they do provide each artist unlimited amounts of possibilities and countless numbers of color combinations within a defined boundary by using the space between our ears.”

The Zebras

In the Spring of 2008 we began to ask the Center’s Studio Artists what, if anything was missing from our very full schedule. The answer we received was music. We looked into different music programs in the area and found that another Arc Otsego site owned a set of drums. Within weeks, we inherited this set of four djembe drums. With some instruction and plenty of enthusiasm, a band of drummers took center stage. They called themselves *The Zebras*. A Zebra mascot was created from chicken wire, paper mache and mailing tubes. A new instrument and musician emerged with each new opportunity to play. *The Zebras* played at the Arc Otsego’s talent shows and at The Bugbee Child Care Center for a very enthusiastic audience. *The Zebras* were incorporated into the play “Musicians of Bremen” while working with **David Bridel** last summer. At each Main View Gallery opening, one of *The Zebras* would inevitably get the drums, gather the bands members and play to the delight of all of our guests. We hope to tour the US someday with *The Zebras* leading the way. The short film, screened on June 12 at the **spaces** exhibition, is the first music video to be created by and for *The Zebras*.

The Film Project

The Film Project was lead by the artist **David Kenny**. David has been working with us since we opened. His most dedicated and consistent students, **Michele Stedman** and **Vincent Devine**, used their computer and photography skills to co-direct this film. **Hugh Timoney** and **Heidi Stanton** worked as Artistic Directors with **Anne Holahan**, **Krissy Beach** and **Mark Stafford** to create a beautiful three dimensional set fully equipped with props and people. *The Zebras* all played very important roles in the making of this film.

Dave had this to say “Working on this project has really brought us all together whether it is the students of digital medium, musical expression, sculpture, painting or peer support we have all participated in coming together and collaborating to produce a final project that will inspire you to be creative and above all else express yourself.”

s p a c e s

The seeds of **spaces** came from the ideas of our staff, the Center’s Studio Artists and the visiting artists from our community. These seeds became projects that with time and hard work, became the beautiful, eclectic and cohesive bouquet you see in our gallery today.

