

Paradise City Arts Festival

AWARD-WINNING FAIRS OF FINE AND FUNCTIONAL ART

Marlborough, Massachusetts - March 16, 17 & 18

Director's Picks: New and Noteworthy Artists

The artists who are accepted to participate in the Paradise City Arts Festival at Marlborough, one of the country's most innovative and competitive fine craft shows, are 175 of the "best-of-the-best" of America's independent artists, designers and master craftsmen.

Joining us this March are 35 artists from all around the nation who were juried into Paradise City Marlborough for the very first time. **This year, we've picked out five new artists: three from Massachusetts, one from New Jersey and one from Indiana, who deserve recognition for their accomplishments.**



Jo Roessler

Keeping the business small – Nojo Design Studio's entire workforce consists of Roessler himself – is a conscious choice which has enabled him to invest in his own growth, honing and developing his craft over time.



Order a custom bed, and **FURNITURE DESIGNER JO ROESSLER** may just name it after you! Pictured here is *Gerrit's Bed*, a study in the art of bookmatching exotic woods, named after Roessler's son. While his style has been variously described as 'modern', 'architectural' and 'Japanese-influenced', Roessler eschews such neat categorizations of his work. "I don't have a rulebook or dogma about adhering to one particular style," he says. Combining sleek lines and smooth functionality, each piece of furniture uses domestic hardwoods in harmony with exotic wood details. Solid construction, dovetailed drawers, fine finishes and contrasting woods display Roessler's commitment to the highest quality of craftsmanship.

Roessler has many awards and press clippings under his belt, including the 2011 *Residential Furniture Freestanding Winner*. He was filmed in his studio - a renovated movie theater in Easthampton, Massachusetts - for HGTV's *Modern Masters* series, WGBY Public Television and *Woodworking in Action*. A regular exhibitor at Paradise City's Northampton shows, he is thrilled to introduce his work to a new audience in the Boston area.

Neugebauer's jewelry is individually hand fabricated using sterling silver with an overlay of 23K gold leaf.



JEWELER JUDITH NEUGEBAUER studied classical ballet with the American Ballet Theater in New York City and performed professionally in the ballet corps at Radio City Music Hall and the New Jersey Ballet Company. Her understanding of poise and form, gained through years of moving her body into complex dance positions, is found in abundance throughout her graceful work. "Classical ballet and theatre instilled within me a deep appreciation for movement, line and balance", says Neugebauer. "These are the time-honored qualities I have always tried to incorporate in my jewelry designs... and in my life."

This New Jersey jeweler's work is individually hand-fabricated using sterling silver with an overlay of 23K gold leaf. Many pieces also incorporate 18K gold, opals set in 22K gold, freshwater pearls and semi-precious stones.





SHARON SMITH's figurative and equine sculptures convey movement; how the wind lifts and falls on hair, the gentle curve of a woman's body or the musculature of a horse's flank. Her expressive handling of clay and metal communicates emotion. Smith is equally adept at equine anatomy, ceramic sculpting and bronze casting. She uses oil based clays to sculpt with and then creates molds from her figures to cast in resin and bronze.

Horses have been a part of her everyday life ever since she was twelve. "The special connection I feel for my subject drives me to struggle and mold the clay so that you, too, will appreciate it's unique beauty", states Smith.



Smith and her 13-year-old Morgan, Willy, received the 'USDF All-Breed 2009 Champion' award for Adult Amateur 2nd level dressage.

From Hudson, Massachusetts, Smith is a member of the Academic Artist's Association and the New England Sculptors Association. Her bronze *Spirits in the Wind* was chosen from among 400 entries worldwide for the American Academy of Equine Art show.

"Villa" eyeglass frames, sycamore wood with terracotta milk paint.



Indiana **WOODWORKER PETER BOERGER's** idea for wooden eyeglass frames gestated for decades before coming to fruition. Unsatisfied with commercially available eyeglasses, he wanted to offer frames that someone might mistake for ordinary but stylish eyewear, and - surprisingly - realize that they were made from natural wood. Perfect

curves, achieved with steam bending, were essential to creating the frames. Each pair is offered in cherry, sycamore, oak or walnut with hand-painted accent colors, and is strong enough to be practical for everyday wear.



Boerger says, 'I fought hard to produce that tight, little curve at the bridge that is found in standard eyeglass frames. After many weeks of trying, I *did* finally achieve that curve. This accomplishment was really emblematic of the entire project: to settle for nothing less than my original vision of a subtly beautiful object.'



PHOTOGRAPHER **CAROLINE CHRISTIE's** images of wild horses were captured during a journey to Idaho's Sawtooth Mountains. These powerful animals with untamed souls dance gracefully around one another on vast prairies, dust

filling the air, bathed in the golden light of day. She writes, "I was drawn to the ballet-like interplay between the horses, especially pairs of them, who maneuvered around each other like tango dancers tentatively sizing up a new partner."

Born and raised in the Highlands of Scotland, Christie moved to the US in her teens and eventually settled in Colrain, Massachusetts. She holds a BFA from the University of Massachusetts.



"Ying and Yang", photograph. 16" x 20"