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a desert whisper...

The newsletter of the Goldwell Open Air Museum

February 2007 - Vol 5, Issue 1

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Greetings!

Save the dates! Eames Demetrios returns April 9-10th and a Ladies Lost Weekend is planned for May 4-6th. Plus, read on for the results of the artist residency design process.



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Artist Residency Facility Progress

Related Links

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Alliance of Artist Communities



Eric Strain, principal of **assemblageSTUDIO**, met with the Museum Board of Directors in January to present his conceptual designs for the proposed artist residency/community facility at Goldwell. This design was the result of a community process started in August 2006.

Using **low-negative impact on the desert environment** and

self-sustainability as starting themes, Strain unveiled a two-phased plan that would initially group **three, 880 sq ft. individual residence/studios** in the interior-most section of Goldwell's 15-acre property.

These would be followed by the addition of an approximately **3,500 sq- ft "commons" building** that would house two or more additional workshops, a flexible commons space for resident and public program use, plus a caretaker's office/residence. Strain also discussed a potential third phase to create a **visitor center/gallery** either at the existing sculpture park site or on the Museum's property near the Red Barn.

The three individual residence/studios would each consist of a **440 sq. ft. studio** connected to a **220 sq. ft. residence** by a **220 sq. ft. covered breezeway**, which would provide additional living and work space. Each individual unit would be sited **to protect the artist's privacy and sense of isolation**, as well as **create a unique view across the desert landscape**. The units would be arranged around a **central courtyard**, which would eventually adjoin the commons area.

Strain presented a variety of materials from which the buildings could be constructed that were reflective of the nearby building ruins of Rhyolite, as well as desert minerals, flora, and detritus.

Each building would be electrically powered by **solar panels** on the roof, augmented by silent **wind turbines**. Strain has identified air conditioning units that would work under these power situations and says the design would generate enough to operate equipment needed by media artists. Heating would be by wood-pellet stoves and cooking facilities would be either electric or propane. Plans for bringing water to the site will likely initially involve a water tank, although other possibilities will be explored. Strain also indicated that the project would create its own **wetlands recharging zone** to deal with wastewater.

Strain said the cost of the project, estimated between \$300 and \$500 per square foot, would be largely dependent on whether or not the buildings were constructed in Las Vegas and trucked to the site or built completely on site. He estimated the **cost of Phase One as being approximately \$1.2 to \$1.4 million**, all-inclusive. The next step in the process is assemblageSTUDIO creating the final conceptual drawings and computer renderings, plus a model that will be unveiled in Las Vegas and Beatty, and possibly Death Valley National Park, in late Spring 2007. **If you are interested in receiving an invitation to the architectural preview of the artist residency community facility please provide your mailing address to the Museum by , [clicking here](#)** and feel free to send along any comments or ideas you may have regarding the project.

Goldwell Board members **Catherine Borg** and **Suzanne Hackett- Morgan** will be attending the [Alliance of Artist Communities' Emerging Programs Institute](#) February 19- 21, 2007 in Chicago to begin planning for Goldwell's first invitational residency in 2008 and its competitive residency at the new facility in 2009.

Support for the design process for Goldwell artist residency community facility was provided by a Design Arts grant from the **Nevada Art Council**, a state agency, and the **National Endowment for the Arts**, a federal agency.

Discover Kymaerica in kNevada



Save the dates! Our favorite Geographer-at- Large, [Eames Demetrios](#), is returning to Nevada April 9th and 10th and you have two opportunities to immerse yourself in Kymaerican history alongside him in Las Vegas!

Demetrios recently uncovered document fragments from what were believed to be **long-lost Kymaerican history texts**. Demetrios will be leading a **hands-on workshop Monday, April 9th**, from 6 to 9 p.m. with invited guests to recreate these ancient documents for use in his planned exhibit at the Goldwell Open Air Museum.

This is a unique opportunity to be able to participate in the guided creation of a part Demetrios' Kymaerican body of work and a rare artist apprenticeship experience with one of the 21st century's most intriguing figures in design.

Given the controversy among Kymaerican scholars concerning the veracity of these unearthed documents, the workshop is being held in a secret, exclusive location. Cocktails and repasts will be served in keeping with the ancient tradition. Participation is limited to donors, new and old, to the Goldwell Open Air Museum. If you would like to receive further information about participating, [please write the Museum](#) and put "Federica Unifies" in the subject line.

In addition, the public will have an opportunity to see and hear Eames Demetrios in a **public talk on Kymaerica April 10 at 7 PM at the Sahara West Library**. This event is free and open to everyone. Don't miss this chance to become more aware of all things Kymaerican as our favorite Geographer-at-Large is known for the informative as well as fun nature of his presentations. See you there!

Demetrios will be in the field April 11th and 12th in the grome of Rhyoleind and beyond exploring more of the mysteries of kNevada in preparation for his permanent exhibit later this year. Demetrios' residency at the Goldwell open Air Museum is sponsored in part by grants from the Nevada Arts Council, a state agency, the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and the Nevada Commission on Tourism.

Lost Weekend Art Workshop in May

The crew from 2005' "Pink Lady Paint Party" invites you to join them in Rhyolite, **May 4 -6**, for another **women's-only lost weekend workshop** of creative conservation and exterior decoration!

The 2005 women's-only work party spent the weekend restoring Dr. Hugo Heyrman's "Lady Desert: The Venus of Nevada" sculpture to her original blazing color. This year, the project involves the siting and restoration of a tile and mosaic covered couch originally designed by German artist **Sofie Siegman**.



The couch was initially commissioned as part of an artist residency at the **Lied Discovery Children's Museum** in Las Vegas. The piece is being donated by the Children's Museum to the Goldwell Open Air Museum as a gift to the children of Beatty and the world. The couch will be sited up the hill from "Lady Desert," affording guests a wonderful view across the Amargosa Valley and a welcome place to sit and enjoy the sculpture park.

The project may involve Beatty children in the redesign of mosaic faces that had fallen victim to vandalism and wear and tear. Participants will be invited to enjoy reapplying tiles, toys, and other ephemera to the couch under the guidance of Las Vegas artists Jeanne Voltura and Denise Duarte. Individual art activities including painting, photography, journaling, etc... will also be encouraged.

The cost of the weekend is \$50 and includes meals on Saturday and Sunday, all supplies, a Saturday night soak at Bailey's Hot Springs, and souvenir mementos. Lodging and camping are available in nearby Beatty. For more information, [contact the Museum](#) or visit www.goldwellmuseum.org.

Turn Your Spring Cleaning Into Spring Giving!



Support Goldwell using eBay Giving Works!

This February and March, **eBay Giving Works** will be shining a Spotlight on Supporting the Arts, encouraging everyone to raise money for organizations dedicated to keeping the arts alive, including GOLDWELL OPEN AIR MUSEUM!

Artwork and art supplies, clothing, collectibles, household items, cars, equipment, DVDs and CDs, books...you name it, **just about any item can be donated and sold** to benefit Goldwell!

To sell items and donate part or all of the final sale price to Goldwell Open Air Museum:

1. Log into or create your eBay account and click "Sell"

- 
2. Look for the “Donate a percentage of sale” field in the Sell Your Item form in the “How you’re selling” area (if you don’t see it, click “Show/Hide Options” in the upper-right corner, click “Format”, check “Donate a Percentage of Sale”)
 3. Choose “Select a new nonprofit”
 4. In the pop-up window that appears, type “Goldwell Open Air Museum” in the Nonprofit Name or Keyword field
 5. Select Goldwell Open Air Museum
 6. MissionFish is the nonprofit that powers eBay Giving Works. If this is your first time using eBay Giving Works, you will be prompted to create a free MissionFish account
 7. Select a percentage you wish to donate to us (please note: there is a \$5 minimum donation if your item sells)
 8. Finish creating your listing as usual.

Don't forget, when your listing sells, it will automatically qualify for the eBay Giving Works Fee Credit Policy! And as always, every donation is tax deductible and MissionFish will provide you with the tax-receipt under “My Funds Donated” in your MissionFish account.

The top 10 donors will receive their choice of a free Goldwell Museum T- Shirt or the Museum's DEATH VALLEY PROJECT DVD AND an invitation to an exclusive special event in April with artist Eames Demetrios.

You can also support the Museum by shopping on eBay! Be sure to [visit our MissionFish page](#) on a regular basis – you'll find a list of all items currently live on eBay, with part or all of their final sale price going to Goldwell Open Air Museum!

Three New Board Members



Catherine Borg (l.) and Denise Duarte (r.)

Three new members were recently elected to the Goldwell Open Air Museum Board of Directors: **Catherine Borg**, **William Chmelar**, and **Denise Duarte**.

Catherine Borg is a visual artist working across multiple mediums utilizing video, audio, photography and sculpture in her work. Born and raised in the San Francisco Area, she

currently lives and works in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Borg holds a BA in broadcasting from San Francisco State University and an MFA in visual arts from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. She studied at the International Center for Photography and the School of Visual Arts in New York before her graduate studies.

In 2005, she was awarded an artist fellowship by the Nevada Arts Council. That same year she was commissioned by the City of Las Vegas to create *Glow Las Vegas*, a public art installation of video projections and light exhibited on Las Vegas Boulevard. Her work has been in several exhibitions in New York City, Nevada, and New Jersey.

William Chmelar is a William Chmelar was born in Birmingham, Alabama and has lived in Florida, Tennessee, Ohio, Illinois, and Nevada. He has been a resident of Las Vegas, Nevada for the past three and a half years.

He was recruited from College in 2005 to work for A.G. Edwards & Sons at their Summerlin branch. From there he was recruited to work for Morgan Stanley & Co where he currently works as a Financial Advisor to high net worth individuals and businesses. His specialty is business retirement plan administration, as well as, helping high net worth individuals protect their assets and create a legacy. He has earned industry designations including the AAMS (Accredited Asset Management Specialist) from the College of Financial Planning. William and his team of advisors manage over \$100 million dollars in client assets, as well as the retirement plans for some of Las Vegas' most well known companies.

He is also on the board of directors for the Southwest Las Vegas chapter of LeTip, which is a business organization. When not spending time at work, he enjoys many outdoor activities ranging from: cycling to running and hiking.

Denise Duarte Denise is the owner and principal artist for D'Arte Designs, an architectural ceramics company. spent 18 years in the insurance and financial services industry while supporting her efforts to acquire more sculpting skills and techniques. She studied classical figurative sculpture with local sculptors Doris Snyder and Roberta Baskin Shefrin. She attended the Loveland Sculpture Academy (now the Loveland Fine Arts Academy) in Loveland, Colorado. Her desire to sculpt merged with her love of tile and architectural ceramics. Denise sought out instruction in sculptured tiles and eventually, architectural ceramics, under Peter King and Xinia Marin.

Denise has a Bachelor of Science of General Studies, Liberal Arts degree from the University of Nevada, Reno. She has been actively involved in women's and progressive issues and was a member, on the board or an officer of the following organizations: Nevada Women's Lobby, Reno Business and Professional Women's Club, National Organization for Women, Women of Diversity Productions, Inc. and Lambda Business and Professional Association and the Sierra Club.

Support the Capital Campaign

Goldwell Open Air Museum was awarded a \$21,065 Challenge Grant from the **Nevada Arts Council** last May to help with the design and construction of its artist residency facilities. The Museum needs to raise, at minimum, approximately \$63,000 in matching funds in order to receive the Arts Council grant. \$10,500 has been raised so far for the challenge grant campaign. The remaining \$52,500 needs to be raised no later than June 30, 2009.



EDEN, the Economic Development Authority for Esmeralda and Nye Counties is sponsoring Goldwell's application to the US Department of Agriculture's Rural Business Enterprise Grant program. This grant, if awarded, will help with the costs of site surveying and final architectural design. Nevada and national foundations will be approached in 2007 to provide additional funding for the project.

The Museum Board of Directors formally started its fundraising campaigns in 2007 and is accepting gifts of securities, goods and services, as well as cash. [Click here](#) to make a gift **online** or send a check, made out to Goldwell Open Air Museum, to:

Goldwell Open Air Museum
3008 Mason Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89102-1950

To transfer a gift of securities or property, call Suzanne at (702) 469-8292. Gifts to the Museum are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

If you would like to receive a fundraising prospectus for the project, or receive an invitation to the architectural unveiling later this Spring, please provide your mailing address to the Museum by [email](#) or call 702-870-9946.

The Museum is now open weekends through May 2007, generally from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. We look forward to welcoming you soon!

Goldwell is on MySpace! [Add us to your friends!](#)

Goldwell Open Air Museum's programs are supported in part by grants from the Nevada Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Additional support has been provided by the Nevada Commission on Tourism.

Goldwell Open Air Museum

email: goldwell@goldwellmuseum.org

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