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BALTIMORE'S HISTORIC EVERGREEN HOUSE INSPIRES CREATION OF NEW ARTWORKS



Katherine Kavanaugh, *Class*, 2006.
Courtesy of the artist.
Photo: Will Kirk/JHU

Inside/Out: Sculpture at Evergreen, a biennial outdoor exhibition of 10 new site-specific sculptures that are both inspired by and created specifically for Baltimore's historic Evergreen House — a 19th century Italianate mansion, museum, and contemporary arts center owned by the Johns Hopkins University — opens to the public with a free reception on **Sunday, May 7, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.** **The exhibition will continue through September 24.**

Situated on 26 acres, Evergreen's tranquil but urban setting allows viewers to wander the estate at their own pace to seek out the new sculptures and in doing so learn more about the estate's landscape, architecture, history, and collections.

A media preview will be held at Evergreen House on Tuesday, May 2, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. To RSVP, please contact hegan@jhu.edu, or (410) 516-0341 x17.

Applauded internationally since its inaugural exhibition in the summer of 2000, **Sculpture at Evergreen** has been described as “employing research, thoughtfulness, humor and innovation ... in a journey to illuminate this landscape in transition.” Artists are given the freedom to design whatever they wish, using whatever material they want, after first visiting, exploring, and studying Evergreen for inspiration. This year, Evergreen again has been turned inside out by artists responding to the estate — its social and political histories, natural and constructed environments, unique architectural features, and extensive collections of art and literature.

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Using a wide range of materials and exploring diverse themes, the projects on exhibit feature hundreds of fresh cut flowers, camouflaged bird blinds with interactive call horns, porcelain enamel photographs, swaying benches with no legs, miniature cast glass row houses, contemplative spaces, woven street litter, a museum of your own making, greenhouse ruins, cascading water, and a 20 foot tall stenciled Russian peasant woman. An indoor component of the exhibition presents proposals, sketches, and models of the artists' work, providing visitors with a sense of each artist's/artist group's creative process.

The 10 artists/artist groups selected for the show are the collaborative Bartow + Metzgar, formed by Paul Bartow, Harrisonburg, VA and Watkins Glen, NY, and Richard Metzgar, Owsego, NY; Suzanne Bocanegra, New York, NY; Susie Brandt, Baltimore, MD, and Kristine Woods, Brooklyn, NY; Alison Crocetta, Columbus, OH; Matthew Geller, New York, NY; Katherine Kavanaugh, Baltimore, MD; Bruno LaVerdiere, Hadley, NY; Winifred Lutz, Huntingdon Valley, PA; Michelle Rosenberg, Brooklyn, NY; and Suzy Sureck, New York, NY.

The guest curator is Julie Courtney, a noted independent curator from Philadelphia, PA who has gained a reputation for organizing installations outside the traditional museum or gallery space, including *Prison Sentences: The Prison as site/The Prison as Subject*; *Points of Departure: Art on the Line*, a project of temporary site-specific installations in nine Pennsylvania train stations, as well as the recent exhibitions: *Pandemonium*, by Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller at Eastern State Penitentiary; *The Lost Meeting* with J. Morgan Puett and the international artist's collective, spurse, in an abandoned Quaker Meetinghouse at Abington Art Center; and *meta/Metasequoia* with John McQueen and Margo Mensing at the Morris Arboretum.

Inside/Out: Sculpture at Evergreen is made possible through the generous support of the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation, the Constance R. Caplan Foundation, Nancy Dorman and Stanley Mazaroff, the Evergreen House Foundation, the Hecht–Levi Foundation, Cindy and Tom Kelly, Mercantile–Safe Deposit and Trust Company, the Municipal Arts Society of Baltimore, the National Endowment for the Arts, Robert Saarnio, and the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency funded by the State of Maryland and the National Endowment for the Arts.

RELATED PROGRAMS

In addition to the May 7 opening reception, Evergreen House presents a variety of programs and events designed to engage, entertain, and educate visitors to *Inside/Out: Sculpture at Evergreen* throughout the summer and fall. For more information, visit www.jhu.edu/historichouses.

Field Guides: every Saturday in June, 2 p.m.

Enjoy a special guided tour of *Sculpture at Evergreen*, including a look at the artists' drawings and models of their work. Don't forget to wear sensible shoes! Exhibition catalog and bottled water will be provided. \$6; free for children under 12. Reservations recommended; call (410) 516-0341.

Summer Evening at Evergreen: Thursday, July 6, 5 p.m.

Explore Evergreen's artistic wonderland after-hours! Beginning at 5 p.m., join curator Julie Courtney and artists Bartow + Metzgar for an in-depth look at their project, *Colliquiseum*; meet Evergreen's artist-in-residence, Richard Torchia, and find out what he is doing in the museum with camera obscura; and look at 17th-century Shakespeare folios in Evergreen's rare book library. Then, at 8 p.m., open your picnic basket and enjoy a dress rehearsal of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* by the Baltimore Shakespeare Festival — the perfect way to end a summer evening! \$6; free for children under 12.

Outdoor Film Screening: Friday, August 4, 7:30 p.m. gates open

Roll out your picnic blanket and watch *Running Fence*, the depiction of Christo's four-year struggle to erect a fabric fence across 24 miles of California's ranch land, and *Powers of Ten*, influential American design team Charles and Ray Eames' most famous short film — screened al fresco at Evergreen! Members of Baltimore's dynamic Creative Alliance, co-sponsors of the event, will be selling popcorn, soda, and beer. Come early to view the sculptures and meet Evergreen's artist-in-residence, Richard Torchia. Screening begins at 9 p.m. \$8; \$5 for children under 12; free for infants. Rain location: Carriage House.

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Through September 24

Take a guided tour of Evergreen House's permanent collections between May 7 and September 24 and receive a complimentary exhibition catalog for *Sculpture at Evergreen*, in addition to educational packets designed to engage young museumgoers in the outdoor sculptures.

ABOUT EVERGREEN HOUSE

Evergreen House, an impressive Italianate building with classical revival additions, was built in 1857 by the Broadbent family. It was purchased in 1878 by John W. Garrett, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, for his son, T. Harrison Garrett. Throughout the 1880s, T. Harrison and his wife, Alice Whitridge Garrett, carried out an ambitious program of renovation and construction on the estate. Their eldest son, John Work Garrett, inherited the house in 1920 and continued with his wife, Alice Warder Garrett, the family tradition of modifying and expanding Evergreen and its collections. Upon his death in 1942, Mr. Garrett bequeathed the estate to The Johns Hopkins University, with the stipulation that the mansion remain open to “lovers of music, art, and beautiful things.”

Today, the Museum showcases the more than 50,000 extraordinary and eclectic objects assembled by two generations of the Garrett family, including Alice Warder Garrett's large collection of early 20th century paintings with works by Modigliani, Degas, Picasso, Bonnard, and Vuillard; the only extant theatrical sets in the United States by the avant-garde Russian set and costume designer Léon Bakst, on display inside Evergreen's famed Bakst Theatre; Tiffany lamps, vases, and chandeliers; collections of Chinese blue-and-white porcelain, as well as *netsuke*, *inro*, and lacquer boxes from Japan; and over eight thousand volumes of rare books, among the most notable being the four 17th century folio editions of Shakespeare's plays and the first illustration of the New World contained in the printed edition of Columbus' letter to Queen Isabella.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Inside/Out: Sculpture at Evergreen is free and open to the public during regular museum hours. An exhibition catalog is available for purchase in the museum shop. Group tours may be arranged by contacting Nancy Powers at (410) 516-0341 or by email at npowers@jhu.edu.

Evergreen House is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The Museum is closed Monday. Evergreen's permanent collections are open to the public through guided tours, offered on the hour with the last tour beginning at 3 p.m.

Admission to the Museum is \$6 for adults; \$5 for seniors ages 65 and over; and \$3 for students and children 6 and over.

Evergreen House is located at 4545 North Charles Street, six miles north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For general Museum information, call (410) 516-0341 or visit Evergreen's website at www.jhu.edu/historichouses.

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