Hand, Voice & Vision: Artists’ Books from Women's Studio Workshop will be on exhibit at the Grolier Club in Manhattan from December 8th, 2010 through February 5th, 2011. It will then travel for three years to venues including University of Southern Maine, Smith College, Vassar College, and Scripps College.

WSW took a leadership role in promoting contemporary artists’ books with its book arts grant program beginning in 1979. This exhibition will highlight some of the 180 editions that artists have created at WSW, reflecting the political, sociological and aesthetic concerns of women during these decades.

WSW is also producing an illustrated catalogue, edited by the curator, Kathleen Walkup, which will contain writings from librarians, curators, artists and academics involved with the artist’s book as a contemporary art form.

Look for information about the opening and related events in our monthly e-mail digest.

Stay in the loop! Sign up for our monthly newsletter at wsworkshop.org/email
Good Neighbors
Make Good Fences

SCA and WSW team up
to build ArtFarm Fence

What do you get when you combine 41 post holes, 123 pieces of rebar, 450 feet of deer fencing, 30 eager volunteers, three Women’s Studio Workshop staff, and our very own Maintenance Mogul Woody? A new fence for ArtFarm, that’s what!

From June 23rd to 25th, 722 Binnewater Lane was bustling with over 30 volunteers from the Student Conservation Association’s (SCA) Hudson Valley AmeriCorps program. These SCA volunteers hailed from surrounding areas of Albany down through New York City. Over the course of three days, members worked together to fence in the new 8,500 square-foot plot of land, located within walking distance just northeast of WSW’s main studio building. The fence will provide crops with protection against critters, but more importantly, it will block off a steep drop off on the east side of ArtFarm, allowing staff and students the opportunity to safely explore and learn at the new site.

As of January 2010, the Student Conservation Association was able to provide WSW with funding to hire an ArtFarm Coordinator. Former intern Terez Iacovino is now WSW’s Coordinator and her proposal to install a fence at the new ArtFarm site was chosen as the Hudson Valley AmeriCorps Service project for June 2010. For over a decade WSW has been ahead of the curve in conducting research on the best sustainable fibers grown within the Hudson Valley for hand papermaking. Paper made at WSW manifests in artists’ books, sculptural forms, as a substrate for printmaking techniques, and is also used as a creative teaching medium during the Art-in-Education programs held at WSW throughout the year.

SCA is a nationwide conservation force of college and high school volunteers who protect and restore America’s parks, forests, and other public lands. Since 1957, SCA’s active, hands-on practice of conservation has helped to develop a new generation of conservation leaders, inspire lifelong stewardship, and save the planet.
New Kids on the Block

Four new interns are enlivening WSW’s studios and supporting all of our operations.

Katie Ford and Ashley Limés, studio interns, jumped directly into the heat of the Summer Arts Institute where they assisted with classes. Jessica Scipione, administrative intern, comes to WSW with extensive graphic design and computer experience and is being groomed to do lots of letterpress projects. Meghan McNealy kept all of our students, teachers, and staff happy and nourished with her inspired vegetarian cooking and worked with Terez on the artfarm and in the paper studio when not in the kitchen.

Originally from Miami, FL, Ashley Ivonne Limés comes to us with a BFA in Printmaking and Art History from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. Her work is concerned with a developing focus on land, its formation, and how we as humans have exploited its malleability. She sees the studio internship as an opportunity to explore these environments, and the three dimensional realm in printmaking. Rosendale has become a setting for her to become more in tune with herself, nature, and her studio practice.

Katie Ford, born and raised in Missouri, holds a BFA in Printmaking and Drawing from Washington University. Implementing print to construct site-specific installations, her recent pieces explore the relationship between shared space and personal perception. In her work, she finds herself constantly drawn to the interaction of parallel environments, found and constructed. Thrilled to have joined the community at WSW, she is looking forward to evolving her work in her new surroundings.

Jessica Scipione, originally from Massachusetts, holds a BFA in graphic design from Alfred University. Her recent work in design focuses on making contemporary art accessible to larger audiences. A typography lover familiar with working with type on screen, Jessica is eager to get her hands on wood and lead type and explore letterpress printing while at WSW.

Raised in Massachusetts and transplanted to the Pacific Northwest, Meghan McNealy studied creative writing and letterpress printing at The Evergreen State College. She is a writer, a musician, a performer, a farmer, and a vegetarian cook. When she is not preparing tasty lunches for the Summer Arts Institute, she produces work in a variety of forms ranging from textual experiments to language-based multimedia performance to hand-printed musical releases, with many overlaps and underbellies in between. Her work (including the food) is rooted in improvisational interaction with the elements, objects, tools, and people around her.
I cheered aloud when I received the news that I had been awarded a residency at Women's Studio Workshop! I had no idea that, months later, I would arrive in a state of shock, just days after the abrupt, ugly demise of a fifteen year period in my life. However, it became quickly apparent that I had miraculously arrived at exactly the right place. First, I was able to completely lose myself in my artwork, experimenting, discovering how to manifest challenging work I’d been thinking about for a long time. The studio was beautifully equipped; when I needed something, it was there; if I needed something odd, it was swiftly and helpfully found. Even more important, though, was the community I discovered at WSW. It’s vital, bustling, with people coming and going at all hours, each person working at something different, but always with the same overall purpose: the bringing about of artwork. The potluck lunches are brilliant; a pause, a communal touchstone, a sharing time. As someone who has lost almost all my hearing, I also need to cite the cheerful willingness of absolutely everyone to work with my deafness, to make sure I understood and was included, and yet to graciously accept the times I needed freedom from spoken language. To paraphrase my blog at the end of my residency, “I loved it here; the studios, the entire atmosphere, and especially the people. They let me BE, everything I needed to be. I’d have loved it anyways, but I simply could have been in no better place at this time in my life.”

I came away with a significant new piece, several intriguing maquettes and experiments, new techniques and materials, new friends, a refreshed perception of a high-functioning, professional, yet utterly convivial way to run an arts center, and best of all: a superb, supportive community that feels permanent, even when I’m hundreds of miles away.

You can see more of Melissa’s work on her website http://web.mac.com/melissajaycraig/

Top: Melissa assembling Listen in WSW’s papermaking studio Bottom: (S)Edition (detail), 2007-2009, cast and hand shaped abaca embellished with cotton rag
Giving Voice to Vision

Patricia Gould-Peck

Artist, Arts Educator and WSW Donor

Patricia Gould-Peck became involved with WSW in 1985 when the Workshop collaboratively applied with the Kingston City Schools for a grant from NYSCA to do a pilot Art-in-Education program. At that time she was the Chairman of the Art Department for Kingston City Schools after having taught art in the district for a number of years. She immediately saw the value of bringing students and teachers into a professional studio environment where they could work with artists, and turned out to be the only arts educator in the county who responded to this partnership opportunity. She worked with WSW to shape the program to benefit as many students as possible throughout Kingston's large and diverse district. The program is still on-going—Kingston High School's senior seminar students come to WSW for multiple full days in the fall, and fifth graders come in the spring to learn etching, silkscreening, and papermaking with resident artists. This experience has been life-changing for many students and teachers.

I feel it’s very important that you donate what you can to support the places you believe in, especially institutions that promote the arts in the community.

“The visual arts are always the first to be cut in districts,” Patricia recently reflected, “I had to constantly fight for the budget, staff and space for arts programming.” Her tireless efforts and strong belief in authentic learning experiences helped to make the Kingston City School's visual arts program known throughout the country. WSW's partnership with the Kingston schools has grown to include an annual scholarship awarded to a high school senior pursuing art to come to WSW for a Summer Arts Institute intensive course. The relationship also provides an opportunity for hands on learning in an innovative cross-disciplinary class, Chemistry and Art, in which students study chemistry through the papermaking process. Work that students make in WSW’s Art-In-Education program is hung in an exhibition, (in a professional art gallery for the high school students.) The students get their first experience sharing their work with the public and also gain skills in selecting and mounting works for the exhibit.

Patricia has been a longtime member and generous supporter of WSW. “I feel it’s very important that you donate what you can to support the places you believe in, especially institutions that promote the arts in the community. Over the years WSW has been a beacon to me as an artist and arts educator. I don’t want to see it disappear—I want to see it flourish. It’s an important part of the community—a wonderful opportunity for teachers, students and of course artists to get support and work at the studio. It’s a very special place and I’m so encouraged that it’s still around.”

Giving Voice to Vision 5
On September 26th, 2010, WSW will hold its annual gala dinner at the Mohonk Mountain House honoring painter and printmaker Joan Snyder and celebrating longtime gallery owner and art collector Marcuse Pfeifer. Proceeds from the dinner will fund artist residencies at WSW in the coming year.

The Gala begins at 5:00 with an exciting silent auction. Guests will enjoy an excellent four course dinner. Art critic Jennifer Sorkin will present Joan’s work. Jennifer has written thoughtfully about Joan’s iconographically rich work as well as her importance to the feminist art movement. Joan lives and works part time in Woodstock, and was awarded a MacArthur Genius Award in 2007. We will also be celebrating Marcuse Pfeifer, whose Manhattan gallery was one of first and most important photo galleries. Cusie has lived full time in the Hudson Valley for many years and since retiring and closing her fine craft/gift shop has been active with LGBTQ and is a former member of the WSW Board of Directors.

Gala guests are welcome to spend the day at Mohonk. If you have never been to Mohonk Mountain House, this is an excellent opportunity to explore this amazing historical architectural wonder, hike the 2200 acre grounds, venture through rock scrambles, take a boat out on the lake or stroll through the formal gardens and green houses. If you have visited Mohonk, you know how peaceful and magical the mountaintop can be, and how exquisite the views are, especially in the early fall.

Seating is limited and tickets, $100 each, will be sold on a first come first serve basis. To make a reservation, simply call WSW at (845) 658-9133 or order online at wsworkshop.org.

New Ora Schneider grant for regional artists

WSW is pleased to announce the establishment of the Ora Schneider Residency Grant for Regional Artists. Gail Schneider Matlin, Ora’s daughter, artist and former WSW board member has made a regular donation to WSW to support artists’ residencies, honoring her mother’s long time commitment to the cultural life of our community.

The grant will support two regionally based artists in month-long residencies in any of the WSW’s studios. Artists residing in Greene, Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Ulster, Sullivan and Orange counties are eligible. A $1500 stipend and unlimited access to the studios is included. Priority will be given to artists with experience and a working knowledge of etching/intaglio/monoprint, letterpress, hand papermaking, screenprinting, photography or ceramics. Application postmark deadline is October 15, 2010. Application requirements are online at wsworkshop.org.

For the past three years, this grant has been offered to art writers, most recently to Kathleen Walkup, head of the Mills College book arts program.
THANK YOU!

Women's Studio Workshop's programs are made possible with generous donations from the following supporters:

**Visionaries**

WSW Visionaries are individuals who support WSW's programs and mission through a generous contribution of $1000 or more.

- Anonymous (2)
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  - Joanna Migdal
  - Dan Osheyack
  - Larry Schulte
  - Robert & Susan Stack
  - New York Community Trust

The Mission of Women's Studio Workshop

- To operate and maintain an artists’ workspace that encourages the voice and vision of individual women artists.
- To provide professional opportunities for artists.
- To promote programs designed to stimulate public involvement, awareness, and support for the visual arts.
Thank you to our 2010 Online Auction Artists: Bobbie Adams, Susan Amons, Nancy Azara, Katie Baldwin, Pi Benio, Jen Blazina, Lisa Breznak, Britt Browne, Barbara Leoff Burge, Monica d. Church, David Cloutier, Allyson Comstock, Melissa Jay Craig, Maureen Cummins, Jennifer Davies, Kristen DeGree, Thea A. Eck, Roxanne Faber Savage, Janet Goldner, Ayumi Horie, Judith Hoyt, Shaun Johnston, Amanda Kalinoski, Ann Kalmbach, Marilyn Keating, Tana Kellner, Ann Kresge, Karen Kunc, Dani Leventhal, Val Lucas, Cynthia Marsh, Susan Mills, Judith Mohns, Julia Morrisroe, Heidi Neilson, Heather O'Hara, Jill Odegaard, Jamie Powell, Tim Rowan, Dorrie Sanders, Alyce Santoro, Thomas Sarrantonio, Gail Schneider, Carla Shapiro, Jeff Shapiro, Kathleen Sherin, Susan Sommer Schweitzman, Joy Taylor, Amanda Thackray, Shelley Thorstensen, Patty Tyrol, Abigail Uhteg, Jina Valentine, Tona Wilson, Cynthia Winika and Erin Woodbrey. We couldn’t do it without you!