

# NEWS & NOTES

## LOST & FOUND

**Found:** 133 stone, bronze and wood statues, steles and bas-relief sculptures from the collections of the Guimet Museum of Asian Art in Paris and the National Museum in Phnom Penh in Cambodia are being shown in an exhibition in Paris, which will travel to the U.S. and Japan after it closes on 26 May. *Angkor and 10 Centuries of Khmer Art* have increased old and new interest in Khmer art and fresh awareness of Cambodia's plight.

**Lost:** A Spanish national accused of stealing rare books valued at \$750,000 from Harvard University was ordered held on \$5,000 bail in February. Jose Torres, 35, who was living in Spain at the time of his arrest last summer, was indicted last month by a grand jury on 16 counts of theft and malicious destruction. Torres is accused of stealing rare books about Islamic and Middle Eastern architecture and Egyptology from the Harvard libraries and cutting out the pages, which he sold.

Prosecutor Eliot Green said investigators found information and a catalog in the memory of his computer linking Torres to the crime. Torres' attorney said his client had been receiving psychiatric treatment.

**Found:** Archaeologists using scuba gear have discovered artifacts of ancient Alexandria in the harbor of the modern city. The artifacts are Ptolemaic, brought as decoration from Pharaonic temples hundreds of miles to the south. Sphinxes, stele, statues and obelisks have been found in this city of Cleopatra.

**Found:** Bob Wade's land lizard, the 40-foot iguana, which was once perched atop the Lone Star Café in New York City, has returned to Manhattan and is now restored and replaced in Tribeca on Pier 25.

**Lost:** Grandma Prisbey's Bottle Village, a nationally recognized folk art site left devastated by the 1994 Northridge earthquake, has lost the \$436,000 set aside by FEMA to restore the work of art. One of only 9 folk environments nationwide listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Bottle Village was created between 1955 and 1983, solely by Mrs. Prisbey, who constructed 13 free-standing concrete shrines from thousands of bottles and other pieces of miscellany retrieved from the local dump. The Bottle Village is located in Simi Valley, California.

**Lost:** Masked gunmen burst into a museum in eastern Ukraine and stole two paintings by European masters worth an estimated \$800,000. One was a painting by Klari Peters, a 17th century Dutch artist, and the other was "Fight with Turks" by Eugene

Delacroix, both from the Fine Arts Museum in Poltava, southeast of Kiev.

**Found:** Police in Rome have recovered 1,273 stolen works of art worth \$4.2 million, and broken up an art theft ring that included a priest and an expert in gold leaf restoration. Most of the pieces including bronze candlesticks, paintings, furniture and religious relics were stolen from churches around the country. Among the most noteworthy pieces was a "Madonna and Child" attributed to Bartolomeo della Porta.

**Found:** The Victoria & Albert Museum in London has received an inventory which lists thousands of works condemned as "degenerate" by the Nazis. The two-volume directory, which was donated by the widow of an art dealer, will have great implications for studies of the war period. The 1942 inventory lists German cities and towns alphabetically and has 16,558 entries, some listing dozens of works. Volume 1 (A - G) was known from three other editions, but Volume 2 (H - Z) is the only complete inventory to have survived World War II.

**Found:** In early March police officials in Potsdam recovered the 1815 painting "View of a Harbor" by Caspar David Friedrich that had been stolen late last year. Another four dozen stolen art works were found along with the painting, and four men have been arrested.

**Found:** Several thousand paintings, drawings and watercolors which were "lost" for decades in the Government art collection in England have been discovered, including works by Walter Sickert, Paul Nash, Edward Burra, Henry Moore, John Piper and Lucian Freud. 2,300 paintings, 1,800 drawings and watercolors, 200 sculptures, 50 tapestries, 235 photographs and 8,000 historical and modern prints have been cataloged.

**Found:** A monument that predates Stonehenge by 800 years has been discovered beneath the fields of Northumberland. By radiocarbon dating, it was constructed and used around 4000 B.C. The site is 6,000 years old, so this is the oldest henge every identified in Britain.

**Not to be returned:** The new Labour government in Britain has announced that the Elgin Marbles will not be returned to Greece, confirming that the 2,340-year-old marbles from the Parthenon, removed by Lord Elgin in 1803, will remain at the British Museum.

## GIFT TO THE NATION

Pamela Harriman has left van Gogh's 1890 still life, *White Roses*, to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. The painting, which depicts a profusion of white roses against a green background, will be the first van Gogh still life to enter the permanent

collection. Estimated to be worth about \$50 million, the painting was promised to the nation in 1989.

## MUSEUM NEWS

The *Brooklyn Museum* has celebrated its 175 anniversary by changing its name from Brooklyn Museum to the Brooklyn Museum of Art. They will have a new director in place by the summer, as well as an endowed position of curator of American painting and sculpture.

*Centre Pompidou* is in the throes of celebrating its 20th birthday with a "Made in France" exhibition displaying hundreds of works of art created in France between 1947 and 1997. A complete \$120 million renovation will be taking place, with the museum closed from October through 31 December 1999, except for the Brancusi Studio, a tiny temporary exhibition space and a terrace overlooking the roofs of Paris.

*The New Museum* in New York City will gain 30,000 square feet and renovate in July and August providing the museum with three floors connected by a new elevator, thanks to an exchange with buyers of the building. The museum will reopen in the fall with a show of the Beirut-born sculptor Mona Hatoum.

*The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art* is auctioning Claude Monet's "The Seine at Argenteuil" at Christie's New York on 14 May because it "doesn't fit" with the museum's collection of 20th century art. Expected: \$5 to \$7 million, and the museum plans to use the proceeds to purchase post-World War II works for its collection.

*The Museum of African American History* opened in Detroit on 12 - 13 April. The city-financed institution is the largest of its kind in the world, featuring photographic displays of black America, African art, a major research library and a life-size model of the hold in a crowded slave ship. For many in Detroit, the museum is a long overdue recognition of the contributions black people have made to the United States, as well as a concrete symbol of Detroit's economic and emotional revival.

*The J. Paul Getty Museum* has acquired an important 17th century landscape painting by the pivotal French classicist Nicolas Poussin from a private collection in Great Britain. "Landscape with Calm," from 1650, which is one of a pair of pictures in which the artist poetically interpreted the relationship between nature and civilization. Price: \$26 million.

The *Wolfsonian Museum* in Miami Beach is going to Florida International University which will take over the museum and maintain the building. The gift from Mitchell

"Micky" Wolfson Jr. is the result of 30 years of world travel and the accumulation of 70,000 works from an \$84 million inheritance. He transformed a landmark building into a museum and research center, hired 28 people to assemble academic exhibitions, but did not create a trust to sustain the operation. An annex where much of the collection is stored will be bought by FIU. The period covered is 1885 - 1945, "a museum of the Industrial Age."

**The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum**, the first one to be dedicated to the work of a woman artist in America, will open on 17 July in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The 13,000 square-foot museum will house a permanent collection of O'Keeffe's art, unsurpassed by any museum in the world.

Coinciding with the opening of the museum, SITE Santa Fe, the region's only institution devoted to international contemporary art, will present its second international biennial, organized by curator Francesco Bonami, and featuring the work of approximately 27 artists representing 20 countries along with a wide variety of educational programs.

**The Boston Museum of Fine Arts** has just unveiled for a limited time, its collections of Asian art, called "Tales from the Land of Dragons", showing many classic works for the first time and for this time only through 20 July 1997.

#### NEW TECHNOLOGY

Two inventors working for Eastman Kodak have invented a boxlike picture viewer with a built-in recording and playback device, a photo album with a sound track.

#### DATELINE: Moscow

Artist Zurab Tsereteli appears to be the Court Sculptor of Russia transforming Moscow's landscape with his monumental sculptures. His 15-story monument to Peter the Great jets up from an island in the Moscow River, and some people don't like it. His aesthetic is "Big is Beautiful."

The Russian Parliament overturned a presidential veto on a bill declaring all works of art seized by the Soviet Army from Nazi Germany to be Russian property. Yeltsin said that the Bill violated international law. Russia and Germany had agreed to call for a negotiated settlement of the art problem. At risk are about 200,000 works of art, including paintings by Goya, Delacroix, Van Gogh and Renoir, which were seized from museums and private collections in Germany by the victorious Soviet forces.

#### DATELINE: Spain

The Juan March Foundation's Museum of Spanish Contemporary Art in Palma de Mallorca has reopened, following the expansion

of its quarters. Included are 15 galleries of works by Picasso, Miro, Dali, Gris, Julio Gonzalez, Tapiés, Saura, Barcelo, Gordillo, Sicilia, Solano and Jordi Texidor.

**Barcelona** - Peter Greenaway's installation at the Fondacio Miro in Barcelona, which closed on 11 May, was entitled "Flying on water: the adventure of Icarus", which explored the famous myth from a variety of angles, with the aid of multimedia technology. According to Greenaway, famed for his films as well as his installations, the desire to fly is "universal. Every culture and every period of history has tried to realize this impossible dream...European culture has manifested an exuberant inventiveness: Perseus, Pegasus, the Sphinx, Cupido, and Icarus, the first pilot, responsible for the first air crash in human history."

So, the exhibition is about hope, ambition, transitory success and the inevitable failure of the impossible dream of flying. Included are a large number of books, from medieval manuscripts with miniature paintings of angels to the most recent manuals of aeronautics. Also on display were various types of wax, feathers and sea water, various intensities of sun and wind, mythical creatures and flying machines.

#### DATELINE: Australia

On the heels of a revelation that an acclaimed male Aboriginal artist was actually the invention of a rich, elderly white woman, a white man admitted that he also made up an award-winning supposed autobiography of an Aboriginal woman.

"My Own Sweet Time" critically hailed, believed to be the autobiography of Wanda Koolmatrine was written by Leon Carmen, a 47-year old Sydney resident. In revealing the hoax, Carmen said that he was forced to write under the name and identity of Koolmatrine because politically correct publishers and awards judges in Australia discriminate against white men. Previously, Australian gallery owners and museum curators learned that paintings supposedly done by acclaimed Aboriginal painter Eddie Burrup were really the work of Elizabeth Durack, 82.

#### DATELINE: Paris

987 confiscated art works have gone on display in five museums in the Paris region: the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay, the Centre Georges Pompidou, the National Ceramics Museum in Sevres and the Chateau de Versailles. These works were taken mainly from Jewish owners. The 400-page catalog contains the whereabouts of 1,963 artworks stolen from Jewish families, many held in French regional museums, including paintings by Monet, Renoir, Sisley, Gauguin and Courbet.

#### DATELINE: Lidice, Czechoslovakia

The Czech town of Lidice was the scene of a chilling Nazi atrocity. In the spring of 1942, Czech anti-Nazi partisans staged an unsuccessful assassination attempt upon Richard Heydrich, the top Nazi official in Bohemia and Moravia. In retaliation, Heydrich ordered that all of the men of Lidice be shot, the women and children deported to concentration camps, and the town leveled. Only 16 of 500 residents survived.

25 years later, during Czechoslovakia's brief "Prague Spring," German art dealer Rene Block organized an exhibition, **Homage to Lidice**, and persuaded 21 German artists including Beuys, Polke and Im-mendorff to contribute works to the exhibition that would be donated to the art museum then being planned for Lidice. The exhibition went on display in 1968 shortly before troops from the other Warsaw Pact nations invaded Czechoslovakia to suppress the reform movement. The works in the exhibition went into storage and were then lost.

Last year, the artworks re-appeared in a castle outside of Prague, prompting plans to redisplay the 1968 exhibition in Prague and Berlin. Going further, Block decided to invite younger German artists to contribute. The expanded exhibition opened in Prague during March, and includes 55 works by 52 artists. In keeping with original plans, the works will be donated to Lidice.

#### DATELINE: Madrid

To honor the anniversary of the death of Miguel de Cervantes on 23 April 1616, people gathered in Madrid to read nonstop the author's masterpiece, *Don Quixote*, which took over 27 hours and 815 people. Spaniards and non-Spaniards stepped in to celebrate the author at the Fine Arts Center's exposition hall. Just after 9 on the morning after, when a blind young girl stepped up with her *Don Quixote* in braille and ran her fingers over the page and let the words ring out, the reading stopped. Alas, the final quarter of the book remained unread.

#### DATELINE: Italy

Italy plans to protect its art treasures from theft and natural disaster and has allocated \$59 million to restore Turin Cathedral, which was damaged by first in April. The Cabinet has agreed to invest \$1000 million in a "security plan" to protect Italy's artistic heritage. The plan would target some 1,000 sites around the country, including the installation of more smoke, fire and burglar alarms at museums and archeological sites.

In April, fire raced through the Baroque Guarini Chapel at the back of the Turin Cathedral, which had housed the Shroud of Turin. The city's adjacent Royal Palace and more than 80 art works were destroyed but the firefighters rescued the Shroud, which some Catholics believe to be the burial cloth of Jesus.

### **DATELINE: Venice**

Flood waters in Venice rose to their highest spring level for 75 years on 7 May, raising fears that the city is sinking at an increasing rate. The record, 49½ feet above sea level

### **DATELINE: England**

A fire swept through the Royal Academy of Arts building in central London on 3 May, involving the first two floors. According to the Academy spokesman, a small number of architectural drawings and one or two sculptures had been damaged, but no paintings were affected. Two galleries housing the upcoming annual Summer Exhibition were hit by the fire, which officials said started on the roof, where repairs apparently had been taking place.

One of the world's most visited web sites is the new site of the Queen of England, launched in March. The 165-page web site has been accessed 12.5 million times, or 6.25 million per month. By tapping in

<http://www.royal.gov.uk> computer users round the world can now tour some of Buckingham Palace and receive news of royal visits.

### **DATELINE: Bilbao**

A custody battle has broken out between two Spanish museums over Picasso's "Guernica", one of the best known paintings of the 20th century. Basque nationalists renewed demands for the transfer of the painting to the new Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, while the painting now hangs in Madrid's Reina Sofia Museum, to which it was moved from the Prado five years ago, contrary to the artist's wishes.

The management of the Guggenheim is prepared to accept the painting on "short-term loan" to celebrate its inauguration on 3 October. "Short term" means two years to the Guggenheim. But the Reina Sofia will not part with the painting even for two days.

### **LIBRARY NEWS**

The *Bibliothèque Nationale de France*, which opened in December in Paris, is raising lots of criticism about its appearance and exorbitant cost. Designed by the architect Dominique Perrault, the \$1.5 billion complex in the Tolbiac area with an annual operating budget of \$192 million, consists of four L-shaped glass towers, resembling codexes facing each other. They stand around a huge rectangular patio planted with a forest of pine and birch trees. The library was originally conceived as a complex of ethereal glass buildings filled with light. Since this had deleterious effects on books because of so much sunlight, the design was amended to include interior wooden shutters to cut down on the sunlight: the result, some critics say, is an unremarkable collection of opaque towers.

The interior is lavish woodwork, furnishings and fiber-optic lamps, also designed by Mr. Perrault. The space houses two auditoriums and a large exhibition area. A tapestry by Roy Lichtenstein hangs in the main hall on the eastern side. (Didn't they have a Lurcat tapestry somewhere--why an American? Where is French chauvinisme?)

Visitors over 18 may use the 1,697-seat reference library on the upper level, where a recently acquired collection of 180,000 books and periodicals is installed. Their references can be researched from computer terminals around the building. Yet the library's main 10-million volumes will not be moved into the new building before 1998, when a 2,100-seat research room on the ground level will open. (New York Times)

### **ART AND THE LAW**

Russell Kucinski, a student at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, went to work one Saturday afternoon in April as an usher at the State Theater. While he was at work, a passerby looked into his car and saw a suspicious-looking package in the front seat and thought it was dynamite and a timer. The police were called and a three-block area of downtown New Brunswick was closed off. Police also evacuated a nearby building that contained some businesses and apartment with about 30 residents.

Meanwhile, Kucinski who was watching a performance of "Sesame Street Live" inside the theater, came out after work, saw the hubbub around his car, and went to investigate. Police brought him to police headquarters where they learned their "bomb" was nothing more than Kucinski's art project. He was given the disorderly persons summons and allowed to leave.

**Amsterdam** - A prominent Moscow performance artist named Alexander Brener in January got free publicity. Known for defecating and masturbating on stage during his performance pieces, Brener smuggled a can of green spray paint into the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam and embossed a huge dollar bill over a canvas by Kazimir Malevich, *White Cross on Gray*. The \$8 million painting, according to experts, was irreparably damaged even though the dollar sign was removed by restorers and is almost invisible now. Brener was arrested and is awaiting trial. According to curator Gert Immanse, the museum is considering sending the damaged piece on tour to warn other museums about security problems at most major museums. Although Brener could get two years for vandalism, Immanse said he doubts the artist will be seriously punished.

**Boulder, CO** - University of Colorado senior in fine arts hung a JonBenet display of photographs in the Fine Arts Building corridor, entitled *Daddy's Little Hooker*. Underneath were three color reproductions of a

Newsweek cover photo in which the child beauty queen wore a crown of baby's breath. The display was torn down twice during the day and rehung, drew a crowd of gawkers and horde of media. The student said he created his display to "raise issues about child pageantry." The First Amendment protects him.

**State College, PA** - A Pennsylvania State University art major has been denounced as a heretic by some Catholics, labeled a pornographer by a state legislator, and become the target of hate mail and cruel morning radio hosts, largely because of two pieces of admittedly graphic, intensely personal art she intended to chronicle --not condemn-- her faith. Since creating a statue of the Virgin Mary enshrined in a mock vagina, and a quantity of panties with crosses stitched to each crotch, Christine Enedy has been called everything from a bigot to a sexual deviant. Placing the statue outside, within five days she removed it under pressure by a local priest.

Things cooled off, but then she submitted a second project for display in the campus gallery in a juried undergraduate exhibit: A pink and beige quilt adorned with 25 pairs of her own cotton underwear, each crotch marked by a red satin cross. She calls it *25 Years of Virginity ... A Self-Portrait* and thinks it is among her best work. And she feels being a virgin "is something that should be celebrated in the Catholic Church" and she is a Catholic.

**Halifax, Nova Scotia** - When Halifax artist Christopher Yorke stripped down, smeared eggs over his body and received oral sex during a university stage show in New Brunswick, he called it performance art. But according to the judge, the only thing Yorke was performing was an indecency. The judge called it "artistic arrogance" and found him guilty of committing an indecent act.

The artist felt the performance (15 minutes) dealt with mating rituals and included a poetry reading, guitar playing and oral sex in front of a video of people swimming. The judge sentenced him to 100 hours of community service, and criticized him for not warning the audience what they were about to see, observing that there was a 12-year-old child at the show. The art community has been divided, although the artist is going to appeal the verdict.

**Baltimore** - Steve Jones, student at the Maryland Institute College of Art created a work of art, "Fingers of Fear" and he was asked to remove one of the fingers in the pink ceramic and concrete sculpture he had installed on a median strip near the institute in time for Parents Weekend. One of the fingers, which has a condom over it, could easily be mistaken for something else, according to institute officials.

At first, Jones moved the pink finger closer to the school to obscure it from public view, since the school said it was offending its neighbors, particularly the Roman Catholic church next door. Later in the day, however, he decided to put it back in its original position covered in a black shroud, as a way to "protest peacefully." According to Jones, each finger represents a different fear. The withered thumb stands for a fear of gaining, while a finger with a wedding band stands for his fear of "getting hitched and having to compromise." But the most severe is the fear represented by the condom, of all that goes with sex for the younger set these days: not only the threat of AIDS, but also getting lost in their emotions.

Two people, two days later, destroyed the Fingers of Fear sculpture and were videotaped in the act. No arrests were made nor were they any known suspects. It had taken only 10 seconds to destroy the work.

**Geneva** - At the opening of the Banque Bruxelles Lambert's new headquarters in Geneva, designed by Mario Botta, Baroness Marion Lambert's collection of contemporary photography which she had agreed to place on indefinite loan in it was removed because of the bank's director general, Guy de Marnix, who objected to 20 images or portfolios, works by David Armstrong, Matthew Barney, Nan Goldin, Andreas Gursky, Louise Lawler, Richard Prince, Thomas Ruff, Thomas Schutte, Cindy Sherman, Laurie Simmons and Rosemarie Trockel. Withdrawn, these photographs were replaced by drawings by Tinguely and other works of art imported from Brussels and Lugano. Portrayals of "transvestites and homosexuals", "deformed and intertwined nudes", "the extreme close-up of a young blond man" and "an intersection in a dirty city, probably in a country in the process of developing" exhibited the conservative bank's fear of its clients. So what else is new?

#### FLUXUS NEWS

**Blame it on Pittsburgh...or, Why I became an artist?** an autobiographical installation-in-the-dark by Fluxus artist Ben Patterson, 30 January - 22 February 1997 at Emily Harvey Gallery in New York City.

**Vytautas Landsbergis**, friend of George Maciunas and former Fluxus artist, a soft-spoken music teacher who stood up to Gorbachev's bully boys in 1990 to assert his nation's independence, visited Washington recently to convince President Clinton not to put his nation, Lithuania, in jeopardy again. He wants Lithuania as part of NATO.

**Emmett Williams** had a show at Emily Harvey Gallery called Fresh Impressionism from 8 April - 3 May.

**Inter/est**, curated by Sukran Aziz, included work by Alison Knowles, Dick Higgins, Eric Andersen among others in a varied intermedial show. Stephen Gang Gallery, 529 West 20th St., New York (Chelsea), 5 - 26 April.

#### NEWSPAPER ART

Nancy Chunn recently had an exhibition at Ronald Feldman Fine Arts involving spending the last year doing little besides carefully studying the images and articles on the front page of the New York Times every day. She adds words and images of her own to the front page, working primarily with pastels, lettered stamps and imagistic stamps, many of them custom-made. The work covered 1 January - 31 December 1996. She bought four copies of the paper, one sent to the conservator to be de-acidified, the others studied or used for sketching out ideas. The installation, according to Roberta Smith's review, looked like a giant illuminated manuscript covering 366 newsprint drawings, a year in the life of a planet, a newspaper and an artist. Smith compares Chunn to diaristic strategies of 1970s Conceptualism and its legacy, including On Kawara's daily date paintings, Jennifer Bartlett's Rhapsody, and others.

#### PUBLIC ART AND PROTEST

A 13-ton statue of three female suffragists is to be moved from the Crypt of the US Capitol to the Rotunda, which has been the exclusive residence of sculpted men for seven decades. The move is to be in June, but a leading black women's group is mounting a drive to block the suffrage statue, arguing that any monument in the Capitol commemorating the suffrage movement should include Sojourner Truth, the black 19th-century abolitionist and feminist.

The National Political Congress of Black Women's attempt is dividing women who normally are allies. In addition to Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, Sojourner Truth has a place in the Rotunda too, say they.

#### RESOURCES

**Nonsequitur**, a non-profit, musician-run organization devoted to the documentation, publication and dissemination of the sonic arts promotes *The Aerial*, a journal in sound, which now has 6 issues, as well as What Next? Recordings. A catalog is available from P.O. Box 344, Albuquerque, NM 87103.

**ISEA97**, the Eighth International Symposium on Electronic Art, 22 - 27 September, at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Calls for Papers, Presentations, Exhibitions now available:

<http://www.artic.edu/~isea97>  
or call/fax: (312)541-8078

or email: [isea97@artic.edu](mailto:isea97@artic.edu)

**Michael Blackwood Productions, Inc.** has a new catalog of films, videos, art, architectuer, music and dance wit a new film on Mel Bochner: Thoughts Made Visible. For more information, contact them at 251 West 57th St., New York, NY 10019. email: [blackwoo@panix.com](mailto:blackwoo@panix.com) or find their web site: <http://www.panix.com/~blackwood>

#### New Websites that are a must:

**House Organ** (Norman Conquest)  
<http://members.aol.com/houseorgan>

#### Janet Maher's Website

[http://www.unm.edu/~arcilla/jmar\\_index.html](http://www.unm.edu/~arcilla/jmar_index.html)

**Striking Distance** is a new internet site, launched in November that addresses contemporary art practice from the point of view of its practitioners. The site's ambitious goal is to use the full multimedia capabilities and the immediacy and interactivity of the internet environment to reinterpret the role of magazines, galleries, criticism and artists in the current art world. Artists such as Sam Durant, Mike Kelley, Douglas Huebler, have been featured. The creative staff includes Managing Director Mitchell Syrop, Editor Michael McCurry and Publisher Timothy Silverlake.

<http://strikingdistance.com>

#### CUTTING EDGE MUSIC

Track and Light Recordings, 179 Richmond St. W., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5V 1V3 has issued **Decisive Moments**, which is the latest release by CCMC, Canada's premier free-improvising band for over 18 years. Included are Michael Snow (piano), Allan Mattes (guitar synthesizer), John Kamevaar (electronics), Paul Dutton, famed member of the Four Horsemen (voice), Jack Vorvis (drums) and John Osval (alto sax). cCMC draws on a broad range of musical styles but conforms to none. While the personnel has changed somewhat over the years, the music's spirit remains the same: process takes precedence and form evolves organically in a shifting tapestry of textures and timbres, with dense layerings set off by moments of meditative calm, with idio-tinted strains transmuted into passes of raucous cacophony. The music was recorded in concert at the Music Gallery in Toronto, during the group's regular weekly performances. \$15.00 plus \$4.00 postage.

**New Fire Tapes** and Membrane Press are producers of fine cassette tapes of the Canadian avantgarde. Sound poet Paul Dutton has produced **Fugitive Forms** and you can also order **Ear Rational: Sound Poems 1970-80** by bpNichol. These are historic

tapes by sound poets who are world renowned. Available from New Fire Tapes, P.O. Box 4190, Kenosha, WI 53141.

### EXHIBITIONS ON THE NET

**My Body My Self** is the first exhibition of Liliane Lijn's work to be held on the Internet. Lijn, whose work has played a pivotal role in the passage of art from the mechanical to the electronic age, is internationally known for her work with light.

**My Body My Self** is the latest exhibition to be designed and put on the Internet by an exciting new gallery, the Dadart Virtual Gallery/Blue Klein based in Florence, Italy. Previous exhibitions which can be seen on their site include the work of the sculptor Constantino Nivola, Maurizio Nannucci, and others. Their artistic advisor is the well-known Italian art historian and critic Lara Vinca Massini. Working closely with her, Blue Klein have designed a retrospective exhibition of Lijn's work since 1978 focusing on her work with the female image. Beginning with an installation of large minimal pro-anthropomorphic figures at the Round House Gallery in London in 1980, the exhibition allows the viewer to follow the artist's development from her first minimal prism and aluminum section *Figures of Light* to the flamboyant figures made with highly colored fibres the ritualistic *erforming Goddess figures*, and the caged *Brides* to her most recent work on herself, her series of *Self-Portraits* in which she visualizes her body fragmented by light. Since Lijn has always used text in her work, words are part of the exhibition and a kinetic thought display accompanies each image. There are also for those viewers with Quicktime two videos of Lijn's work. The piece can be viewed at:

<http://www.dada.it/dadart/lijn/>  
For further information about the exhibition, contact Liliane Lijn, 99 Camden Mews, London NW1 9XA/ [liliane@lijn.demon.co.uk](mailto:liliane@lijn.demon.co.uk)

### OPPORTUNITIES

The **Electronic Music Foundation** has a Calendar for the World of concerts and festivals, extraordinary web sites, reports on events, news of people on the road, etc. The List of Events can be found on:

[http://www.emf.org/cal\\_eventlist.html](http://www.emf.org/cal_eventlist.html)

and the Don't Miss These Events page allows you to know about festivals and special events throughout the world:

[http://www.emf.org/cal\\_exceptional.html](http://www.emf.org/cal_exceptional.html)

The CDeMusic catalog is available for music by Johanna Beyer, Annea Lockwood, Pauline

Oliveros, Laurie Spiegel, Megan Roberts, Ruth Anderson, and Laurie Anderson, among others, including Harry Partch, Alvin Curran, Lou Harrison, John Cage, etc.

[http://www.emf.org/cdcat\\_cri.html](http://www.emf.org/cdcat_cri.html)  
And take advantage of the Tellus cassette blowout! They're offering 11 Tellus cassettes, with historical text sound compositions, soundart, microcomputer music, Fluxus music, and more for \$5.00 each.

[http://www.emf.org/cdcat\\_telluscassettes.html](http://www.emf.org/cdcat_telluscassettes.html)

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO UMBRELLA MUSEUM

Beth Bachenheimer, Chuck & Judy Goodstein, Bill Wahrhaftig, Claire Isaacs, Gloria & Roy Helfgott, Tom Jacoby, Hedi Kyle, Tim Ely, Elzas-Beilin Family, Ray Reece, Jesse Glass, Ruth Laxson, Annie Silverman, Anna Banana, Claire Jeanine Satin, Janet Nolan, Johan van Geluwe, R. Simonson, Marcello Diotallevi, Lulu, Annie Silverman, Sas Colby, Julie Wagner, Coco Gordon, Arnold Klein

### UMBRELLA NEWS

One of the recent gifts to the Umbrella Museum is a publication from the Tulsa Artists' Coalition in Tulsa, Oklahoma which is called "The Bumbershoot". They called it "The Bumbershoot" using this logic:

*From various sources, we learned that the word bumbershoot is an alternative word for umbrella, and it's quite likely slang from certain areas of England and earlier America. We've also found that lots of younger than baby-boomers have never heard the term (as well as some older). But whether you had prior knowledge of it or not, what does it have to do with naming this newsletter The Bumbershoot? It's really quite simple.*

*Who would read a newsletter with a name like The Umbrella? (sic!)*

*From the New York Times:*

It is a cloudy, showery afternoon on Hudson Street, below Jane Street. A visitor from Maryland emerges from a bar and automatically raises his newly purchased umbrella. Threading his way through the rush-hour pedestrians, always careful with the beaded points, he looks down to see that a very short man has popped up under his umbrella.

"I've got news for ya, buddy," the short man announces. "It ain't raining." And with that, he vanishes. A few more steps and the visitor sheepishly closes the umbrella.

I often tell this story when asked, "What's it like in New York?"

—Theodore F. Watts

Upon my arrival in Manhattan through the Lincoln Tunnel, the bus turned onto Greenwich Street in Tribeca and I saw this glorious red sculpture, a 16-foot high, 5,300 pound fire-engine red steel umbrella. Sitting in front of the new towering headquarters of the Travelers Group, this red umbrella has caused more of a storm than the weather man can predict, since many people do not like it.

**The question is:** In a rainstorm, do you get wetter walking to cover or running? According to a new study by meteorologists Thomas Peterson and Trevor Wallis of the National Climatic Data Center, over a 100-meter distance, a walker would get 16% wetter than a runner in a drizzle and 23% wetter in a heavy rain. Of course, if they had an umbrella, they wouldn't get wet at all—except on 10th Avenue in New York City!

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