

friend Dr. Albert Grokoest with gratitude Mark Rothko 1967" by the artist when he gave the painting to his physician and friend Dr. Albert Grokoest. Grokoest was a New Hampshire native, and he bequeathed the picture to the Currier in appreciation of the role the museum played in his childhood. Without Dr. Grokoest's generosity, the Currier might not have a work by this renowned Abstract Expressionist painter of the mid twentieth century.

The Frost Heaves Players (Ken Sheldon, Kathy Manfre, Beth Signoretti, and Dave Nelson) return with the Yankee Positioning System for finding your way around New England, Life's Little Mystery Theatre (examining the age old question, "Why won't men ask for directions?"), the latest news on the traffic circle epidemic menacing southern New Hampshire, a look at the future when teenagers run the country, and more. The Speed Bumps band (Mike Rousseau, Mark Crory, and Tom Bielecki) play classic oldies and join the cast to compose a brand-new original "Song on the Spot" based on audience suggestions.

A highlight of the show--depending on how you look at it--will be Fred Marple's official announcement of his non-candidacy for congress. "Once again, I am bowing to public pressure and serving my country as best I can by not running," says Marple, who hopes the trend will catch on but isn't holding his breath.

Performances of Frost Heaves are Friday, Oct. 8 and Saturday, October 9 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15, general admission, and are available at the door, at the Toadstool and Steeles in Peterborough, at Rousseau's music in Jaffrey, and online at frostheaves.com. A special group discount is available at frostheaves.com, where you can also see video clips from previous shows. For more information: 525-3391 or email info@frostheaves.com.

October 8-9

Macabaret Comes to WEST



Todd Fernald as "Paul Bearer," Diane Arabian as "Donna Shroud," Kelli Connors as "Victoria Bledsoe," and Robb Ross as "Phil Graves" in Macabaret]

PORTRUSH - ACT ONE'S 4th annual Festival of Fun presents Get-A-Clue Productions devilishly delightful musical revue Macabaret at the West End Studio Theatre in Portsmouth.

Macabaret, by Scott Keys and Robert Hartmann, is an evening of "gallows humor, song & dance." This cabaret-with-a-twist will make you laugh 'til it hurts with its outrageous look at the kooky and spooky, the morbid and macabre.

The "Corpse de Cabaret" includes Phil Graves, Victoria Bledsoe, Paul Bearer, and Donna Shroud...so you get an idea of what you are in for! Macabaret is filled with plenty of "hellish jokes" and "ghoulish bad puns." Hilarious songs such as "Dead End Job," "Grave Mistake," "Boogie Woogie Boogieman," and

"Marriage is Murder" parody murderous spouses, horror films, evil cows, and strange things that go bump in the night.

Macabaret is fiendishly fun entertainment and will play Friday, September 17 and October 8 at 8pm and Saturday, September 18 and October 9 at 2pm and 8pm. Tickets are \$18/\$16 and available at 300-2986 and online at www.actonenh.org. Reservations are highly recommended. The West End Studio Theatre is located at 959 Islington Street.

October 8-10

Amherst Actors Star in "Little Women" Musical



Hughes and Harmon Perform with StageCoach Productions

NASHUA - StageCoach Productions will begin their 5th season in October with Little Women, the Broadway Musical. With music direction by Mont Vernon's Judy Hayward, and featuring Ashley Hughes and Stuart Harmon of Amherst, four performances will be offered October 8-10 (Fri/Sat evenings at 8pm and Sat/Sun matinees at 2pm) at the Janice B. Streeter Theatre, 14 Court Street in Nashua.

In 1868, Louisa May Alcott published Little Women, a story about the experiences of four sisters—Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy March—growing up with their mother in Concord, Massachusetts during the Civil War, while their father is serving as a chaplain for the Union Army. There have been at least 10 film versions of the novel, a Broadway play and an opera. The first Broadway musical of Little Women appeared in 2005, with the play version written by Allan Knee, music by Jason Howland, and lyrics by Mindy Dickstein.

Ashley Hughes, a 2002 graduate of Souhegan High School in Amherst, portrays the role of Jo March, the character who is based on Louisa May Alcott herself. Hughes is familiar to local audiences from her many roles in Amherst PTA Plays as far back as Dorothy in the 2002 Wizard of Oz, and more recently as Peter Pan in Peter Pan and Tzitzel in Fiddler on the Roof. Her most recent role was that of Roxie Hart in Chicago, with Best Foot Forward Productions in Manchester.

When asked about her character, Jo March, who is an outspoken tomboy who strives to become a famous writer, Ashley describes her as "powerful, ambitious, wise beyond her years and yet somehow unaware of all she has going for her. She is so energetic and passionate...it makes her a blast to play onstage...and yet, one of my most challenging roles to date!"

Ashley is joined onstage by Stuart Harmon, also of Amherst. This is Harmon's sixth performance with StageCoach Productions, having played Edward Rochester in Jane Eyre the Musical and the title character in Jekyll and Hyde the Musical. Stuart recently had the role of defense attorney Billy Flynn in Chicago. "It was such a pleasant surprise to discover that I would be

working with Ashley Hughes. We were in Chicago together at this same time last year up in Manchester, and developed a great working relationship," said Harmon.

Harmon portrays Fritz Bhaer, a poor German immigrant who was a professor in Berlin but now lives in the boarding house of Mrs. Kirk, a friend of the March family. He tutors the Kirk children and critiques Jo's writing. Asked about his character, Harmon says, "I've been portraying a lot of Germans lately. At the Palace Theatre last year I was Franz Liebknecht in The Producers, a crazed Nazi. Shortly thereafter I played Roger De Bris in The Producers for Actorsingers in Nashua, a crazed director attempting to be a flamboyant Hitler."

Jo March's older sister, Meg, is played by Katie Prolux. Becca Tarr is cast in the role of third child, Beth. Caitlin Donohue plays the role of Amy, the youngest March daughter.

The cast is rounded out with Judi Mitchell as Marmie, the girls' mother, Micky Molongoski as Aunt March, Christopher Kosavelon as Mr. Brooke, Joel Iwaskiewicz as Laurie, and Dan Desmarais as Mr. Lawrence.

Dates of the four performances, which will be at 14 Court Street in Nashua, are Oct. 8-10, Fri. and Sat. performances are at 8:00 p.m. and Sat. and Sun. matinees are at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors and may be purchased at www.stagecoachproductions.org, at the box office 45 minutes before performance, or by calling 320-3780.

October 16

Opening Night at Nashua Symphony Orchestra Features Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony

NASHUA - The Nashua Symphony Orchestra's 2010 | 11 season – the third under the ensembles' Music Director and Principal Conductor, Jonathan McPhee – balances blockbuster performances of great masterworks by Brahms, Wagner, Mahler and Beethoven with less well-known works by Mozart, Hindemith, Ives and Haydn. In October, the fully-professional NSO presents the first of three "can't miss" events.

The red carpet rolls out for opening night on October 16 when McPhee and the NSO stage a "Hero's Welcome" through music that is by turns stirring, provocative, heart-breaking and triumphant, including Mozart's overture to La Clemenza di Tito, Ives' Washington's Birthday, Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis and Beethoven's audacious and thrilling Eroica Symphony.

This concert is sponsored by BAE Systems; military personnel and veterans will be admitted free of charge with tickets reserved in advance.

NSO concerts are notable for the conversational tone struck by conductor Jonathan McPhee, who makes short remarks to the audience before each piece on the program. Concertgoers rave about this element of the performances, noting that McPhee's comments make them feel welcome and help familiarize them with the music they will hear.

"Jonathan has really been able to break down the barriers that traditionally have kept the concertgoing audience at arm's reach from the music," says NSA Executive Director Eric Valliere about the maestro's stage demeanor. "He's so down to earth; you always feel like he's talking just to you."

Tickets, priced from \$10 to \$47, are available at the Nashua Symphony Box Office, 6 Church St., can be charged to major credit cards

by calling 595-9156 or can be purchased online at www.nashusasymphony.org.

Philharmonic Opens 106th Season With Rachmaninoff

MANCHESTER – The New Hampshire Philharmonic opens its 106th season with a concert featuring the music of Rachmaninoff.

The Philharmonic presents a captivating work for piano and orchestra – the piano concerto #2 by Sergei Rachmaninoff. The music of Rachmaninoff has long been an audience favorite for its sweeping melodies and lush orchestration.

The performance of the Rachmaninoff concerto features piano soloist Arlene Kies. Ms. Kies recently spoke about the concert with a reporter, from her home in Durham. "No matter how many times I return to the Rachmaninoff Second, I continue to be overwhelmed by its unabashed pathos and beauty."

Ms. Kies performs widely as recitalist, concerto soloist and as chamber pianist. Her recent performance of the Ravel G Major Concerto with the Granite State Symphony was described by critics as "spectacular". She performs later this year in recital with internationally renowned soprano Barbara Bonney.

It is clear that Ms. Kies fully inhabits the piece. "The piece has a way of completely tapping the human capacity for joy, sorry, passion, and transcendence. Its ravishing beauty is anything but elitest, and I hope that our performance will leave every audience member as affected by its beauty as I was the first time I played it through as a young conservatory student."

The concert is led by Music Director Anthony Princiotti, now in his 11th year at the podium of the Philharmonic. Kies last performed with Princiotti and the Philharmonic in 2006.

As part of its season-long examination of the repertoire of Russia, the Philharmonic will also perform Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 5 at the concert. A work of longing and triumph, music commenter Susan Halpern has described the work as at the last "becoming proud and exultant, majestic, finally completely triumphant... completely transformed into celebratory affirmation."

The concert takes place Saturday evening, October 16, at the Palace Theatre Manchester.

Complete information about the season is available at the Philharmonic's website nhphil.org.

October 16-17

5th Annual Hollis Fine Art Festival



"Lingley's" oil painting by Stephen L. Previte.

The Town of Hollis, NH will hold its 5th Annual Fine Art Festival on Saturday and Sunday October 16 and 17 from 10-4 PM rain or shine at Nichols Field, Depot Road.

Artists from all over New England as well as New York and beyond will be gathering to exhibit a wide variety of creative art in all of the major mediums of Oil, Acrylic, Watercolor, Pastel, Graphics and Photography.

Steve Previte, organizer of the show, says that the quality of art just keeps getting better each year

and he is once again bringing in additional artists that have not been seen in this area before.

Bring the family to enjoy the beauty of both art & autumn in Hollis!

Admission is free.

Jason Hackler to Judge Hollis Fine Art Festival

HOLLIS – We are pleased to announce that Jason Hackler, co-owner of the New Hampshire Antique Co-op will judge this year's 5th Annual Hollis Fine Art Festival. Mr. Hackler is on the advisory council of the Currier Museum of Art and is also on the steering committee of the Charles Parsons Fund, established through the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to continue the study of the history of the arts in New Hampshire.

He has been instrumental in bringing exceptional fine art, both period and contemporary, to New Hampshire through ongoing exhibitions at the New Hampshire Antique Co-op in Milford. Hackler says that he is honored to have been given this opportunity.

Hollis Fine Art Festival Applications Now Available

HOLLIS – Applications for the 5th Annual Hollis Fine Art Festival, which will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 16th and 17th, are now available. All major mediums i.e. oils, watercolors, acrylics etc. are represented. The photography category, however, is full at this time. Due to the popularity of this show it is recommended to apply as soon as possible in order to reserve a space. To receive an application or further information, contact Steve Previte at 465-2647 or Email steve@previtefineart.com.

October 18-29

Art Of Africa Exhibit Opens at Thorne Gallery

KEENE - From carved serving bowls to ceremonial masks, art is interwoven into the African way of life, as shown in an exhibit to open Friday, September 3, through Sunday, October 31, at the Thorne-Saunders Art Gallery at Keene State College.

The Art of Africa exhibit will be the focus of the Friends of the Thorne's annual education program for area school children, scheduled for October 18-29.

The gallery's new hours are: Sunday to Wednesday, noon to 5 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, noon to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. It will be closed Monday, September 6, for Labor Day. The exhibits and education program are free and open to the public. For information: 358-2720 or visit www.keene.eduartsag.

October 19

Nashua Historical Society Grand Opening Of Permanent Photography Exhibit

NASHUA - The Nashua Historical Society will open a new permanent exhibit, consisting of selected photographs of the Nashua area from a collection of nearly 5000 donated by Frank M. Ingalls and his family, on Tuesday, October 19. The exhibit opening presentation will be held at 7:30 PM at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St. in Nashua. It is free and open to the public.

Professional photographer Claire Young of Nashua will present a program that evening discussing the evolution of photography over the years.

Ingalls, born in Nashua in 1862, photographed local people and scenes from the late 1800s until he moved to New York City a few years later, then again after he returned

Continued on page 18 ►

Hollis Fine Art Festival

Oct. 16 & 17 • 10 - 4 PM
Rain or Shine
Nichols Field, Depot Rd. Hollis, NH

Oils
Watercolors
Acrylics
Pastels
Graphics
Mixed Media
Photography

One of New Hampshire's largest fine art festivals featuring artists from throughout New England and beyond.

Free Admission

One of New Hampshire's largest fine art festivals featuring artists from throughout New England and beyond.

Free Admission

Free Admission