

BERTA WALKER GALLERY - PROVINCETOWN

September 18 - October 11, 2015

Opening reception, 6 - 8 PM

INSTALLATION:

The Hotel Plays

DAVID KAPLAN & RIDE HAMILTON

Moments

Three Photographers

GRACE HOPKINS, SUSUMU KISHIHARA, JOHN ROMUALDI

GRAND SCALE PAINTINGS

NANCY CRAIG, ED GIOBBI, ANNE MAC ADAM NANCY WHORF, more

LAST OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS

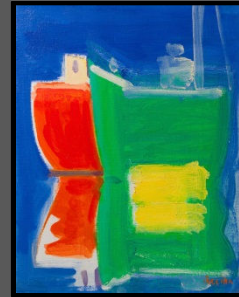
"Little Veronese" by PAUL RESIKA

Donated by Paul Resika in celebration of Provincetown Arts 30th Anniversary

Special RAFFLE PRICE during BWG opening night reception

Five tickets for \$200 **5/\$200** Five tickets for \$200

Only a few raffle tickets remaining!



PAUL RESIKA, Little Veronese

Winner will be announced at Berta Walker Gallery

7:00 PM, September 18!!!!

(Winner need not be present)

September 1, 2015, Provincetown, MA... Berta Walker Gallery presents works that push the boundaries of their medium with both size and materials in this upcoming exhibition.

Theatre director **David Kaplan** and photographer **Ride Hamilton** have collaborated on an installation of photographs and scenery focused on the sublime backstory of *The Hotel Plays*, recently produced by the Tennessee Williams Festival in New Orleans, LA.

Photographers **Grace Hopkins**, **Susumu Kishihara** and **John Romualdi** capture "Moments" where color, form and composition come in a flash of a bird grabbing a fish, framed shadows and patterns alchemized through the lens, or abstractions created purely through the artist's eye and camera.

In addition, grand-scale paintings by gallery artists will also be presented.

Installation
"The Hotel Plays"
A Collaboration
DAVID KAPLAN and RIDE HAMILTON



Photo Credit: © Ride Hamilton
From "The Hotel Plays", Death Appears Through the Mirror, Directed by David Kaplan, Photo by Ride Hamilton

This exhibition focuses on the recent acclaimed production in New Orleans of Tennessee Williams' *The Hotel Plays*. Ride Hamilton's photos reveal the spirit of David Kaplan's installed performance, where viewers experience and contribute to the dimensions of stage, actor and the environment. Hamilton's photos preserve more than the viewers' eye can see, exposing what the "inner thinking" of Kaplan's direction.

David Kaplan is the Curator of the Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival, and has directed theater world-wide and is a fascinating conceptual artist whose work in the theater is an inherently visual invitation to visit a spiritual world," notes Berta Walker. Ride Hamilton is a photographer from New Orleans, where the two met.

In March 2015 in New Orleans the Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival presented four one-act plays by Tennessee Williams in the rooms of the Historic Hermann-Grima historic house and museum, a former French Quarter boarding house that dates back to 1831. Under the direction of David Kaplan, an ensemble of Provincetown and New Orleans actors and musicians performed *Lord Byron's Love Letter*, *Mr. Paradise*, *The Last of My Solid Gold Watches*, and *The Lady of Larkspur Lotion*. The New Orleans Times Picayune about this production: "Splendid...a collection of poetic snapshots of the human condition."

Hamilton's images in and around *The Hotel Plays* in New Orleans reveal Kaplan's underlying conceptualizations created through merged nuances of actors, set and lighting. Kaplan explains, "The faces are unclear or in shadow; parts of the photographs are out of focus. Colors have been stripped to sepia, or filtered to yellow with whiffs of deep brown and delicate blue. The images are dark, an invitation to the luxury of looking closely and for a long time. As often as not, the performers are not performing, but thinking, waiting, watching. This is my favorite kind of acting; when actors think, when the audience is drawn in to think, and feel."

In these images, the audience sees death in the mirror, staircases lead to nowhere and actors poised to begin the journey of performance, which is inherently a journey to a performance's - and a life's -- conclusion. The photography of *The Hotel Plays* in New Orleans lends itself to the spirit of the texts by Tennessee Williams set in hotel rooms, photography and texts, director and photographer, concerned with exploring how men and women rest in the body between flights of

the soul. "Performing and preparing to perform in the historic Hermann-Grima House Museum in New Orleans is like playing music on a keyboard that, better than a Bösendorfer with an extra octave, has an extra set of keys to play that can't be heard, but can be felt," says Kaplan. "Mirrors, doors, windows - either opened or closed - staircases, shadows, glare, all of these access another world. What Ride Hamilton catches and passes on in his photographs is that the exterior is an avatar of the interior state."

MOMENTS

Three photographers

GRACE HOPKINS, SUSUMU KISHIHARA, JOHN ROMUALDI

GRACE HOPKINS has been creating photographs since 1991. She builds a highly energized visual image from a tiny piece of reality. Susan Rand Brown wrote recently in the Banner, Hopkins is "A photographer with the eye and soul of a painter. She creates an image by isolating a fragment of something larger, perhaps a wall, textured and brightly lit, or flickering in shadow. Hopkins' images ask that we take nothing for granted. We are jolted into seeing the smallest detail, something we would rush past, as something unexpected, marvelous and...something quite grand. Hers is a vision rooted in a pure form of abstract expressionism [where] the viewer feels surrounded by the freshness of expressionist imagery and motion, each piece different, each piece allusive yet quite original."



GRACE HOPKINS

Hopkins states, "My works are photographs, but people think they are paintings. Technically, they are straight photographs taken of actual things that exist in the world and are not manipulated, but they look and feel like abstract paintings. Emotionally, they are all about painting. I search out surface, shadow, light, color and bring them together onto a canvas."

SUSUMU KISHIHARA



SUSUMU KISHIHARA

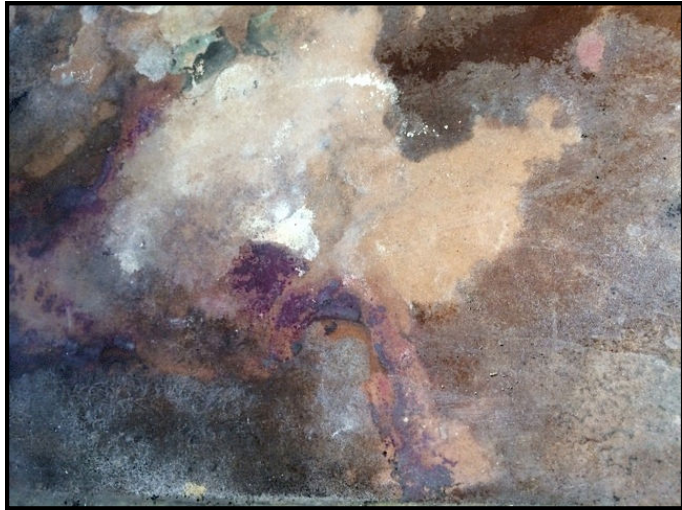
Born in Nakatsu, Oita Prefecture, on Japan's southern island of Kyushu, Kishihara has been in Provincetown for only six years. In that brief span of time, the self-taught artist has quickly become a sought-after photographer of nature.

Kishihara has won several awards and is included in several books on nature. In his first exhibit at Berta Walker Gallery, his work was so moving that the entire group was purchased and later donated for the walls of Outer Cape Health's new building in Provincetown.

Kishihara NOTES: "I began photography with the many types of birds at the feeders in our yard in Provincetown - Cardinals, Orioles, Titmouse, Gold Finches and many more. To my way of thinking, I was in Nature, not in Art. But my partner said that my photos were unusual in their style of intimacy with Nature, and urged me to send my photos to Mass Audubon, various photo contests and, later, to National Geographic. My partner also loves Nature, but his disability has limited his ability to go beyond the edges of most natural areas. I soon realized that I could use my camera to bring Nature home to him."

JOHN ROMUALDI has been making photographs since he was a teenager. To Romualdi, the photographer's gift and task is to notice; to see and then capture what is peculiar and compelling in the natural or man-made world. "Moments can pass by too easily, but once brought to the eye of the viewer, they evoke something that draws us in and satisfies... creating, as well, a sense of balance."

Romualdi is also a theatre and screen actor. Walker describes this series as "Theatre of the Absurd", for these photographs turn absurd objects such as an old manhole cover or the fungus on ancient wood, into images that touch our senses and spirit."



JOHN ROMUALDI

As a teenager, Romualdi accompanied his father, a forensic engineer, on accident reconstructions. "We used a small Leica camera and he would have me take extreme close-ups of broken glass and crumpled metal. I became fascinated by the random patterns that would be formed and soon began to notice these in the world around me." The artist has been exhibiting at Berta Walker Gallery since 2008. Romualdi is in a large number of private collections nationally and has exhibited in Los Angeles.

GRAND SCALE PAINTINGS



NANCY CRAIG, Meditation, n.d., oil on canvas, 46 x 76"

This exhibition was inspired as an homage to Nancy Craig, who died only a few months ago at the age of 88. She was known internationally for her portraits, commissioned by individuals and royalty worldwide. Her true passion, however, was in making large-scale paintings, often about the myths of her own imagination. A Memorial Exhibition is planned for 2016, and "Meditation", a 4' x 6' painting of a shell, will be included in this show in her Memory, along with unusual paintings by Ed Giobbi, Anne Mac Adam, Nancy Whorf, Paul Resika and others.

AND CONTINUING AT
BERTA WALKER GALLERY WELFLEET
40 Main Street, Wellfleet, MA

"Connected!
Provincetown to Wellfleet"

Artists of BWG Provincetown who live and create in Truro and Wellfleet

ROB DU TOIT, ROBERT HENRY, GRACE HOPKINS, BRENDA HOROWITZ, PENELOPE JENCKS, JUDYTH KATZ, PAUL RESIKA, BLAIR RESIKA, SIDNEY SIMON, SELINA TRIEFF, PETER WATTS

This exhibition is Dedicated to
SELINA TRIEFF
"Icon of the Provincetown Art Colony"

Fall Gallery Hours

Provincetown

Thursday through Monday: 12pm to 5pm,
Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Provincetown Artist Receptions are Fridays, 6:00-8:00 PM

Wellfleet

Thursday through Monday: 11am to 4pm,
Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Always by appointment, and often by chance

"The Berta Walker Gallery has been highlighting the rich cultural heritage of Provincetown's 100-year old art colony for 25 years, and is known for showing a wide variety of important Outer Cape art and artists from Provincetown, Truro and Wellfleet."

Andre Van der Wende, *Cape Cod Times*

Representing Varujan Boghosian, Romolo Del Deo, Salvatore Del Deo, Robert DuToit, Ed Giobbi, Dimitri Hadzi (estate), Elspeth Halvorsen, Robert Henry, Brenda Horowitz, Penelope Jencks, David Kaplan, Judyth Katz, John Kearney (estate), Anne MacAdam, Danielle Mailer, Erna Partoll, Sky Power, Paul Resika, Selina Trieff (estate), Peter Watts, Nancy Whorf (estate), Murray Zimiles

Photography: Grace Hopkins, Susumu Kishihara, Dana McCannel, John Romualdi, Blair Resika, John Thomas

Provincetown Masters: Byron Browne, Oliver Chaffee, Marsden Hartley, Charles W. Hawthorne, Hans Hofmann, Edward Hopper, Karl Knaths, Blanche Lazzell, Ross Moffett, Vollian Rann, Agnes Weinrich.

Provincetown Folk Art and Ancient African Carvings and Bronzes

PROVINCETOWN

Berta Walker Gallery

WELFLEET

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Grace Hopkins, Manager



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