

**OPENING AT
BERTA WALKER GALLERY, WELLFLEET**

JULY 22 - AUGUST 12

**Three Exhibitions
RECEPTION IN WELLFLEET
SATURDAY, JULY 22, 4 - 6PM**

PAUL & BLAIR RESIKA in TEPOZTLAN

Photographs, Paintings, Pastels & Gouaches

GILBERT FRANKLIN (1919-2004)

Essence

Bronze and carved wood sculpture

Masters of the Provincetown Art Colony

paintings and works on paper

PAUL & BLAIR RESIKA in TEPOZTLAN

Photographs, Paintings, Pastels & Gouaches



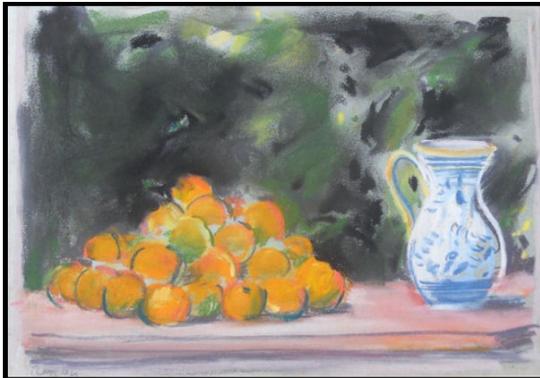
Paul Resika, Yellow Sky, Tepoztlan, 1988, Oil on canvas, 60 x 96"

For twenty years, Paul and Blair Resika visited Tepoztlan, Mexico, where Elizabeth Blair, Blair's mother, lived year-round. Paul spent hours in the fields painting, or sketching in pastels or gouache. Blair Resika was busy photographing Paul painting, or making photographic studies of the animals and environment of Tepoztlan.

This exhibition brings together a selection of Paul's paintings, gouaches and pastels, and features a recently-acquired 96" wide painting entitled "Yellow Sky, Tepoztlan", painted in 1988. Blair Resika's B & W photographs focus on Paul painting in the fields, intimate portraits of bulls and local dogs, and the environment they both loved in Tepoztlan. Joan Washburn showed Paul's early Tepoztlan paintings at the Peridot Gallery in 1971, and Robert Graham, Sr., presented a show at Graham Gallery in 1983. This exhibition premieres for Cape Cod, the work of both these important artists and their art created in Tepoztlan.

The great writer Larry Campbell wrote about Resika's landscapes in general, and discussed the Tepoztlan paintings in particular, in *Art in America* in 1983. "For many years Paul Resika's paintings have paid homage to a nature that he often seems to embrace pantheistically. It is as though the nymph that the Greeks thought was the spirit of the tree had taken refuge in the paint on his canvas.

Since the 18th Century nature has ceased to be a reflection of the divine purpose, and most painters of nature fall into Ruskin's pathetic fallacy by thinking of nature either in humanist or scientific terms. Resika seems to be an exception. He stands apart, for he projects himself into the paint as it goes on the canvas, rather than into 'nature'."



Paul Resika, Still Life, Tepoztecan, pastel, 9 x 12"



Paul Resika, Tepoztlan Mountain, pastel, 9 x 12"

Continuing, Campbell notes, "everything in this show was painted in Mexico directly from the outdoors. Resika often started his painting in the later afternoon, and as he continued to paint into the dusk, the moon rose into nature's sky and thus often into the sky of his paintings. In this show, large paintings depict a bull as black as a bible, grazing knee deep in a field burnt orange by the sun. A mountain like cliff shoots skyward, echoing a stone building and a tree. In their naturalism, Resika's Bulls are absolutely bulllike, his tree, treelike, his mountain mountainlike. These pictures are haunting. In this collection of paintings, Resika has reached a higher level of achievement than ever before."



Paul Resika, Photographer and Bull, 1985, oil on canvas, 17 X 39"

Blair Resika is a multi-talented woman: a professional singer, gifted photographer, and graphic designer. She has said of her photography, "the landscape and the interiors of rooms (and often the relationship between them) have been of continuing interest to me, as well as portraits, animals, and, of course, my husband, the painter Paul Resika, and his models."

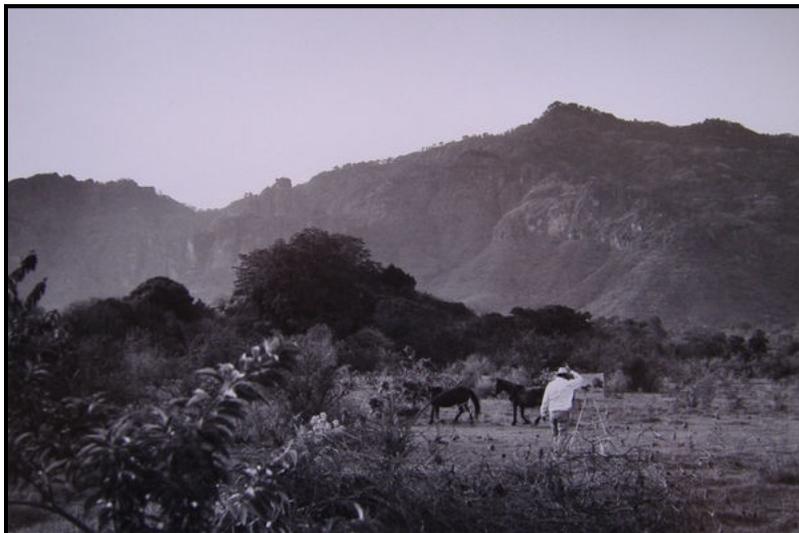


Blair Resika, Tepoztecan Dog, 1985,
B & W silver gelatin print, 11 X 14"



Blair Resika, Black Bull,
B & W silver gelatin print, 6 1/2 x 9 1/2"

Resika is currently included in the Heritage Museums Landscape show about which Debbie Forman wrote in The Cape Cod Times: "Works by major artists Edward Hopper, Marsden Hartley, Charles Sheeler, Wolf Kahn, and Paul Resika, are part of the show....In this year's show, Paul Resika's "Blue Wave" is the boldest." The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown is currently featuring a one-man show of Paul's most recent paintings, on view through the end of July.



Blair Resika, Wild Horses, Tepoztlan, B & W Silver gelatin print, 11 x 14"

The Resikas live in Truro for almost six months and spend winters in New York City. Paul Resika has exhibited continuously throughout the United States and Europe beginning at the age of 17. He was a founding member of Provincetown's Long Point Gallery, and has exhibited with Berta Walker since she founded Graham Modern Gallery in New York over thirty years ago.

Blair Resika has shown her photographs frequently with the BWG, and has performed professionally in both New York and Provincetown.

GILBERT FRANKLIN (1919-2004)

For sculptor GILBERT FRANKLIN, the human figure was always a major source of inspiration. Much of his work has antecedents in the classical sculpture of Greece and Rome - classical, but expressing a contemporary aesthetic through the often rough surfaces, boldly sliced interacting forms, sharp edges. Franklin has said: "I do basically two types of sculpture: one, figurative, the other, abstract, derived from natural forms like shells and rocks."

In this exhibition, Franklin will be represented by a selection of table-sized bronze figurative and wood abstract sculptures created throughout his career from the 1960s forward. Franklin continually explored the complementary and dramatic integration of energy and rhythm. This work has been described by Andre van der Wende in the Cape Cod Times as "tender and elegantly refined." At the end of his life, Franklin was fashioning works of every description. He never settled into any comfortable groove; instead, he seems to have been comfortable in all that he did.

Lynn Stanley wrote in a long article for Provincetown Magazine several years ago noting that "Touring Gilbert Franklin's studio of finished pieces and wax forms in progress, a restrained elegance and simplicity of line are evident everywhere. The features of each face are nondescript, the forms stylized; one had the sense of the archetypal body moving in time, not confined to the specifics of identity."

Gil truly loved what he did and was very happy doing it. He never lost the love and admiration of those who knew him. As the poet John Skoyles (past director of the FAWC) remarked, "Who couldn't fall under his spell." Gilbert Franklin's daughter, Nina Berson, a well-respected art historian and teacher in Los Angeles, noted in the catalog accompanying Gilbert Franklin's memorial exhibition at Mount Saint Mary's University, Los Angeles: "Gil's artistic interests and talents were protean. He worked with a wide range of materials, in a wide range of styles. Like Picasso, he was not to be pinned down...Franklin never stopped exploring approaches to form, and acknowledged a wide array of influences, but he always found the essential form...what mattered to him was not figuration or abstraction, but beauty. On the wall of his studio in South Wellfleet, Gil left the penciled word 'Essence.'"



Gilbert Franklin, Figure With Cape and Apple,
c. 2000, Bronze, 22 x 5 1/2 x 4 3/4"



Gilbert Franklin,
Odalisque, 1989, Bronze, 11 1/2" x 9" x 5"



Gilbert Franklin, Figures Climbing the Wall (Bosnia),
n.d., Bronze, unique, 7 1/2 x 8 x 4"



Gilbert Franklin,
Sounds From A Distant Sea, 1965,
bronze, 12 x 12 1/2 x 5 1/2"

A co-founder of the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Gilbert Franklin stayed connected to young artists and teaching throughout his life. He was born in England and grew up in Attleboro, Massachusetts. In high school, he took an evening course in drawing with an instructor who taught at Rhode Island School of Design and who encouraged him to attend art school. Franklin attended RISD. As recognition of Gil's talent spread among the RISD faculty, he became the rare student who was invited by his teachers to join in their professorial discussions about the nature of art and the role of the artist. And not surprisingly, Gil was awarded RISD's Alumni Fellowship in 1941 and joined the RISD faculty as Professor of Sculpture in 1942, ultimately heading up the art department.

Franklin received numerous commissions, including the major Harry S. Truman Memorial in Independence, Missouri. Locally, his famous sculpture Sea forms can be seen at the Wellfleet Library, and a life size New England Torso is in the collection of the Cape Cod Museum of Art. The monumental Beach Figure that won the grand prize at the Boston Arts Festival in 1959 has just been acquired by Provincetown Art Association and Museum.

Masters of the Provincetown Art Colony

paintings and work on paper



Lucy L'Engle (1889-1978), Vortex, C. 1962,
gouache on papers, 16 x 21 1/2"



Karl Sprinchorn (1887-1971), Still Life with Flowers,
1922, Oil on canvas, 22 x 14"



Karl Knaths, (1891-1971), Lilacs, 1955,
oil on linen, 40 1/4 x 30"



Vollian Rann (1897-1956), Boat in a
Storm, Provincetown, oil on canvas,, 13 X 17"

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

PROVINCETOWN GALLERY

August 25 - September 16

Romolo Del Deo *Upon the Flowers of Our Lips* bronze sculpture

James Lechay* (1907-2001) *paintings*

Nancy Whorf (1930-2009) *"Our Town"* paintings

WELLFLEET GALLERY

August 26 - September 16

Birds, Bees and the Sea: Gallery artists including **Donald Beal, Varujan Boghosian, Salvatore Del Deo, Joseph Diggs, Rob DuToit, Ed Giobbi, Elspeth Halvorsen, Judyth Katz, John Kearney, Susumu Kishihara, Anne MacAdam, Danielle Mailer, Dana McCannel** and others

*In collaboration with PAAM exhibition, 6/30-8/20

Gallery Hours

Berta Walker Gallery Provincetown

208 Bradford Street, Provincetown

May 25 to July 31: 12pm to 4pm, Closed Tuesdays, Wednesdays

August: 11am to 5pm, Closed Tuesdays

Berta Walker Gallery

Wellfleet

40 Main Street, Wellfleet

May 26 to June 30: 11am to 4pm, Closed Tuesdays, Wednesdays

July & August: 11am to 4pm, Closed Tuesdays

Often by chance -- Always by appointment

Ample Parking

"Berta Walker's gallery mission is voiced in the motto that has guided her over the years, 'Presenting the History of American Art as seen through the Eyes of Provincetown'. She aims for nothing less than documenting the role that artists associated with Provincetown have played in the major movements in American art...making the past vital to the living artists she represents, replenishing the present with a curatorial finesse that is highly regarded."

Andre van der Wende, *Provincetown Arts*

Representing:

Donald Beal, Varujan Boghosian, Romolo Del Deo, Salvatore Del Deo, Joseph Diggs, Rob Du Toit, Ed Giobbi, Elspeth Halvorsen, Robert Henry, Brenda Horowitz, Penelope Jencks, David Kaplan, Judyth Katz, Anne MacAdam, Danielle Mailer, Gloria Nardin, Erna Partoll, Sky Power, Paul Resika, Peter Watts, Murray Zimiles -- **Estates:** Gilbert Franklin, Dimitri Hadzi, Budd Hopkins, John Kearney, Selina Trieff, Nancy Whorf -- **Photography:** Grace Hopkins, Susumu Kishihara, Dana McCannel, Blair Resika, John Romualdi, John Thomas -- **Masters in Our Collections:** Gerritt Beneker, Byron Browne, Oliver Chaffee, Edwin Dickinson, James Floyd Clymer, Jim Forsberg, Dorothy Lake Gregory, Marsden Hartley, Charles Heinz, Charles W. Hawthorne, Hans Hofmann, Edward Hopper, Ione Gaul Walker, Karl Knaths, Blanche Lazzell, Lucy L'Engle, Ross Moffett, Vollian Rann, Helen Sawyer, Carl Sprinchorn, Agnes Weinrich. -- **Provincetown Folk Art and Ancient African Carvings and Bronzes**

Berta Walker
GALLERY

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WELLFLEET 40 Main St, Wellfleet, MA 774 383 3161
www.BertaWalkerGallery.com AMPLE PARKING

Grace Hopkins, Director
Berta Walker, Curator



David Henry Perry, Manager, Provincetown
Gillian Drake, Manager, Wellfleet