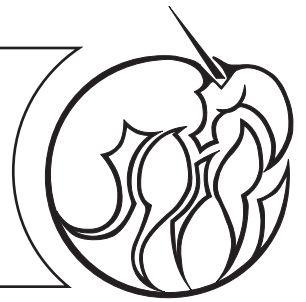
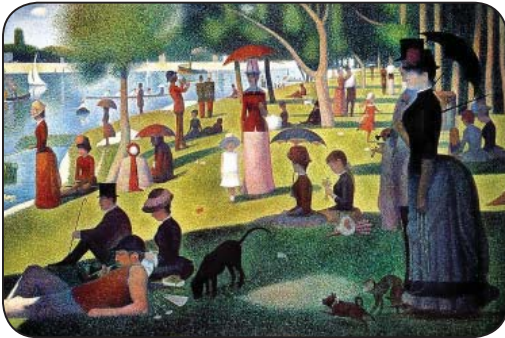


# { the avant-garde }

Katherine N. Crowley Fine Art & Design



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER VOLUME IV No. 7 JULY 2010



## { topiary park }

at old deaf school park  
columbus, ohio

“The Topiary Park is a landscape of a painting of a landscape. If an artist can paint a picture of a landscape — art mimicking nature — then why not a sculptor creating a landscape of a work of art — nature mimicking art? The topiary garden is both a work of art and a work of nature. It plays upon the relationships between nature, art and life.”

James T. Mason, sculptor and topiary artist



A seven-acre park in downtown Columbus, Ohio, the Topiary Park is most famous for its topiary interpretation of Georges Seurat's painting *A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of La Grand Jatte*. Visitors come from around the world to enjoy the unique experience of walking into and through a work of art. The topiaries are nestled within Old Deaf School Park, originally home to the Ohio Institution for the Deaf and Dumb that was established in 1829. The school opened with one student, but grew to encompass several buildings designed in the Second Empire and French Chateausque styles. In 1943 the school moved to Columbus' north side.

When you look at the park's roots you find the history of the Ohio School for the Deaf, the

Sources: *A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of La Grand Jatte*, Georges Seurat, 1884-1886; The Topiary Park, <http://www.topiarygarden.org>

inspiring story of James and Elaine Mason who first dreamed of a topiary garden and, of course, you see the muse: Georges Seurat's famous painting *A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of La Grand Jatte*.

James Mason was born in 1937. He originally studied architectural engineering, but switched his focus to fine arts and transferred to Columbus College of Art & Design. A sculptor, Mason began working for the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department in 1978, teaching at the Cultural Arts Center. Mason describes his artwork as “folk-derivative.” He often works in cast bronze, welded steel, wood and stone and his sculptures are in private and corporate

collections throughout the U.S., including McDonalds Corporate Offices in the U.S. and Canada. He is currently represented in Columbus by Hammond Harkins Gallery. James shared his grand vision for the Topiary Park in the late 1980s when his wife Elaine requested he build a topiary sculpture in their back yard. He responded with a much bigger scheme—to reinterpret Georges Seurat's most famous painting. Elaine, who also worked at the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, shared the idea with the director who embraced the concept. In 1988 James created the sculptural frames that still coax the yew trees into their current shapes and in 1992 his vision was fully realized.

# 2010- performing arts season preview 2011

**BalletMet** (<http://www.balletmet.org>)

- "Requiem!"  
October 1-9, 2010, Capitol Theater
- "Dangerous Liaisons"  
November 5-13, 2010, Capitol Theater
- "The Nutcracker"  
December 10-26, 2010, Ohio Theater
- "Cinderella"  
February 4-13, 2011, Captiol Theater
- "BalletMet Up Close"  
March 11-26, 2011,  
BalletMet Performance Space
- "7 Deadly Sins"  
April 29-May 7, 2011, Capitol Theater

## {7 deadly sins}

BalletMet and Shadowbox join forces for this exuberant world premiere, the ultimate rock and roll ballet! Anger, envy, gluttony, greed, lust, pride and sloth are on the menu with sinfully delicious choreography and new compositions and arrangements of music performed live by Shadowbox's house band BillWho?

**CATCO: Contemporary American Theater Company** (<http://www.catco.org>)

- "The Last Smoker in America"  
Book & Lyrics by Bill Russell, Music by Peter Melnick  
September 29-October 24, 2010  
Riffe Center Studio One Theater
- "It's a Wonderful Life" a live radio play  
Adapted by Joe Landry  
November 23-December 12, 2010  
Riffe Center Studio One Theater

## {i am my own wife}

Charlotte von Mahlsdorf was a transgendered person, who lived through the horrors of pre- and post-World War II Germany. How did she survive the harsh regimes of both Nazi Germany and the post-war East German Communists? How did she create a respected museum that also served as a safe haven for Berlin's homosexual community? This Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winning play illuminates the sacrifices and betrayals of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf through the artistry of a single actor playing more than 30 characters.

by David Sedaris  
December 2-26, 2010  
Riffe Center Studio Three Theater

"Encyclopedia Brown"  
by Donald J. Sobol; Steven C. Anderson  
January 7-21, 2011  
Riffe Center Studio One Theater

"I Am My Own Wife"  
by Doug Wright  
February 2-20, 2011  
Riffe Center Studio Two Theater

"Charlotte's Web"  
by E.B. White; Joseph Robinette  
February 25-March 11, 2011  
Riffe Center Studio One Theater

"What the Butler Saw"  
by Joe Orton  
March 30-April 17, 2011  
Riffe Center Studio One Theater

"Souvenir"  
by Stephen Temperley  
June 1-19, 2011  
Riffe Center Studio Two Theater

**Columbus Symphony Orchestra**

(<http://www.columbussymphony.com>)  
Beethoven: Violin Concerto, Symphony No. 6  
"Pastoral". Oct. 1-2

Ravel: Sheherazade; Debussy: Le Mer;  
Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade. Oct. 9-10

Vivaldi: Concerto for 2 Oboes, Bassoon,  
2 Horns & Violin; Pachelbel: Canon; Handel:  
Music for the Royal Fireworks; J.S. Bach:  
Brandenburg Concerto No. 3; Stravinsky: Suite  
from Pulcinella. Oct. 22-23

Charles Weatherbee, Violin.  
Hayden: Overture to L'isola disabitata;  
Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto; Brahms:  
Symphony No. 1. Nov. 6-7

Handel: Messiah. Nov. 20-21

Vladimir Feltsman, Piano. Rimsky-Korsakov:  
Overture on Russian Themes; Stravinsky:  
Petrouchka; Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.  
1. Jan. 7-8

Julian Schwarz, Cello. Prokofiev: Classical  
Symphony; Tchaikovsky: Variations on a  
Rococo Theme; Prokofiev: Suite from  
Lieutenant Kije; Tchaikovsky: 1812 Overture  
Solonelle. Jan. 21-22

Kirill Gerstein, Piano. Rachmaninoff: Rhapsody  
on a Theme of Paganini; Shostakovich:  
Symphony No 11 "The Year 1905". Feb. 4-5

Mozart: Symphony No. 36 "Linz"; Schubert:  
Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished"; Dvorak:  
Symphony No. 8. Feb. 26-27

Verdi: Requiem. Mar. 11-13

Katherine Chi, Piano. Stravinsky: Jeu de Cartes;  
Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 1; Messiaen:  
Oiseaux Exotiques; Ravel: Bolero. Mar. 26-27

Axel Strauss, Violin; Nathaniel Rosen, Cello.  
Bach, arr. Webern: Ricercare No. 2 from  
Musical Offering; Brahms: Double Concerto;  
Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 "Eroica". Apr. 9-10

**CAPA**

(<http://www.capa.com>)

"Boy Meets Boy"  
July 14-24, Riffe Center Studio One Theater

"Victor Manuelle"  
July 21, Palace Theater

"Andy McKee"  
July 21, Lincoln Theater

2010 Theater Crawl  
July 24, The Southern, The Ohio and The  
Palace Theaters

"Wicked"  
July 28-August 29, Ohio Theater

"Legally Blonde the Musical"  
September 28-October 3, Palace Theater

"Disney Live: Mickey's Magic Show"  
November 5, Palace Theater

"Benise: The Spanish Guitar"  
November 17, Palace Theater

"Cats"  
November 19-21, Palace Theater

"Rock of Ages"  
December 7-12, Palace Theater

"STOMP"  
January 14-16, 2011, Palace Theater

"Riverdance"  
February 18-20, 2011, Palace Theater

"Les Miserables"  
March 15-20, 2011, Ohio Theater

"Mary Poppins"  
April 20-May 8, 2011, Ohio Theater

"Jersey Boys"  
August 17-September 4, 2011

## {wicked}

Long before that girl from Kansas arrives in Munchkinland, two girls meet in the land of Oz. One - born with emerald green skin - is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. How these two grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good makes for "the most complete and completely satisfying new musical in a long time" (USA Today).

{all around the town}

{fine art}

**Columbus College of Art and Design "The Show: The 131st Annual Student Exhibition"** (<http://www.ccad.edu>)  
May 17-August 13, 2010

**The Columbus Cultural Arts Center**  
(<http://www.culturalartscenteronline.org>)  
"Linda Wesner, Ohio Landscapes", June 25-July 31

**The Columbus Museum of Art** (<http://www.columbusmuseum.org>)  
"Fur, Fins & Feathers", through June 5, 2011

**The Columbus Symphony Orchestra Picnic with the Pops**  
(<http://www.columbussymphony.com>) Chemical Abstracts Lawn  
"Peter Cetera" July 10  
"50s Dance Party" July 17  
"Kansas" July 24  
"Ohio State University Marching Band" July 30-31

**The Riffe Gallery** (<http://www.oac.state.oh.us/riffe/>)  
"The I of the Text", May 6-July 11, 2010

**The Short North** (<http://www.shortnorth.org>)  
-Marcia Evans Gallery: "Flower Power", Bush, Larned & Wosniak  
-Rivet: "Brent Nolasco, Jeremy Nichols and Revise CMW"  
-Sherrie Gallery: "Surreal Hieroglyphics"  
-Studios on High: "Orchids in Bloom", Helen Neumann, Kathy Grace  
-Terra Gallery: "Silver Linings", Morefield, Cole, Hersey

**The Wexner Center** (<http://www.wexarts.org>)  
"Mark Bradford", May 8-August 15  
"Zoe Strauss", May 8-August 15

{performing arts}

**CAPA** (<http://www.capa.com>)  
CAPA Summer Movie Series at the Ohio Theater  
"How Stella Got Her Groove Back" July 9  
"The Music Man" July 10-11  
"Strangers on a Train" July 14-16  
"Cartoon Capers" July 17  
"Patton" July 17-18  
"Double Indemnity" July 21-23  
"The Omen" July 23  
"My Fair Lady" July 24-25

{festivals}

**Dublin Art Fair** (<http://www.dublinartfair.org>)  
July 16-17, Sells Middle School, Dublin

**Jazz & Rib Fest** (<http://www.hotribscooljazz.org>)  
July 23-25, Arena District/North Bank Park

**Ohio State Fair** (<http://www.ohiostatefair.com>)  
July 28-August 8, Ohio Expo Center

**Waterfire Columbus** (<http://www.waterfirecolumbus.com>)  
Wonk, The Band, July 30, Genoa Park

{and beyond}

**The Museum of Fine Arts Boston** (<http://www.mfa.org>)  
Visiting Masterpieces, Van Gogh's *The Sower*, Through August 8

**Minneapolis Institute of Art** (<http://www.artsmia.org>)  
"Robert Bergman: Portraits, 1986-1995", Through August 22

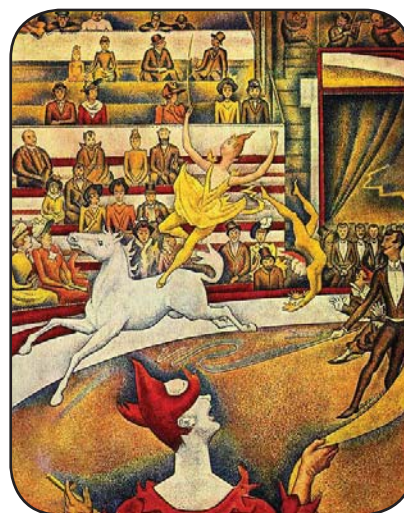
**New Orleans Museum of Art** (<http://www.noma.org>)  
"Swamp Tours", Through August 29

**Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC** (<http://www.metmuseum.org>)  
"Hipsters, Hustlers and Handball Players", Through October 17

**Museum of Modern Art, New York** (<http://www.moma.org>)  
"Matisse: Radical Invention, 1913-1917", July 18-October 11

**San Francisco Museum of Modern Art** (<http://www.sfmoma.org>)  
"Calder to Warhol", Through September 19

**The National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.** (<http://www.nga.gov>)  
"American Modernism: The Shein Collection" Through January



{georges seurat}

Georges Seurat was born in 1859, to a wealthy Parisian family. He studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and the Brest Military Academy. Seurat worked as a painter and upon being rejected from the Paris Salon formed the Societe des Artistes Independants with other artists, including Paul Signac, in 1884. He conducted a secret love affair with Madeleine Knobloch who bore him a son, Pierre Georges.

Seurat was intrigued by the writings of contemporary scientists on the optical perception of color and how emotions can be derived from color combinations. Considered a Post- or Neo-Impressionist, Seurat developed a technique known as Pointillism. Instead of mixing paint colors, tiny dots of pure color are applied to canvas in a pattern that forms an image when viewed from a distance. Seurat created a language that he called Chromoluminarism, which approached the art of painting in a scientific manner. He believed that an artist could create visual harmony and elicit emotional responses much in the way music does through the use of counterpoint and harmony.

Georges Seurat worked on very large canvases with a great deal of precision, the most famous of which is his *Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte*. A single work could take him years to create and in 1891, Seurat fell ill and died, leaving *The Circus*, unfinished. His young son died shortly thereafter.