



• **Many group classes to choose from**
• **Strength equipment • Child Watch**

Click Here For More Info

Spring Term
Begins
March 15

Resident named guest artist of TD Bank Pops by the Sea concert

Photos



Robert Hunter in his studio.jpg

By Matthew Whorf
Walpole Times

Posted Feb 24, 2010 @ 10:16 AM

WALPOLE —

The classic image of a Stradivarius violin and bow rests against a large, pale green, vase-like bottle, surrounded by beach stones and shells and two pieces of crockery. Behind it, the scenic view of ocean and dunes beneath an overcast sky.

This subject composes the in-progress, as-yet untitled still life oil work by longtime acclaimed painter and artist, and Walpole resident, Robert Douglas Hunter.

The Arts Foundation of Cape Cod, in Centerville, has named Hunter as guest artist of the 25th anniversary TD Bank Pops by the Sea concert, scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 1, on the Hyannis Village Green. Hunter has been commissioned to create the work-in-progress as this year's commemorative painting and limited edition lithograph, to be unveiled at a reception in his honor on May 25 in Osterville.

The annual Pops by the Sea concert features the only Cape Cod appearance of the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and conductor Keith Lockhart. The event also honors a renown, New England-based guest artist each year; past honorees have included Scituate seascape painter Sergio Roffo, Nantucket portrait and still life artist Pamela Pindell and Boston marine and cityscape painter Sam Vokey.

"I consider it an honor to be selected for the 25th anniversary of Pops by the Sea," said Hunter in the studio at his Walpole home, where the commissioned work is for now privately on display.

"The Arts Foundation requested that I create an original image reflecting themes of music and the sea as well as my own personal style as an artist. I've decided to use the image of the violin, which I believe reflects great warmth as the chief instrument of an orchestra, with the ocean and seascape in the background," Hunter said.

For the 81-year-old Hunter, his personal style has long been sought after and highly respected and collectible. A classical-realist still life and landscape painter, the artist is recognized as the informal "Dean" of the "The Boston School" movement, mastering and expanding upon the Boston School focus on carefully planned compositions, accurate drawing, and joy in the ability of light and shadow to create atmosphere in painting.

Born in Dorchester, Hunter studied at Boston's famous Vesper George School of Art, graduating in 1949, then later teaching at the school. He also went on to further study in the '50s first on Cape Cod with Henry Hensche, an Impressionist painter, then in Boston with R.H. Ives Gammell, a muralist, portrait painter, art teacher and writer. Both artists, who passed away in '92 and '81 respectively, were recognized in their time as masters of the classic Impressionism schools. Hunter has received more than 30 regional and national prizes, including the first John Singleton Copley Award in 1966, the Copley Medallion in 1988 - also as the first recipient, and the 1989 Guild of Boston Artists Award.

He also served as president of The Guild of Boston Artists from '73 to '78 and soon after received a citation from the governor of Massachusetts in recognition of both his teaching and his painting. He was then featured in a major article in American Artist magazine in September 1990 and is listed in Who's Who in American Art, Prize Winning Art, and Who's Who in the East.

In early 2001, the Cape Cod Museum of Art, in Dennis, opened a new naturally lit gallery named in Hunter's honor, then hosted a retrospective exhibition of his paintings in the new room.

The list of accomplishments even includes a teaching career spanning decades. Hunter's past students include more than forty now accomplished professional artists, among them, the aforementioned past Pops concert guest artist Roffo.

Hunter pointedly offers these words in praise - and in memory - of his late mentors, Hensche and Gammell.

For Hensche, "Henry was an extraordinary teacher. He gave an awful lot, and he really taught us how to see nature. He often said, 'If you can't see, you can't do.'"

For Gammell, "He wanted to teach things about art and painting that he felt had been lost sight of in the modern era. I heard that he had a free study space in Boston, I tried it out, and I ended up studying with him for five years."

A Walpole resident for 16 years, Hunter lived previously in Boston and Needham. His wife, Elizabeth Hunter, is the executive director at the Cape Cod Museum of Art. He also has three grown children.

"I like Walpole for its wonderful sense of privacy. I have nearly four acres of land, and there's a sense of real country in this area. I also find that the neighbors are really friendly, but also enjoy their own privacy," Hunter said.

Limited edition prints of Hunter's commissioned work will be available during the Pops by the Sea concert. The original painting will also be on display at TD Bank on Main Street in Hyannis from June 1 to July 31, when it will be auctioned at a special VIP reception on the Hyannis Village Green.

Tools

Print

Comment

ShareThis

First Steps in
Dance Education

Enroll
Today

Class size
is limited

Ages 3 1/2 to 6 1/2



Walpole, MA
508-446-5538

www.KinestheticEdge.com



Norwood Bank
You count.

Click here to learn more.