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Legendary Photographer Guy Webster with FOTM Founder Donna Granata
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FOTM is Pleased to Announce A Season of New Beginnings....

Ten New Artists: Chosen for 2010 FOTM Formal Documentation

New Interview Venue: Brooks Institute, Motion Picture Campus
Screening Room, 5301 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura

New Name, Day and Time: *Saturday Artist Spotlight Series*
(formerly the *Tuesday Talk Series*)

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For Sponsorship Opportunities [Click Here](#)

Ongoing Sponsors:

Brooks Institute, Piajeh Women's Apparel, and Passion Flowers

Ten artists have been selected for Focus on the Masters (FOTM) formal documentation by a distinguished jury of educators and artists for the 2010 season. An artist will be featured each month beginning **Saturday, February 13, 2010 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. as part of FOTM's** popular [***Saturday Artist Spotlight Series***](#) (formerly known as the *Tuesday Talk Series*), now entering its sixteenth year in programming. Each *Saturday Artist Spotlight* interview will take place at the [**Brooks Institute Motion Picture Campus Screening Room**](#) located at **5301 N. Ventura Ave. in Ventura** and will be added to the prestigious FOTM archive.

[*AfterGLOW Special Events*](#) will be planned after each interview. The gatherings will offer our supporters the opportunity to visit with the featured artist in an intimate setting while enjoying a light supper in the company of dedicated arts supporters. *This is a FOTM fundraising event and space is very limited.* For tickets and more information, [click here](#).

The artists selected for 2010 are listed below. Please feel free to click on the individual links to learn more about the artists and to view their work.

These exceptional artists have been selected for in-depth documentation, a process that culminates with the *Saturday Artist Spotlight Series*. Criteria for being selected for formal documentation include the artists' mastery of their craft, respect from their peers and their historic role in the life of our artistic community. We look forward to a season of timely and provocative interviews with these outstanding artists as we honor their artistic spirit.

To support the production of the *Saturday Artist Spotlight Series*, [click here](#). Each year we enlist the help of generous donors who wish to sponsor or co-sponsor an interview. **Full sponsorship is \$1,200; co-sponsorship is \$600.** The sponsor's name is included on our website and in all publicity material regarding the artist. In addition, the sponsor's name is attached to the artist's archive. Sponsorship is not limited to an individual or couple. Indeed, we encourage businesses, civic and community groups and friends to share the cost of sponsorship. It should be noted that sponsorship does not fully cover our expenses. If sponsorship is not a viable option, donations of any size will be very much appreciated. For additional information regarding sponsorship or other support of the *Saturday Artist Spotlight Series*, please call Mary Galbraith at 805.653.2501 or contact us by email at Mary.Galbraith@FocusOnTheMasters.com .

2010 Artists Chosen for FOTM Formal Documentation

Saturday Artist Spotlight Series 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Brooks Institute, Screening Room, 5301 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura

RSVP: Mary.Galbraith@FocusOnTheMasters.com

February 13 - Richard Amend: Painter, Set Designer. His paintings are visually arresting, mysterious equations of nature, architecture, and illumination all rolled into the stillness and clarity of singular, psychological moments in time. In film, Amend's involvement spans several decades and technologies, from rubberband special effects to computer generated imagery. Visit www.RichardAmend.net for a more comprehensive perspective on this artist's range and

accomplishments within multiple genres of art and design.

March 13 - Richard Matzkin: Sculptor, Musician, Therapist and Writer. Richard and his wife Alice dedicate their time and talent to the art of aging, gaining admiration for their love of older subjects. A coffee table book on the subject of their art was published in 2009. Please consult www.ojaistudioartists.org/richard_matzkin/index.html for additional information.

April 10 - Virginia Kron: Cellist. Joseph Woodard calls Virginia an "accomplished cellist who has done her best to keep alive the music of our time." Virginia Kron received her Bachelor of Music degree in cello performance from the University of Wisconsin, and her Master's degree, with a prize in performance, from the University of Southern California. In 1997 she premiered John Biggs' Concerto for Cello and Chamber Orchestra with New West Symphony and recorded it in Prague with the Czech National Symphony for the Albany label. Critics have called her work "magical". www.eldalamberon.com/virginiakron-bio.html

May 8 - Leslie McQuaide: Ceramist, Sculptor. In her own words: *"I work with clay and discarded junk to create icons and guardians that point beyond everyday chaos to the underlying divine order."* Her works explore questions of good and evil and relationship of man with an infinite God. Leslie is widely collected and has recently exhibited at Kwan Fong Gallery, California Lutheran University; Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery; and the Museum of Ventura County. www.LeslieMcQuaide.com

June 5 - John Nichols: Photographer, Gallery Owner, Curator, Collector, Writer. John Nichols has been an active fine art photographer over the past 30 years. His appreciation for history has guided his life's path. Among his most recent body of work is the collaboration with FOTM Artist and fellow Santa Paula resident Gail Pidduck to produce art relating to agriculture. He has amassed an authoritative collection of photos relating to the St. Francis Dam Disaster and has authored a book on the subject *Images of America - St. Francis Dam Disaster* (Arcadia Publishing, Chicago, Illinois, 2002). The John Nichols Gallery in Santa Paula concentrates on vintage, vernacular and contemporary photography. <http://www.sespe.com/>

July 17 - Roland Reiss: Painter, Sculptor, Educator. Respected and widely collected, Roland Reiss is a superb educator. It is said that "he is not loved by students because he [is] easy on them, but because he takes them seriously." Former students include FOTM Master Artists Matthew Furmanski and Christine Morla among others. Since 1992, Reiss has concentrated exclusively on abstract painting, exhibiting in 2007 at the Upfront Gallery in Ventura. He states: "Ultimately, I seek a landscape of the mind, relevant to the nature of contemporary existence. My work is about making human experience into visual experience." www.toomey-tourell.com/artists/roland-reiss

August 14 - Sylvia Torres: Painter, Encaustic Artist. Although Torres works in a variety of mediums, she is perhaps best-known for her encaustic art. Characteristic of Torres' paintings is energetic brushwork that both conceals and reveals. In her words, "It is not that I think all art should be beautiful. I just believe all art of mine should be. Within my paintings are colors of comfort, fragments of memories, hints of what is yet to come, and evidence of intuition. It is a place of spiritual well being." She is an artist in residence at Studio Channel Islands and is much

sought after as a teacher of the ancient art of encaustic. <http://www.sylviatorres.com/>

September 11 - Roxie Ray: Painter. Ray shows the power and dignity of the human spirit in her large-scale expressionist work, and captures the essence of early California plein air in her contemporary subjects interacting with their environment. After careers in clinical social work and commercial development, Ray says she took an art class and, "...just fell into it. It's like life. My paintings never end up the way they started." www.RoxieRay.com

October 9 - Keith Puccinelli: Graphic Artist, Illustrator, Painter, Sculptor, Installation Artist. Puccinelli uses an irreverent quick wit, modest materials, and tableaux to broach the conflict between the preciousness of life and man's disregard for life during times of war to create a kind of carnival of sorrow. Many of the altered objects in his work are items he found on his own working farm in Ventura. In 2008, his solo show titled "The Morgue" opened at the Ben Maltz Gallery at Otis. Enjoy a YouTube video of Keith Puccinelli at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcHtBffHGqA

November 6 - Susan R. Kaufman: Sculptor. Through the sculpting medium of clay and cast bronze, Kaufman has evolved a unique style. With a bit of humor and whimsy, she shows a glimpse into an ordinary but precious moment. Her style has been influenced by her father, an artist and Russian immigrant. Kaufman has been published in national and local magazines and has won numerous first place awards in prestigious competitions. www.SusanRKaufman.com