

## MAIL ART & VISUAL POETRY

### NEWS

**Editor's Note:** *My friend, Pavel Zoubok, who has a gallery uptown in New York City but will be moving to Chelsea, does not sell mail art. This editor gets a great deal of information from secondary sources and I published what I read, instead of checking with the original source. As a result of mail criticizing him from certain people who figured that mail art is not to be sold and castigated him for such dealings, I wish to apologize to Pavel who has taken it in his stride and really understands the attitude of mail artists. So forgive me, my readers, for such a mistake. Mea culpa!*

**Mail Art Auctions** are the butt of discourse and argument right now, thanks to an announcement by a French gallery Marc Florant Contemporary Art, 11 Ave. du Docteur Maurer, 78630 Orgeval, France, who has announced the First Ever Auction of Contemporary Mail Art in Paris. Now, from Uruguay to the United States and Europe, mail artists are up in arms. See Cesar Reglero's website: <http://boek861.com>. Participants as of this writing are Luis Guelburt, Guido Vermeulen, Bertomeu Ferrando, Fernando Garcia Delgado, Vortice Argentina, Susan Gold, Manuel Calvarro, Clemente Padin, Cesar Reglero, Roberto Faron, Marina Zerbarini, Michael Leigh, Tamara Wyndham, Juan Guerrero, and others.

**Julio Campal Experimental Poetry Collection** has been set up by critic and poet Fernando Millán and Professor Laura Lopez (mostly in Spanish). You can visit the Collection on the web at: [http://spider.georgetowncollege.edu/library/InternetLinks/julio\\_campal\\_experimental\\_poetry.html](http://spider.georgetowncollege.edu/library/InternetLinks/julio_campal_experimental_poetry.html) where books and other documents can be checked out from any library of the United States through the Interlibrary Loan service. You can also contact Laura Lopez directly at [vicedo@mindspring.com](mailto:vicedo@mindspring.com) or [Laura.Lopez@georgetowncollege.edu](mailto:Laura.Lopez@georgetowncollege.edu) If you wish to send your publications, the mail address is: Dr. Laura Lopez Fernandez, 400 East College St., Georgetown, KY 40324 USA.

**Available:** *Poems to Eye* by Clemente Padin, published by the Runaway Spoon Press in English. Orders to Bob Grumman, Box 495597, Port Charlotte, FL 33949 USA or for e-mail: [BobGrumman@nut-n-but.net](mailto:BobGrumman@nut-n-but.net)

**NAME GAME:** New Research Project: Specific Research Institute Canada announces a new research project, **Calling all AKA's**. If you, or someone you know, use and are known by an assumed name, nickname/pseudonym, and are willing to engage in a research project that will ask for details of how that name came about; how, why you chose to use it rather than your given name(s), how using it has affected your self image, your life, work, relations with friends, family, workmates, etc., they want to hear from you.

The project sets out to explore the relationship between one's name, identity, creative activities, life style, and more. Stage 1) to identify individuals who fit the description, 2) A questionnaire probing the above issues and more, and to identify those individuals who would be willing to engage in...3) Meet with, conduct a video interview and tape or photograph your work/collection/whatever it is you have that relates to/reflects your assumed name for an eventual...4) installation/presentation/possible publication of the results of this research. Contact Anna Banana, RR22, 3747 Hwy. 101, Roberts Creek, BC, Canada V0N 2W2 or a [banana@sunshine.net](mailto:banana@sunshine.net)

**The Cleveland Public Library** has just made accessible a small online exhibition of mail art. Baron's Mail Art Collection is a recent acquisition in the Library's Special Collections. The address is: [www.cpl.org/ExhibitHall.asp?FormMode=Exhibit&ID=23](http://www.cpl.org/ExhibitHall.asp?FormMode=Exhibit&ID=23) If this link does not work, try [www.cpl.org](http://www.cpl.org) Go to the exhibit hall tab on the upper heading bar. This should lead you to a selection of exhibitions. The mail art exhibition is the newest exhibition and is top on the list at the left of the screen.

**IconoGraphs**, an exhibition of "The Greek Visual Poetry Group" (1981) with the participation of Agrafiotis, Chryssikopoulos, Costis, Gazetopoulou, Hadjidaki, Hondros, Hytiris, Katsiani, Martinou, Mitras, Sarris and Sotiropoulou, curated by Mano Stefanidis was held at the Hellenic-American Union, Art Space The Apple in Athens, October 2003. Except for a foreword and last page, the whole catalog is in

Greek, but it is a splendid catalog and should be in all collections.

**Mail Censorship:** The U.S. Postal Service in September refused to deliver 300 picture postcard announcements of an upcoming exhibition at Daemen College's (Buffalo, NY) art gallery, saying the postcards were obscene. Outraged, Daemen officials charged denial of artistic expression. The fuss was over a painting of two young women seen from behind as they move toward the sea at night during an apparent storm. Left unclear is whether the women are wearing underwear, bathing suits or neither. The painting was included in the show, "Joseph A. Miller: Paintings and Drawings."

The cards were returned to the bulk mailer with a page copies from a post office manual, citing a code definition "Lew or Filthy Matter." So the university sent the time-sensitive postcards in envelopes. An art professor said that what puzzled him is the fact that the U.S. Post Office has no problem delivering catalogs for companies like Victoria's Secret, where photographs of women posed in sexually provocative positions are in full view. After considerable review by postal authorities, an apology was made that they determined an error in judgment was made in rejecting the postcards as unmailable.

**Decentralized Networking Congress 2004** in Minden, Germany, organized by Angela + Peter Netmail from 23 - 25 April 2004 with Artist Trading Cards event, Mail Art Exhibition "1000 Envelopes" by Ruud Janssen and Litsa Spathi, a Performance Night and other festivities. For more information, contact DNC 2004, P.B. 2644, D 32383 Minden, Germany or [peterkuestermann@hotmail.com](mailto:peterkuestermann@hotmail.com) and see the website: [www.netmailart.de](http://www.netmailart.de)

## MAIL ART CALL

**Images Against War.** Any medium, no deadline. Jpegs or any snail mail. NO jury, no returns. Exhibition in the web: Image Gallery Against War from Boek 861. Send to: Taller del Sol, Apartado 861 43080 Tarragona, España. Put your own image in: [http://boek861.com/no\\_war/index.html](http://boek861.com/no_war/index.html)

**Brain Cell Fractals. Ryosuke Cohen.** Send him 150 stickers, artistamps, rubberstamps, etc. and he will send you a list of participants, a beautifully produce color print of all participants' work. Send to Ryosuke Cohen, 3-76-1-A613 Yagumokitaho, Moriguchi-City, Osaka 570, Japan. [braincell@k6.dion.ne.jp](mailto:braincell@k6.dion.ne.jp)

**Neo DADA. Ongoing project.** Send self made postcards 4 x 6" (10.1 x 15.2 cm). Any medium, no envelopes, documentation to all, no returns. Online gallery and possible exhibition. P.O. Box 661, New York, NY 10116.

**Shadow Play.** Slightly serious artist seeks fun, intelligent shadows for international art project. Blondes, brunettes and redheads preferred, but all shadows welcome. Please send a photograph of your shadow with your name written on the back. Shadows to feature in upcoming exhibition. Send to Wei-Ho Ng, Chelsea College of Art, Manresa Rd., London SW3 61S, England. [artshadow@hotmail.com](mailto:artshadow@hotmail.com)  
**Deadline: ongoing.**

**Violence Against Women.** Group 78, Tokyo's English-language local group of Amnesty International, the worldwide human rights organization, will adopt the theme "Violence Against Women" as a major campaign priority next year. To publicize this and to reach out to progressive women's groups, human rights groups and other concerned people, we are appealing to the mail art network for suitable submissions on the theme. We intend to exhibit in Tokyo and possibly other cities in Japan, and to produce a documentation of the submitted works. Every contributor will receive a copy. Any medium, A3size (42 x 29 cm.) 2D only. **Deadline: 31 December 2003.** Send to Chris Pitts, Kyoritsu Women's College, 3-27 Kanda-Jinbocho, Chiyoda^ku 101-0051 Tokyo, Japan.

**Fish/Le poisson.** Any size, any technique. Documentation to all. **Deadline: 31 May 2004.** Curated by Baudhuin Pig Dada Simon. Send to Monaville Francois, 42 rue des 14 Verges, B-4000 Liège, Belgium.

**World Trading Cards.** In 2001 Field Study invited artists to contribute to an edition of artist trading cards.