

MAIL ART

NEWS

EDINBURGH (Reuters) - A postcard that took 112 years to get from Brisbane to Scotland will be sent back to Australia to be reunited with the granddaughter of the man who wrote it, the Post Office said in February.

The card was initially sent to a "Miss Wardrop" in Aberdeen from "Colin" on Jan. 4, 1889, but arrived in the Scottish city only this week. Puzzled postmen found that 32 Carden Place, Aberdeen had since become a dental surgery and Miss Wardrop had moved but long ago.

The identity of the card's sender remained a mystery until Alison Britts, a 74-year-old from New South Wales, named him as her grandfather Colin Wardrop, the former head of the National Bank of Queensland who had sent a New Year postcard home to his family more than a century ago.

The postcard began its return trip and -- fingers crossed -- should reach its destination within four working days.

Stampland: Fine Art Rubber Stamps is now located at 5033 N. Mozart St., Chicago, IL 60625. Phone/fax: (773)728-8425. <http://rubberstampmuseum.com>

The letters of Janis Joplin, rock star, were recently auctioned off, showing that she was more of a "mail artist" than anyone knew. Her insecurities, her love for music, and her battle with drug addiction, are candidly spoken about in her letters which are illustrated with drawings, sketches, doodles, and other visuals.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art Mail Art Program was devised by the Education Program in which 400 major Southern California artists received mail art and letters from children participating in art workshops in an exchange program. In an accompanying letter, the children asked the artists to return a postcard with their own art, or to add to the children's art and return them to LACMA for a public installation. The final works of art were on display in the Bing Theater lobby from 11 - 27 March. Some of the artists who responded were John Baldessari, Betye and Alison Saar, Robbi Conal, Robert Irwin, Eileen Cowin, Bruce Conner, Peter Shire, Charles Ray, Jennifer Steinkamp, Robert Williams, and many more. A private reception for the participating children was held so that they could meet the artists living in their

community and view all the responses. Although not truly "mail art", it was an "add on" Ray-Johnson type of mail art project, in conjunction with the Made in California exhibition with artist Lorraine Bubar acting as a consultant and workshop instructor.

Shozo Shimamoto in Osaka, Japan has pursued collaboration art through his various activities and believes it is the only way to create in the 21st century through networking. In 1998, he was invited to be an advisor to Felissimo Museum which opened in August of that year. The possibility of creating a museum for the first time in Japan and in the world with the concept of collaboration art seemed to be a possibility. This kind of collaboration will produce new artworks, a new form of collaboration that transcends time and space restrictions. To realize this idea, Shimamoto will set up the International Collaboration Art Institute and will attempt to create a "place" to form the common desires of artists and people around the world with the concept of human beings transcending countries and borders, and all races, creeds and colors focused into art, and as a gift for the new millennium and for the new 21st century.

The first event for the Institute was carried out as performance under the auspices of the National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan and the Felissimo Museum in Dijon, France on 11 March. This event, called "Record of Time" was held on 1 January 2000 when about 140 newspapers were gathered throughout the world and about 160 works made from the newspapers sent from mail artists throughout the world, tied together with flax string to make the canvas imaging the earth. A hot balloon was used to throw down the five color pigments from 20 meters in height up in the air while Shimamoto prayed for peace for the new millennium and for the 21st century. Ben Simmon, a photographer, took the photos during the happening

Kairan 2: Mail Art Forum has been issued by editor, Gianni Simone (a semi-annual publication) and features articles by Henning Mittendorf, John Held Jr., Clemente Padin, Stephen Perkins and many more. There are ABCs of Mail Art by Held and Michael Leigh, rubberstamps and stickers, and lots more to read for the next six months. Write to Johnnyboy Prods., Gianni Simone, 105 Hillside Morooka, 1094-1 Morooka-cho, Kohoku-ku,, Yokohama-shi, 222-0002 Kanagawa-ken, Japan.

ARTISTAMP NEWS

Dogfish/Robert Rudine announces the Kite Post Memorial Artistamp Edition. With the death of Francis Hall, known as Kite Post, many artists participated in expressing their sorrow by creating a kite-like edition of artistamps. Anna Banana produced them and made the mailing possible.

Commissioned by Dogfish, the artists who participated are Joan Hall/Lindsey Fry, Jeff Dixon, Ed Higgins, Dogfish, Greg Byrd, Patricia Tavenner, Bonnie Byrd, Harley, Buz Blurr, Phil Fagerholm, Dominique, Cynthia Gaub, Ed Varney, Jas Felter and Anna Banana. For further information, contact Vitreous Humor Productions, 3232½ Eastlake Ave., E, Suite B., Seattle, WA 98102-3875. \$10.00 a sheet

Artistampzine is a portfolio/assembling of artist postage stamps, produced in an edition of 30. To contribute send thirty perforated stampsheets to Picasso Gaglione/Stampland, 5033 N. Mozart St., Chicago, IL 60625. Imperforate sheets for facilitation/forwarding should be sent to John Held Jr., P.O. Box 410837, San Francisco, CA 94141. Deadline for Vol. 2, no. 2 is 1 May 2001.

New Observations, n.126 - Summer 2000 - **The Art Is In The Mail(ing)** with Guest Editors: FaGaGaGa (Mark & Mel Corroto). Cover by Ray Johnson. 34 pages with richly illustrated short essays by several international networkers, among whom are Mark Bloch, Tim Mancusi, Luc Fierens, E. F. Higgins III, Vittore Baroni, Michael Leigh, Ryosuke Cohen, Mark Pawson, Stephen Perkins, John Evans, Clemente Padin, Clive Phillpot, Carlo Pittore, Buz Blurr, Picasso Gaglione, Buster Cleveland, Bern Porter, Honoria, and many more.

If you have an interest in the history and theory behind mail art, this special issue of **New Observations** magazine is strongly recommended. You can get it directly from the source: 320 West 37th Street, #6F, New York, NY 10018 USA (price for a single back issue: \$9.00 USA / \$ 11.50 foreign). There are brief excerpts from Mark Bloch's text "Communities Collaged: Mail Art and the Internet." This is important, and should be in every mail artist's collection.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Leaves and Leave-takings. Any medium, no deadline, reply to all and new documentation to expect. Send to Bonita McLaughlin, 41A Richardson Rd., Leverett, MA 01054 USA.

Artist's Book Exchange. Send one of your artist's books to Pat. She will send you one of hers in return along with a list of all the addresses of other members of the exchange (currently 199 people from across the planet). After that it's up to you to negotiate exchanges with others on the list. Send to Pat Collins, Artist's Book Exchange, 128 Kingston Rd., Teddington, Middlesex, UK.

Visual Poetry Wanted. The magazine *Signs of Santa Clara*, the city where Che Guevara is buried, is preparing a special edition of visual poetry and they want work from around the world, because they don't have enough poems, and because visual poetry is not well known in Cuba. Send contributions to Revista Signos, gaveta Postal 19, Santa Clara, c.p. 50100, Villa Clara, Cuba.

Fluxlist Love Call. Invitation to send me love letters. Write them, draw them, sew them, paint them, rhyme them, sculpt them, bind them, photograph them, xerox them, collage them, tape them, videotape them, print them, type them, or make them out of ground beef. It doesn't matter. Just make them romantic in some way. Letters will be compiled into a bookish form and sent to all participants. Deadline: 1 June 2001. Send to Robert Fontenot, 32 Gorham St, Somerville, MA 02144 USA.

Mani t, mail art magazine. Send 60 pages, size 15x21 cm. Or 60 postcards. No black and white photos. Leave 1 cm. on longest side. Every contributor gets one issue with all works. No deadline. Send to Pascal Lenoir, 11 Ruelle de Champagne, 60680 Grandfresnoy, France.

Collage. Please send small and colorful paper things to me, I am building a mail art collage. All contributors will receive a color copy of the collage and a list of current participants. Any collage - type materials are welcome (magazine cut outs, original art, unoriginal art, artistamps, stickers etc). No deadline, Ongoing project. Scientist Sam, 11514 N. Rockaway Dr. Spokane, WA 99218 USA E-mail: messiah070@aol.com

120 years of Picasso. Gandha Key of London wants to invite artists interested in doing an artist book to communicate with her. Send an image of a face you know or one you have created. Any medium that can be scanned or sent via e-mail. Size up to A4. Write to G. Key, 12 Corwallis Rd., London N19 4LU, UK or

<http://colophon.com/zybooks>

Don't be Coy, be Nishikigoi. Nishikigoi is the name of the Japanese carp. 8 x 10", any medium, no returns, no deadline. Work will be integrated into an internet site. Documentation assured twice a year. Send to Koi, c/oDragonfly Dream, PMB #286, 223 N. Guadalupe, Santa Fe, NM 87501. <http://www.dragonflydream.com>

Nude Climbing the Staircase. A5 (15 x 21 cm.), documentation to each 10 participants. **No deadline.** Send to Pascal Lenoir, 11 ruelle de Champagne, 60680 Granfresnoy, France.

SQUINT. Artist book makers for collaborative assembling booklet. Send 10 photocopies A5 size (21x15 cm) to be folded in middle to make four pages per artist. Color and rubberstamping etc. encouraged. Copy of Squint sent to all participants every 6 - 8 entries. Send to A1 Waste Paper Co. Ltd., 33 Shipbrook Rd., Rudheath, Northwich CW9 7EX. **Deadline: Ongoing.**

Wipe: Light Weight Bookwork. Please send 40 sheets of printed toilet tissue. Open theme and technique, rubber-stamp, etc. No organic materials or traces please.

Ongoing project, **no deadline.** Edition made every 20 participants. Max size:14cm x 11cm. Send to Field Study, P.O.Box 1838 Geelong, VIC 3220 Australia

Visual Poetry Mail-art project Galerij c.de vos in Aalst, Belgium from February to March 2002. We still welcome **Visual Poetry** (social / politically engaged material welcome !!) Size Max A4. Any medium (original works, Xeroxes of originals, essays etc...) No returns, no fee. **Deadline: 30 June 2001.** Send to Luc Fierens c/o VISUAL POETRY, Grote Nieuwedijkstraat 411, B-2800 Mechelen -BELGIUM Catalogue to all participants after exhibit in 2002. Works will stay in the P.C.A.Mail-art collection of Annina Van Sebroeck & Luc Fierens for future exhibitions. All visual poetry , fLuxed poetry , sound poetry welcome. By snail-mail please !!

Joy! The Positive influence of Art on the Artist. No larger than 9 x 12, otherwise open. Must close flat to fit in an artist book portfolio for exhibition. Any medium. Snail Mail only. No works returned. Documentation to all who provide address. Send to Tera Leigh, 923 Oak St., Lafayette, CA 94549.

Alienation. Any medium, any size. Art to be exhibited online at ChalkViolet Correspondence. [Http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Lofts/4983](http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Lofts/4983) and perhaps a compilation and distribution of catalog to participants. Send all entries to ChalkViolet, 2000 Burton #268, Austin, TX 78741.

Dreams and Nightmares. Any medium. Installation will be created as soon as 100 works of art are received. "100 Dreams and Nightmares" with a bed and pillows inside the gallery. The artist will plaster the wall, pillows and bed with everyone's work. Documentation to all who send names and addresses. Send envelopes, drawings, rubberstamp designs, prints, postcards, etc. Send to Sharon Silverman, P.O. Box 1212, Haverhill, MA 01831 USA.

How Mail Art is Changing in an Internet networked world. The resulting mail art exhibition will be part of a doctoral dissertation on the effects of the Internet on the Mail Art Network. The effects of the Mail Art network on the Internet are especially welcome! Any size, any medium. Documentation to all. Send to honoria, 2505 Enfield Rd. #15, Austin, TX 78703 USA. **Deadline: 31 July 2001.**

Beat Generation/Writers in general. Any medium, size: Postcard/legal. Send to Elena, P.O. Box 20022, Woodstock, Ont. Canada N4S 8G5. Mail Art will be shown at Community Hall to celebrate the embarkment of the intellectually endorsed creative mind. No returns. **Deadline: 23 April 2001.**

This is Me. 2 D and digital. Size: Square 1:1 ratio. Works will be exhibited at www.natalukas.com **Deadline: 25 April 2001.** No returns, documentation to all. Submissions should be sent to: NataLukas/This is ME, 3107 Alderwood Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225 USA or emailed to nathan@natalukas.com

Driving the Dream - Route 66: 2001 marks the 75th anniversary of the Mother Road-Route 66. The famed highway was made an official US Highway on 11 November 1926. To celebrate this important icon of Americana send your mail art pieces to Driving the Dream -Route 66, 3604 Hemlock Dr., Valparaiso, IN 46383. Documentation to all. Any size, no jury, no returns. All pieces will be displayed at the Chesterton Art Gallery in Chesterton, Indiana. Opening: 11 November 2001. **Deadline: 11 October 2001.**

Hands Up! We work with them, create with them, communicate, touch, love, even hurt with them. A Mail

Art call that has everything to do with Hands. Documentation to all and good karma as well. Any medium, any size, no fees, no jury, no returns. **Deadline: 1 August 2001.** Exhibition Winter 2001. Book if warranted, future online exhibit. Send to Hands up! Send to: Hands Up! C/o Meesh Rheault Miller, 3629 21st St., Boulder, CO 80304-1607 USA.

The Village of Stars. Any size, no returns, documentation to all participants. Send your mail to: Svjetlana Mimica, M. Getaldicha 5, 21000 Split, Croatia. **Deadline: August 2001.**

Earth and Nature. We are made of the Earth; the Earth is made of us. We are part of Nature, just as Trees, Bears, Crows, Squirrels are part of Nature. Any size, any medium. Send before the end of 2001 to Marilyn Dammann, P.O. Box 115, Baraga, MI 49908 USA.

NEW MEDIA ART EVENT. Wanted: artistic conceptions for installation in 10 building site containers (6 x 2.45 m) We invite you to participate at an International Media Art Event. [Http://www.the-virtual-mine.net](http://www.the-virtual-mine.net) is the forum and the virtual exhibition space of worldwide incoming artistic conceptions, utopias and ideas. Presentation in August and September 2001 in the former coal mine "Gegenort" in Neunkirchen (Germany) and the World Wide Web. Every single artistic conception will be displayed in the exhibit, but only 10 installations will actually be set up in containers at the site. The volume of the sent material should not exceed three A4 pages per artist because this material will be exhibited. The layout and the artistic nature of the sent material are left to the imagination of every participant, but must include a text on the artist's conception. Picture files (photos, sketches, drawings, etc. in jpg or gif at 72 dpi) can be included and sent via database in the website. Personal information (id-photo, biography, etc.) of the artists are welcome! **Deadline: 1 May 2001.** For further and detailed information on the project please go to the above website. The exhibition will extend over the whole industrial site. In front of the pit building ten containers will be set up in which installation from all over the world will be shown. Loosely laid cables will network the containers.

Mapping. Postal art incorporating maps. Any size. Works will be exhibited at <http://www.Natalukas.com> Documentation to all participants. No returns. Send submissions to: NataLukas/Mapping, 3107 Alderwood

Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225-1017.

Communication, Collaboration, Distribution and Publication. Mail art event to reveal the suitability of postal and Internet services to realize these aims. Send an artwork (drawing, collage, digital image, etc.) through the post or e-mail. The theme is mapping. I am particularly interested in maps, plotting or recording routes and connections. Work can be submitted via post or e-mail and aim to arrive as soon as possible preferably before the second week of April 2001. Every piece will be copied and included in a simple booklet and on a web page. Participants will receive a copy of the booklet. Daniel Stringer: gorkydan@hotmail.com The final results will be exhibited at Cheltenham & Gloucester C.H.E. from June - July 2001.

Bread Bag Clips. I am planning some group art projects for students, and we will need thousands of bread bag clips. Please save them and whenever you have enough to fill an envelope, send them along to me. Everyone who sends in bread bag clips will receive a photo of the project when it is completed. Tentative project date is late May 2001. Send to Nathan NataLukas, 3107 Alderwood Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225.

Study for a New Moon. Any size, any medium, 2-D or 3-D. Documentation after September show. This is a field study emanation by Ellen George. Send to P.O. Box 2871, Vancouver, WA 98668 USA. **Deadline: 25 August 2001.** Exhibition 25 August - 25 September 2001 at Guardino Gallery, Portland, OR.

Bicycles. Medium: Paper. No larger than 9 x 12". Works to be exhibited at Earth Expeditions and the Biking Expedition. No returns, documentation to all. **Deadline: 1 May 2001.** Send to: EE/TBE, P.O. Box 547, Henniker, NH 03242.

Welcome to the World of Mail Art. I would like to introduce my paper arts students to the concept of worldwide mail art and its experience. Any size, any medium. TTPOs (test/tease/torture the post office) appreciated. No jury, no fee, no returns. Documentation to all and possible inclusion in a web-based gallery. **Deadline: 30 June 2001.** Send to WorldWelcome, Enchanted Ink, P.O. Box 1254, Zachary, LA 70791.

Route 66. Driving the Dream: 75th Anniversary. Any size, no jury, no returns, documentation to all. 2001

marks the 75th anniversary of The Mother Road - Route 66. To celebrate, send your mail art to Driving the Dream - Route 66, 3604 Hemlock Dr., Valparaiso, IN 46383. **Deadline: 1 October 2001.** All will be displayed at the Chesterton Art Gallery in Chesterton, IN, opening on 11 November 2001, the date that Route 66 became an official U.S. Highway.

No Nukes! I live in a reactor community and in February 2000 there was a radiation leak at the nearby, privatized Indian Point nuclear power plant in Buchanan, New York. The leak resulted from careless decision-making that put profit before safety. The plant has been closed for nearly a year, but some time in 2001 is likely to re-open despite community protest. This is a call to all artists/activists/persons concerned about the safety of nuclear power plants. Help out community protest against the re-opening of this nuclear power plant in particular and against the continued use of nuclear power worldwide. **Deadline: 30 June 2001.** Any medium, any size, no jury, no returns, documentation to all participants. Mail to J. Chase, 982 Main St., 2nd flr., Peekskill, NY 10566. Show will take place in July/August at One Station Plaza Performance Space & Gallery in Peekskill. You can contact jlchase0423@aol.com

Los Mil Ojo (The Thousand Eyes). You interpret it as you wish. Show starts in 2001. Any medium, 4 x 6 inches, no returns, documentation to all. . **Deadline: 31 December 2000.** Send to Rodrigo Andrade, Casilla 3765, Concepcion, Chile.

Treatise of Pataphysical Anatomy. Everyone is invited to contribute. I would like to tackle all parts of the human body, and some issues related to it. Suggested subjects are: the head (especially the eye and the mouth/teeth), the brain, the hand, the feet, the erogenous zones, the hair (everywhere, esp. facial hair), the bones (esp. the skull), the nerves, the internal organs (esp. the heart), the body electric, pathologies, handicaps and aberrations, pataphysical surgery and creative transplants. Prospective contributors should contact the editor in order to discuss their assignment. Size: B5 (cm. 25.5 x 18), any medium e.g. charts, graphics, and a general medical book-like look, as well as written explanations and theories. **Deadline: 31 December 2001.** Equal importance to both creative and scientific. Documentation to all. Send to Johnnyboy Prods., Gianni Simone, 105 Hillside Morooka, 1094-1 Morooka-cho, Kohoku-ku,, Yokohama-shi, 222-0002 Kanagawa-ken, Japan.

ART READER

Smithsonian for January 2001 features an article on Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum in Long Island City, New York.

afterimage for January/February 2001 is dedicated and devoted to Media Art in the Balkans, covering every aspect of that area of the world. Truly a must read.

dialogue for January/February 2001 features "Talking Genius" with Ann Hamilton, Kerry James Marshall, Greg Hull and Masumi Hayashi. It also features an interview with A.A. Bronson on "Letting Go of General Idea" on the occasion of his exhibition, "Negative Thoughts" at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago.

The New York Times Week in Review for 4 March featured a critical essay by Michael Kimmelman critiquing the elaborate design for the planned World War II Memorial in its setting between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial, on the Mall in Washington, DC. The entire essay is devoted to the meaning of a "modern monument", or monuments in general.

The New York Times for 4 February carried an article by Kay Lawson on "Cage was Not Only All Ears, He was All Eyes, Too" citing how the composer's far-ranging sympathies and talent for friendship inspired visual artists such as Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns and so many more.

On 5 April, a remarkable article on paint-by-number paintings and their collectors was written by William L. Hamilton in the Living Arts section. Still another article about the conservation of contemporary art with all its problems states that Harvard is setting up a Center for Technical Study of Modern Art, the Whitney has established a new conservation department and NYU's Conservation Center at the Institute of Fine Arts has announced \$1.95 million in grants, some of which is to be used to train art conservators. It's a big problem!

On 4 April, an article about Chris Ware and his Acme Novelty Library, as well as his book, "Jimmy Corrigan: the Smartest Kid on Earth," (Pantheon). All of his work presaged the arrival of graphic literature, a new genre. If you don't know Chris Ware, you'd better find him on your shelves of your friendly bookshop (alternative, that is) where he remains one of the best graphic artists of his generation. His books chronicle four generations of