WASHINGTON POST

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2012

On Exhibit

20

Museums

OPENINGS
"THE BEAUTIFUL TIME: PHOTOGRAPHY BY SAMMY BALLOU" Opens at the National Museum of African Art in Washington, D.C. This exhibition brings together the works of 76 African-American photographers, from the early 20th century to the present day. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

ACADEMY ART MUSEUM "Andie Kartes's On Reeling," through Jan. 25. The Academy Art Museum is located at 51 W. Main St., Easton, MD 21601. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

AMERICAN VISIONARY ART MUSEUM "Things Found: Drawings, Pencils & Arms," through Sept. 28. A theme exhibition of original, spherical objects created by more than 70 artists, including Scott Weaver's "Rolling Through the Day" made from 300,000 toothpicks. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors can experience the threedimensional sculptures and creations based on spheres. Open daily, except Mon., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 2050 Falls Road, Baltimore, MD 21218. 410-699-2192. www.americanvisionaryart.org. Free.

ANDERSON HOUSE MUSEUM Extended hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. 1215 Newhall St. NE, Washington, DC 20002. 202-334-2135. www.andersonhouse.org. Free.

ANAPLIS MARITIME MUSEUM Photo exhibit, through Jan. 15. Maritime photography by members of the Annapolis Yacht Club, Maryland. Open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 124 N. Governor St., Annapolis, MD 21401. 410-263-0957. www.anaplis.org. Free.


Baltimore Museum of Industry Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 701 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21202. 410-752-9000. Free.


CHRISTOPHER CUNNINGHAM

Tomas Rivas's work is part of "Traveling Light: 5 Chinese Artists and Common Places," at the Art Museum of the Americas through Jan. 22. The exhibition focuses on the relationship between art and politics.

DUMBARTON OAKS MUSEUM "Losing Impressionism. Body Art in the Ancient Americas," through March 4. Three thousand years of tattoos, pendants, and other body transformations that were common in pre-Columbian cultures. Adults, $12; seniors, $10; students, $9; members, free. 3330 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20009. 202-339-6400. www.dumbarton.org. Free.


GERMAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MUSEUM "Heidelberg's Historic German Churches," through Jan. 25. A tour of the historic German churches in Heidelberg, Missouri. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 20778 N. Main St., Newfolden, ND 58262. www.haaschouse.org. Free.


Materials and Maids

OAS Rethinks Space, Society with 'Traveling Light,' 'Common Place'

by Fresia Rodriguez

Space and innovative interpretation are the powerful overarching themes that hold two separate exhibits together at the Art Museum of the Americas at the Organization of American States.

"Traveling Light, Five Artists from Chile," curated by Laura Roulet, presents a diverse series of site-specific installations that center on themes of materials in contemporary art. "Common Place," conceived by artists Justine Graham and Ruby Rumel, attempts to expose the complexities that oftentimes exist between Latin America housekeepers and their household employers. Both exhibits were organized in collaboration with the Embassy of Chile and while drastically different, their setup and presentation is complementary and allows for seamless compatibility and walkthrough.

"Traveling Light," with its airy feel, features five contemporary Chilean artists who installed five dramatically unique site-specific works at the museum that explore the concepts of architectural, historic and illusionist space. The exhibit is named after their mode of travel. Artists "travelied light" because they were "shipped" as opposed to their artwork — that is the artists traveled to the museum by themselves and had to pack their materials to fit within their respective visions. Their materials, ranging from paint, plaster, string and glitter, were all purchased in the Washington area. While in D.C. the artists also worked with a group of students from the Corcoran College of Art + Design who in turn assisted the artists throughout the 10-day installation process.

There is also a new extension to the exhibit that mirrors the student collaboration in the United States. Back in Chile, the five artists collectively administrate a studio school in the capital of Santiago. The school, which can be found at tallerpaint.wordpress.com, mentors younger artists in the practice of installation art.

One of the most intriguing pieces in "Traveling Light" is by Gerardo Pulido. Created with enameled spray paint and copper tubing, the work showcases a technique that mimics the appearance of marble and wood. "I emphasize the materiality of the work with its capacity for illusion, the wall with its transformation into other surfaces, the simulation with its incompleteness," explained Pulido. 

"I stress height differences, horizontal and vertical directions, palace walls and graffiti and fine arts versus decorative painting."

Rodrigo Canals's "Empty Banners," intertwining PVC, vinyl plastic and metallic glitter, combines celebration and invitation in its classic placement at doorways. "With their smart and zigzagging invisibility, over the head of the spectator, they threaten to disappear between rooms, between one work and the other, in what art is and what art is not, minimally invading space without saying anything," explained Canals.

"Common Place," located on the top floor of the museum, switches gears from focusing on materials to people, as issues of sociology, class and art emerge. The multimedia exhibit, which combines photography, film and surveys of 100 women between the ages of 19 and 95, explores an often private element of the female experience in Latin America. The installation questions perceived societal roles and sheds new light on the dynamic between Latin housekeepers and their household employers, stripping the veneer of gender, power, class and race expectations.

Artists Justine Graham and Ruby Rumel created the exhibit "Common Place," above, to cleverly explore the relationship between Latin housekeepers and their household employers — an exhibit that shares space at the Art Museum of the Americas with "Traveling Light, Five Artists from Chile," which features site-specific installations such as Catalina Buer’s "Floralities (Iowing)," left.

Traveling Light, Five Artists from Chile and Common Place
through Jan. 22
Organization of American States Art Museum of the Americas
201 18th St., NW
For more Information, please call (202) 458-8016
or visit http://museum.oas.org.
Chilean artists you’ve not seen come to create

BY MICHELLE LANGFORD MORSE

The visitor walking into the exhibit “Traveling Light, Five Artists from Chile” to study its right past the glittering gilded sword on the energy-deadly without realizing that is the first piece in the collection.

Rodrigo Araya, creator of the ephemeral “Bauderismo Unido (United Bauderism),” wanted his work to float high above the hands of viewers, to fill the in-between spaces separating the exhibited works.

So no one is aware of Chilean artists in this show, even at the Art Museum of the Americas. “It is called Traveling Light because we selected the artists instead of their artwork,” explains curator Larry Morse.

They bring local materials and create art to match the idea they are visiting. They teach art students — in this case, students from Corcoran College of Art & Design — then collaborate with them to create or choose what items are used in the artwork. This exhibition is the second and final version of the joint project, the Corcoran Gallery of Art’s exhibit Traveling Light in 2013, which was originally part of an artistically sustained period.

The show — which features work from four Chilean artists, including the sculpture of Maia Sawa, the drawing of Tomo Sumida, and the painting of Roberta Bland — is the first large-scale exhibit of Chilean artists in the United States.

“Traveling Light” in 2013, the first show, touring to Australia, was at Victoria Art College. They collectively operate a studio in Santiago called Talder BLOC. The artists have exhibited elsewhere in the world, but only Chile, which was on view at the National Gallery of Art, has previously shown their work in Washington.

All of the works show the power of the medium. There are also thematic threads throughout the exhibition, such as a contrast between high and low art or material, or the concept of drawing in space. Another thing: I would say that it’s unique is that there is no other museum in Washington that would do an exhibit like this.

“Traveling Light” is one of the exhibits in the show, as well as the exhibition of the American Museum of the Americas. The museum is dedicated to featuring the American cultural community and the Corcoran.

Exhibits are of the kind that are thematic, based on the possibilities of what an artist can do with common, everyday materials. Perhaps create the illusion of richer materials. Egg tempera becomes marble. Plastic and glitter become a festive present. Perhaps create the illusion of spatial depth in the way that artists since the Renaissance have used line perspective. All of the artists also call attention to their process of making the work. We can see the brush strokes, irregular painting, and hand-cutting. These signs of process make them present in the work long after they have returned to Chile.

Gonzalo Pardo’s mural uses egg tempera, an ancient form of paint associated with the Renaissance — high art — to create a marbled surface, in contrast with spray paint — a low form of paint associated with graffiti and street art — to simulate a finest paint surface.

“Traveling Light, Five Artists from Chile” opens Oct. 3 and runs through Oct. 22 at the Art Museum of the Americas, 2001 18th St. NW, and may be seen at www.americanas.org.
**Capital Bikeshare itinerary: Arty afternoon**

1. **Art Museum of the Americas**
   221 12th St NW, Washington, DC 20005 | 202-337-0000 | [Website]

   Start at the lesser-known Art Museum of the Americas for a look at a permanent collection touting works from Latin America and the Caribbean. At the moment, there is also a pair of special exhibitions, including installations by five contemporary Chilean artists.

2. **Corcoran Gallery of Art**
   500 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20005 | 202-637-7070 | [Website]

   Walk north along 17th Street NW and head to the Corcoran Gallery of Art for an eclectic experience that includes contemporary artists (be sure to see the stunning “Painting Big” exhibition featuring colorful, large-scale works by Chris Martin) along with such famed names of yore as Pablo Picasso, Edward Hopper and Edgar Degas.

3. **National Museum of Women in the Arts**
   1285 New York Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005 | 202-785-5000 | [Website]

   Pick up a bicycle at the station at 15th & E streets NW and drop it off at 15th Street and New York Avenue NW to visit the Museum of Women in the Arts. That destination, with a permanent collection featuring Judith Leyster, Frida Kahlo and Mary Cassatt, proves that women are more than mere muses. And through this weekend, there’s an exhibition of work by the crusading Guerrilla Girls.

4. **Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture**
   8th and F streets NW, Washington, DC 20001 | 202-333-1000 | [Website]

   Return to the 15th Street station and bike to Seventh and F streets NW to visit the Donald W. Reynolds Center, which houses the National Portrait Gallery and the American Art Museum. After a tour of the special exhibition highlights – “Portraiture Now: Asian American Portraits of Encounter” and “The Great American Hall of Wonders” – head to the lovely architecture and peaceful atmosphere of the Kogod Courtyard to refuel with snacks and beverages.

5. **Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden - Smithsonian Institution**
   Independence Avenue at Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20560 | 202-333-1000 | [Website]

   Pick up a bike at the same station and head south to drop it off on L’Enfant Plaza at Seventh and C streets SW. Pay a visit to the Hirshhorn Museum for an education in modern art with the temporary show “Andy Warhol: Shadows,” consisting of 102 canvases that cover 450 feet of museum wall space.
'Art Beat' With Sean Rameswaram, Sept. 19
September 18, 2011

Common Place examines the relationship between housekeepers and housewives in Chile.

(Sept. 16-Jan. 22) La Ayuda

If you read The Help or saw The Help and could go for some art with similar themes to The Help the Art Museum of the Americas in Northwest Washington has Common Place through late January 2012. Photos, videos and surveys of 100 Chilean women portray the evolving subordinate relationship between Latin American housekeepers and their housewife employers, reflecting issues of gender, power, class and race. A second exhibit by Chilean artists at the museum examines the intersection of art and politics.
Where & When: What to Do Tonight

A screening of “Thelma and Louise” with Geena Davis, folk band David Wax Museum at 9:30, and pig races at the Anne Arundel County Fair

By Samantha Miller

Wednesday, September 14

FILM: The DC chapter of Women in Film and Video is hosting a special screening of Thelma and Louise with Geena Davis. Stop by the Women's National Democratic Club for light hors d'oeuvres, the film, and a Q&A session with Davis. Proceeds will benefit the Geena Davis Institute on Gender, an organization dedicated to reducing female stereotypes in the media. Tickets ($65) can be reserved by calling 202-429-9438; 6:30 to 9:30 PM.

MUSIC: Folk band David Wax Museum are dropping by the 9:30 Club tonight. Hailed by the New Yorker as a group who “kicks up a cloud of excitement with its high-energy border-crossing sensibility,” the duo manages to fuse traditional Mexican folk with American roots. Openers will be Pearl and the Beard and Second String Band. Listen to some of DWM's tracks here. Tickets ($20) can be purchased through TicketFly. Doors open at 7:30 PM.

FAIR: Take the whole family to this year’s Anne Arundel County Fair. Today's events include pig racing, a poultry princess contest, a rabbit show, quilting demonstration, and more. And of course, there will be carnival rides, games, and funnel cakes galore. Tickets ($4 children ages 8 through 15; $6 ages 16 and older) can be purchased at the fair grounds. The fair runs through Sunday, September 18.

ART: Don’t miss the opening reception for “Contemporary Chilean Art at AMA,” a new exhibition themed around the interconnectedness of politics and contemporary art in Chile. The two-part show features “Traveling Light,” a series of works by five Chilean artists, and “Common Place,” which explores class structures and hierarchies in Latin American society. Free; 6:30 PM.

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Category Tags: Music, Film, Art, Where & When Picks
LAURA ROULET, ARTS ORGANIZING “FORCE MAJEURE”

The Art Museum of the Americas’ (AMA) is closed Mondays. However, independent contemporary art curator and writer Laura Roulet planned to meet a photographer there to document AMA’s latest show of contemporary art which she had curated. Although she is very, very busy (having just co-curated another multi-disciplinary exhibition of noted Caribbean artists for the Netherlands Ambassador’s residence**), Roulet graciously invited FBN (it took about one second to accept) to meet her at AMA for an interview and private tour of “Traveling Light, Five Artists from Chile” (see Calendar) in the petite gem of a museum. Roulet is smart, enthusiastic with a reserved manner, and, as a curator, she is steeped with a contemporary “vision.” What makes the AMA show so unique is that Roulet did site-specific art installations by Catalina Bauer, Rodrigo Canala, Rodrigo Galecio, Gerardo Pulido, and Tomás Rivas, Chilean artists whose studios are located under one roof. She requested ideas for the space and they each sent conceptual proposals of their artwork, which had not been painted or constructed, hence the derivation of the show’s title. The artists, who were given ten days to construct their models and install them, carried their materials to the AMA. Taking it a step further, Roulet involved students from The Corcoran College of Art + Design in a 10-day mentoring workshop with the artists, in which students participated in the building and installation of the works at the AMA, a grand opportunity for all. FBN was struck by the notion that with Roulet, classical art exhibition recedes in favor of art as a very compelling statement both by individual artists and the group in concert. The show evokes much more than nostalgia and familiarity, and in some ways is highly intellectual, playing upon a variety of mediums, textures, and staging. At AMA, each work complements the others and, in turn, the venue. Clearly, Roulet has taken risks upon a variety of mediums, textures, and staging. At AMA, each work complements the others and, in turn, the venue. Clearly, Roulet has taken risks others and, in turn, the venue. Clearly, Roulet has taken risks

FBA’s Third Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit

Establishing an award-winning new art institution is no easy feat anywhere, much less in our nation’s capital. But under the aegis of the organizing committee—Jackie Lemire, Jill Nevius, Mary Kay Shaw and Shirley Koller, Curator—succeed they did! So much so that in its 2008 inaugural year, “Arts in Foggy Bottom” won the Mayor’s Award for “Innovation in the Arts.”

This magical, biennial neighborhood transformation was successfully established, organized, facilitated, and hosted thanks to a year of tremendous logistics and planning efforts. Think design parameters, permissions, and liability. And, not to be overlooked, are curatorial decisions: of artists and artwork selections, tone, scale, durability and interest to complement the exhibition spaces. On the eve of historic Foggy Bottom’s 2012 Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit, we offer plenty of kind words and support to those working behind the scenes past and present. The original team continues with one change: Shirley Koller, has retired and passed the curatorial baton to Laura Roulet (See story above).

James Bulger, Ward 2 Constituent Liaison to District Agencies, Speaks at FBA Monthly Meeting

James Bulger describes himself as someone who deals with log jams in District government agencies. “If 311 worked perfectly, constituent issues would be solved,” he said. As such, his 24/7 availability to move things ahead may speak for itself. His talk wasn’t just a nice “Hi, how are you?” but a working session during which some neighborhood issues were addressed, one of which was the condition of the many failing, flawed, or missing sidewalks. It was noted that FBA VP Lisa Farrell had walked and documented the problems of FB’s Historic District streets. It was also pointed out that without a comprehensive look at all FB/WE sidewalks—and prioritizing those most in need—“FB/WE may deplete budget allocations without solving the most pressing problems.” Happily, a new DC/FB resident—who outlined a “strategic, responsible AND responsive” approach when asking for sidewalk repair services—stepped up to spearhead this initiative.

THE FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS
Foggy Bottom Association
Post Office Box 58087
Washington, DC 20037-8087
Editor-in-Chief: Susan Trinter
strinter@gmail.com

The Foggy Bottom News is published by the Foggy Bottom Association as a service to its members and provides information on FBA and neighborhood news, programs, activities and other events of interest to FBA members. Contributions and story ideas are welcome, but the FBN reserves the right to edit or hold pieces as space requires.

FBA Officers:
PRESIDENT — Asher Corson
VICE PRESIDENT — Lisa Farrell
SECRETARY — Jill Nevius
TREASURER – Samira Azzam
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR — John Woodard

FBA Board of Directors:
Jill Crissman, David Hertzfeldt, Gayley Knight, Lucia Pollock, Greg Snyder, John Woodard
Ex-Officio: Joy Howell (Immediate Past President)
Susan Trinter (FBN Editor)
LAURA ROULET (cont’d)

this burgeoning neighborhood
cultural tradition? Laura
shared a tidbit or two —
expect the addition of some
performance art and don’t
expect everything to be
sitting on terra firma. Under
Roulet’s hand, it appears that
the Foggy Bottom Sculpture
Exhibit will be moved to a
new plateau. Stay tuned.
*201 18th St NW
(at Virginia Ave)
Tues—Sun, 10 am to 5 pm.

James Bulger Speaks at FBA Monthly Meeting (cont’d)

Another important piece
of the discussion resulted
when a resident remarked
that DDOT repairs to the
brick sidewalks are often
just asphalt patching, which
is neither aesthetically nor
functionally useful. Others
in attendance agreed and
requested emphatically that
DDOT investigate technology
and current best practices to
rectify these efforts.

Bulger was also asked if he
could intervene to get the DC
Metropolitan Police to resume
its monthly briefings to our
FBA and ANC2A meetings,
and he thought he could help.

As Ward 2 residents, if you
have any service issue, reach
James at James.Bulger@dc.gov
or his cell phone,
202-349-7229.

Foggy Bottom News (cont’d from preceding page) October 5, 2011

WEST END LIBRARY FRIENDS BOOK SALE

OCTOBER 22
10:30 AM – 3:30 PM
West End Library
1101 24th St. NW
Washington, DC 20037
westendlibrary@dc.gov
202-724-8707

This half-price sale of used
and contributed books is a
continuation of our previous
sales and there are bargains
galore! Prices range from $.25
to $2.50 for the majority on
sale. Special volumes will be
appropriately priced. DVDs
and an abundance of CDs and
videotapes are available, as
well as $1.50 “surprise boxes”
covering a variety of topics.
West End Library Friends’ tote
bags and T-shirts will also
be available for purchase. All
proceeds from this sale will go
toward the D.C. Public Library
citywide “Summer Reading
Programs.” Mark your calendars
now and help support
this worthy cause.

ARTS IN FOGGY BOTTOM, A PROJECT OF THE FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION,
announces dates for its third biennial Foggy Bottom Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit.
The Exhibit will open April 21, 2012 and close October 20, 2012. The project is funded by the
Foggy Bottom Association Defense and Improvement Corporation. A new curator, Laura Roulet, will
be working with Co-Directors, Jackie Lemire, Jill Nevius, and Mary Kay Shaw on the Exhibit. Details
will be forthcoming in future issues of the Foggy Bottom News. Watch these pages!

OCTOBER CALENDAR

FOGGY BOTTOM/WEST END VILLAGE (MEETING ON AGING IN THE COMMUNITY)
SAT, OCT 8, 9:30 AM

WEST END BOOK CLUB TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 12:30 PM
OPEN – Bring a favorite or a recently work of nonfiction and tell us about it

WEST END FILM CLUB TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1:30 PM
Screening of Cinema Paradiso (Rated FG)

WEST END LIBRARY FRIENDS BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES
on the topic of heroic adventure in Western literature
(led by Ori Z. Soltes, resident scholar in theology and fine arts at Georgetown University)
Homer’s Odyssey – Wednesday, October 5, 6:30 pm
Dante’s Inferno – Wednesday, October 26, 6:30 pm
Job Seekers Drop-in Clinic – October 5, 12, 19, 26 (every Wednesday), 1:30-3:30 pm
Needle Arts Program (sharing in the experience of needle arts, from beginner to expert) –
Oct 18 (2nd and 4th Thursday of each month), 2:00 pm
Sahaja Meditation (“Feel the energy within”) – October 5, 12, 19, 26 (every Wednesday), 7:00 pm
Tango Practice – October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (every Saturday), 2:30 pm
Theosophical Society (meeting) – October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (every Saturday), 11:00 am
Federal Poets Society (meeting) – Saturday, October 15, 1:30 pm
West End Neighborhood Library, 1101 24th Street, NW
202-724-8698 for more info reach bill.turner@dc.gov

HOUSE OF SWEDEN – MUSIC: CONCERT BY YOU SAY FRANCE & I WHISTLE – SUN, OCTOBER 16,
Doors open at 7 pm and the concert starts at 7:30 pm
You Say France & I Whistle is Swedish indiekop at its best; combining melodious upbeat pop
with joyful lyrics. The band’s vision from the beginning was openness in making music: blending
different sounds and genres. The musical influences were many, everything from Justice to Beach
Boys. The band has three lead singers, which makes the music and the live shows more dynamic.
RSVP required to rsvp-hos@foreign.ministry.se with “October 16” in the subject line.

WEST END CINEMA – MARGIN CALL (narrative) – DC Release date: October 21:
A thriller that revolves around the key people at a investment bank over a 24-hour period
during the early stages of the financial crisis. Cast: Kevin Spacey, Paul Bettany, Jeremy Irons,
Zachary Quinto, Penn Badgely, Simon Baker, Demi Moore, Stanley Tucci
www.westendcinema.com
From the Embassy’s Calendar

CONGRESSMAN FROM AMERICAN SAMOA VISITS EASTER ISLAND

Responding to an invitation by Ambassador Fermandois, the Congressman for American Samoa, Era Faleomavaega, visited Santiago and Easter Island between March 22 and 27, in order to see firsthand living conditions on the island. Several highlights of the visit included: the creation of a Commission on Native Populations in the Chilean Chamber of Deputies; a plan to devote US$270 million to infrastructure projects on the island; and 4 roundtable discussions were set up to address the major demands of Easter Island people: land, special legal status, immigration and development. This visit paves the way to establishing bilateral agendas with other states in Oceania and the Pacific, which will serve to help train Rapa Nui youth in areas such as languages, sustainable tourism and the environment.

MINISTER LAURENCE GOLBORNE VISITS NEW YORK

In order to take advantage of the burgeoning interest in Chile following Minister Laurence Golborne’s experience in extreme rescues, he recently met with the head of the Special Operations Division of the New York Police Department while visiting this city (June 8 and 9). This is the same institution that was severely tested following the attack on the twin towers ten years ago. Ambassador Fermandois, who accompanied the minister, stressed the possibilities for collaboration between Chile and the United States on such issues.

Embassy of Chile is awarded project for contemporary art exhibition

Seven chilean artists will exhibit their work at the Art Museum of the Americas in Washington, D.C.

There has not been an exhibit of Chilean art at this cultural arm of the OAS since 2003.

A new and important initiative has been added to the traditional activities celebrating Chilean independence in the U.S. capital: on Wednesday, September 14 two separate shows by Chilean artists opened at the US-Chile Defense Consultative Commission meeting held in Washington on June 29 and 30, 2011. Both delegations engaged in a meaningful exchange of opinions and experiences regarding international disasters and humanitarian responses in the Americas, strategic and institutional planning, scientific exchanges, energy security and the environment.

The Undersecretary of Defense for Chile, Oscar Izurieta, visited the Chilean Embassy while participating in the Chile-US Defense Consultative Commission.

New steps are being taken to secure Chilean admittance to the U.S. visa waiver program. Ambassador Fermandois met with Congressman Mike Quigley on July 26 to express his support for the bill introduced by the Illinois Representative. The bill seeks to replace one of the principal requirements for countries to enter into said program: have a rate of visa rejection equal to or less than 3%. The new proposed indicator is the rate of overstaying a visa in US territory (which also must be 3% or less). Fermandois also met with Robert Kupiec, the Ambassador from Poland, another country that is highly interested in the bill, in order to coordinate activities that could sway opinion in favor of adding flexibility to the visa waiver program.

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Young artists

The entire first floor of the museum is dedicated to the exhibit, “Traveling Light,” consisting of works by Catalina Bauer, Rodrigo Roulet was able to rely on the assistance of a group of students from the prestigious Corcoran College of Art + Design — a partner on this project — who worked closely with the artists for 10 days prior to the show’s opening. The exhibit entitled “Common Place,” by Ruby Rumié and Justin Graham, is on the second floor. This show examines the relationship between domestic employees and their employers in Latin America, touching upon gender, power, class and racial issues. The collection includes photographs, videos and surveys conducted with 100 women between the ages of 19 and 95. The project explores new sensory and emotional experiences in an attempt to uncover differences and similarities between the participants, while removing current stereotypes in hierarchical relationships. “Common Place” challenges conventional methods of portraiture and proposes new social constructs.

These projects were financed primarily by funds obtained by the Embassy of Chile in a bidding process organized by the Department of Cultural Affairs of the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Art Museum of the Americas of the OAS is showing two Chilean exhibits.

Visits Easter Island

“Chile is one of the United States’ closest partners”. Thus, Dr. Paul Stockton, Assistant Secretary of Defense, welcomed the Chilean Under Secretary of Defense, Oscar Izurieta and the Ambassador of Chile, Arturo Fermandois, at the US-Chile Defense Consultative Commission meeting held in Washington on June 29 and 30, 2011. Both delegations engaged in a meaningful exchange of opinions and experiences regarding international disasters and humanitarian responses in the Americas, strategic and institutional planning, scientific exchanges, energy security and the environment.

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Visits Easter Island

“Chile is one of the United States’ closest partners”. Thus, Dr. Paul Stockton, Assistant Secretary of Defense, welcomed the Chilean Under Secretary of Defense, Oscar Izurieta and the Ambassador of Chile, Arturo Fermandois, at the US-Chile Defense Consultative Commission meeting held in Washington on June 29 and 30, 2011. Both delegations engaged in a meaningful exchange of opinions and experiences regarding international disasters and humanitarian responses in the Americas, strategic and institutional planning, scientific exchanges, energy security and the environment.

Responding to an invitation by Ambassador Fermandois, the Congressman for American Samoa, Era Faleomavaega, visited Santiago and Easter Island between March 22 and 27, in order to see firsthand living conditions on the island. Several highlights of the visit included: the creation of a Commission on Native Populations in the Chilean Chamber of Deputies; a plan to devote US$270 million to infrastructure projects on the island; and 4 roundtable discussions were set up to address the major demands of Easter Island people: land, special legal status, immigration and development. This visit paves the way to establishing bilateral agendas with other states in Oceania and the Pacific, which will serve to help train Rapa Nui youth in areas such as languages, sustainable tourism and the environment.

There has not been an exhibit of Chilean art at this cultural arm of the OAS since 2003. New steps are being taken to secure Chilean admittance to the U.S. visa waiver program. Ambassador Fermandois met with Congressman Mike Quigley on July 26 to express his support for the bill introduced by the Illinois Representative. The bill seeks to replace one of the principal requirements for countries to enter into said program: have a rate of visa rejection equal to or less than 3%. The new proposed indicator is the rate of overstaying a visa in US territory (which also must be 3% or less). Fermandois also met with Robert Kupiec, the Ambassador from Poland, another country that is highly interested in the bill, in order to coordinate activities that could sway opinion in favor of adding flexibility to the visa waiver program.

A new and important initiative has been added to the traditional activities celebrating Chilean independence in the U.S. capital: on Wednesday, September 14 two separate shows by Chilean artists opened at the US-Chile Defense Consultative Commission meeting held in Washington on June 29 and 30, 2011. Both delegations engaged in a meaningful exchange of opinions and experiences regarding international disasters and humanitarian responses in the Americas, strategic and institutional planning, scientific exchanges, energy security and the environment.

Young artists

The entire first floor of the museum is dedicated to the exhibit, “Traveling Light,” consisting of works by Catalina Bauer, Rodrigo Roulet was able to rely on the assistance of a group of students from the prestigious Corcoran College of Art + Design — a partner on this project — who worked closely with the artists for 10 days prior to the show’s opening. The exhibit entitled “Common Place,” by Ruby Rumié and Justin Graham, is on the second floor. This show examines the relationship between domestic employees and their employers in Latin America, touching upon gender, power, class and racial issues. The collection includes photographs, videos and surveys conducted with 100 women between the ages of 19 and 95. The project explores new sensory and emotional experiences in an attempt to uncover differences and similarities between the participants, while removing current stereotypes in hierarchical relationships. “Common Place” challenges conventional methods of portraiture and proposes new social constructs.

These projects were financed primarily by funds obtained by the Embassy of Chile in a bidding process organized by the Department of Cultural Affairs of the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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LAURA ROULET, ARTS ORGANIZING “FORCE MAJEURE”

The Art Museum of the Americas (AMA) is closed Mondays. However, independent contemporary art curator and writer Laura Roulet planned to meet a photographer there to document AMA’s latest show of contemporary art which she had curated. Although she is very, very busy (having just co-curated another multidisciplinary exhibition of noted Caribbean artists for the Netherlands Ambassador’s residence**), Roulet graciously invited FBN (it took about one second to accept) to meet her at AMA for an interview and private tour of “Traveling Light: Five Artists from Chile” (see Calendar) in the petite gem of a museum.

Roulet is smart, enthusiastic with a reserved manner, and, as a curator, she is steeped with a contemporary “vision.” What makes the AMA show so unique is that Roulet did site-specific art installations by Catalina Bauer, Rodrigo Camala, Rodrigo Galecio, Gerardo Pulido, and Tomás Rivas, Chilean artists whose studios are located under one roof. She requested ideas for the space and they each sent conceptual proposals of their artwork, which had not been painted or constructed, hence the derivation of the show’s title. The artists, who were given ten days to construct their models and install them, carried their materials to the AMA. Taking it a step further, Roulet involved students from The Corcoran College of Art + Design in a 10-day mentoring workshop with the artists, in which students participated in the building and installation of the works at the AMA, a grand opportunity for all. FBN was struck by the notion that with Roulet, classical art exhibition recedes in favor of art as a very compelling statement both by individual artists and the group in concert. The show evokes much more than nostalgia and familiarity, and in some ways is highly intellectual, playing upon a variety of mediums, textures, and staging. At AMA, each work complements the others and, in turn, the venue. Clearly, Roulet has taken risks to expand the boundaries of our comfort zones as art lovers. Now for the really exciting news: Laura Roulet has signed on as the new curator for the “Arts in Foggy Bottom 2012 Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit!” So, what can we expect for September Membership Meeting.

James Bulger, Ward 2 Constituent Liaison to District Agencies, Speaks at FBA Monthly Meeting

James Bulger describes himself as someone who deals with log jams in District government agencies. “If 311 worked perfectly, constituent issues would be solved,” he said. As such, his 24/7 availability to move things ahead may speak for itself.

His talk wasn’t just a nice “Hi, how are you?” but a working session during which some neighborhood issues were addressed, one of which was the condition of the many failing, flawed, or missing segments of sidewalks. It was noted that FBA VP Lisa Farrell had walked and documented the problems of FBA’s Historic District streets. It was also pointed out that without a comprehensive look at all FB/WE sidewalks—and prioritizing those most in need—“FB/WE may deplete budget allocations without solving the most pressing problems.” Happily, a new DC/FB resident—who outlined a “strategic, responsible AND responsive” approach when asking for sidewalk repair services—stepped up to spearhead this initiative.

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