

ARTS ENTERTAINMENT

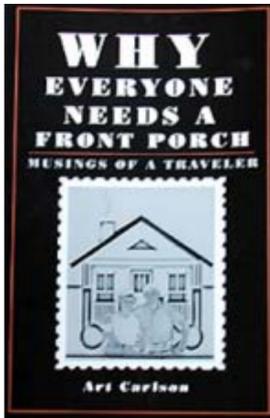
Art Carlson's Roadtrip Adventures Lead Him To Penning 'Front Porch'

By CAROL F. DAVIS
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — What happens if you go through some life-changing events and realize that you need to regroup? Roadtrip! At least that was the choice for one former Westfield resident.

Art Carlson's adventure started in 1991, when he got into his van with nothing but a tape recorder and a tight budget. Living out of his van, he had plenty of time to reflect on his travels. Three months later, Carlson returned with lots of stories, chronicling his adventures.

It didn't end there. Two solo trips and 35,000 miles later, this photographer and architectural enthusiast had enough material to publish his first book, "Why Everyone Needs a Front Porch."



material for his book took him as far as Alaska, and the entire time he somehow managed to stay off of the main roads. He did it all for under \$35 a day, and provides a map of his route.

His own photographs, adorning his observations of the local architecture, regional differences, and tales of picturesque towns make "Why Everyone Needs a Front Porch" a delightful read.

When asked to describe his book, Carlson told *The Westfield Leader and The Times of Scotch Plains-Fanwood* that it was simply "a series of thoughts I had while traveling."

A retiree, Carlson was able to devote time to his newly discovered passion.

The title, "Why Everyone Needs a Front Porch,"

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Celine A. Mogielnicki Captures First Place in Opera Competition

WESTFIELD — Celine A. Mogielnicki, a Westfield High School sophomore, was awarded a first place medal in the Opera Competition, sponsored by the Little Opera Competition on February 9, at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

Over 100 individuals vied for medals in four separate categories.

Celine, a lifelong Westfield resident, sang the Italian aria, *Una Donna a Quindici Anni* from the opera *Così fan Tutti* by Mozart.

Currently studying operatic voice with Professor Marianna Paunova of

the Manhattan School of Music Preparatory Division, New York. Celine is also enrolled as a voice student at the school.

At 11, Celine received a scholarship from The Rome Festival/American Performance Studios, to perform in the opera *Hansel and Gretel* in Rome, Italy. While there, she also sang in a small children's chorale for Pope John Paul II.

From 1999 to 2001, Celine studied at the Westminster Choir College Conservatory and regularly per-

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Artist of the Week



Richard Lewis (1947-)

By MICHELLE H. Le POIDEVIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Some of the most humorous folks, who poke fun at everyone, including themselves, seem to have the most insurmountable problems. Take comedian Richard Lewis, for example. Voted one of *G.Q. Magazine's Most Influential Humorists of the 20th Century*, he has made a career out of being brutally honest, baring his soul to his audiences, even if it was to be self-deprecating. Anything and everything got Lewis a laugh.

But, his battles with drug use were never a laughing matter. At 44 years of age, the man who commanded every stage he was ever called to perform on, Lewis found himself facing a tougher enemy than the nastiest heckler of an audience. He faced himself — a man imprisoned by an addiction to alcohol, cocaine and, in dire need of recovery.

The saddest aspect of a comedic actor or persona falling into the pits of drug-induced despair is that the phenomenal talent possessed by the individual becomes overshadowed and wasted in the eyes of the fans. They don't remember the person's drive to succeed or overcome, they focus, instead on the fact that they fell in the first place.

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"Got News for You" by René Lalonde of Galerie Pierre Séguin in Montréal.



Impact of 9-11 Attacks Colors Muse of International Artexpo

By MICHELLE H. Le POIDEVIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

NEWYORK — The mighty house of glass, known as Manhattan's Jacob K. Javits Center greeted droves of publishers, gallery owners and art enthusiasts to the 24th Annual International Artexpo last week, offering the chance to become pervaded by the most time-honored, eclectic and educational examples of creativity conjured up by thousands of artisans.

Perhaps the most resounding theme of the four-day long event stemmed from the terrorist attacks of September 11. While the mood of the exhibition was far from somber, there was a concerted effort on the part of most artists to display some patriotic piece or sentiment to reflect the changing times.

One such artist, René Lalonde, who is represented by the Quebec-based Galerie Pierre Séguin, was inspired before 9-11 to create a painting comprised of geometric images including pieces of the American flag. An illuminated star here, a bold red stripe there, and glorious brush strokes of blue.

However, when the events surrounding 9-11 struck the nation, Lalonde told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* that the mood of the piece had certainly been altered. There was nothing celebratory about the nature of the geometric and he needed to reflect that.

Lalonde opted to coat the piece with black paint and dab it away, to impress upon the beholder a sense of America rising from the ashes of terrorism. Remaining modest about his contribution to acknowledging 9-11, the artist said that while he does not intend to reproduce the painting in the form of a lithograph or postcard.

Booths were tastefully filled with photographs of the World Trade Center towers before the attacks, with some vendors beckoning visitors to purchase some image of what the buildings looked like before they were brought down.

The Artexpo's organizers presented two exhibits with one common theme, "Let Art Lift Our Spirits!" In "Re-Imagining Ground Zero," school children crafted models depicting what the site would look like if something



"Maxine" the cow by Peter Max, New York, N.Y. Max offered a different type of multi-colored cow for the event.

new were erected there.

Formed from various types of media, the exhibition blended in well with those surrounding it, and will eventually be part of an eBay auction to benefit *The New York Times 9/11 Neediest Fund's School Arts Rescue Initiative*, which dis-

tributes monies to seven social service agencies, such as The Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service; The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York; Catholic Charities, Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens; The Children's Aid Society; The Community Service Society of New York; UJA-The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York; and The Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, Inc.

In another exhibition, Time, Incorporated teamed up with Artexpo organizers to bring "A Photographic Tribute to America's Heroes" by *Life* photographer Joe McNally. Towering in nature, the nation's bravest rescue personnel, as well as widows and children, were presented in life-size, full color beauty, gently serving as quiet reminders to visitors of the sacrifices of others.

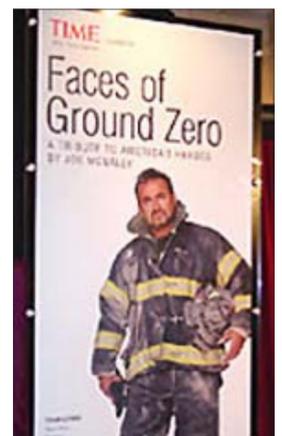
The exhibit has been enjoyed by former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, has been presented throughout the city, and has received high acclaim from critics, victims and admirers alike.

Turning to other art themes, this annual show also represented sculptors inspired by South African landscapes and those who created gargantuan, thick-wired figures that moved about their pedestals with open arms.

Sculptors also used pieces of neon tubing, multi-layered pieces of pa-



"Pop Art...Pop Star" by René Lalonde of Galerie Pierre Séguin in Montréal.



Part of Joe McNally's Time, Incorporated exhibit depicting images of 9-11 heroes.

per and frames were crafted from objects so foreign that some of them blended into the artwork themselves.

Turning to pieces which were

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CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

Ani Kavafian, violin, and Carter Brey, cello

invite you to join them on

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2002

GUEST ARTISTS

Elmar Oliveira, violin Ida Kavafian, violin
Carmit Zori, violin Steven Tenenbom, viola
Daniel Phillips, viola Ronald Thomas, cello

PROGRAM

Bach Concerto for Three Violins
Beethoven String Quartet, Op. 74 ("The Harp")
Tchaikovsky "Souvenir de Florence"

TICKETS HONORED AT TWO LOCATIONS:

MAPLEWOOD at 3:00 P.M.
MORROW METHODIST CHURCH
600 Ridgewood Road

WESTFIELD at 7:30 P.M.
TEMPLE EMANU-EL
756 East Broad Street

Tickets: \$20, Seniors \$18, Students \$10

CALL US AT 973-762-0108

The Westfield Jaycees present

Marshall Crenshaw

Saturday, April 6, 2002
8 p.m.

General Admission \$25

Westfield High School Auditorium
Westfield, NJ

Tickets available at:
Altre's Coffee Roastery
Jaycee and Sports Team Members
or call 908-233-6591

All proceeds to benefit:
+ WHS Girls Lacrosse & Boys Ice Hockey + Jaycee Scholarships +
+ September 11 Memorial Fund +