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## NEWS

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Wilton Library embraces a variety of artists April 6

Wilton, CT – Every summer Wilton Library opens its gallery walls to artists who live, work or are connected to Wilton in some way. This month's art exhibition welcomes "The Eclectic Eight," a group of artists who have exhibited in past Summer Shows. The exhibition opens to the public with a reception on Friday, April 6, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The featured artists are Erik Kaeyer, Sean Keating, Katya Lebrija, Ed MacEwen, Hadley Seymore, Day Shields, Bronislava Slagle and Chengxin Sun.

According to Ed MacEwen, the library's art chairman, "Each of the seven other artists showed just a glimpse of their inspirations in the Summer Shows. This exhibition gives them a chance to showcase more of their works to an appreciative audience."

MacEwen has his own unique creations in this exhibition with a grid of nine paintings that he fashioned from fabrics, creating an expression of abstract paintings. He said of his new endeavor, "I became enamored with how fabric patterns change with folds, shadows and the distortions made by movement when worn. This series of watercolors is the result of that fascination – and they are made in small formats, so I could paint them while traveling!"

Each of the artists has a background as diverse as their works:

**Erik Kaeyer** enjoys drawing large scale charcoal pieces because "it can have really dark background and brilliant highlights like many of the renaissance artists with obviously a contemporary subject and style." His formal training was with general fine art classes in high school, plus architectural, fashion and fine art drawing and sculpture classes at Cornell. He is an architect when he isn't working on his magnificent drawings.

**Sean Keating** has always had an affinity for the arts. His childhood was spent in England while his father, actor Charles Keating, performed in British stage and film productions. A musician with rock groups for more than 30 years, he has also appeared in various stage productions across the country. Directorial credits include "Othello" and "Romeo and Juliet" (Riverside Shakespeare Company, New York). Sean began painting in earnest at the Silvermine Arts Guild, starting in watercolor. His primary medium of late has been oil. He balances his time between

(More)

painting and designing garden—for over 33 years he has owned and operated TLC Lawn & Landscaping Service).

**Katya Lebrija** was born in Mexico City and received her bachelor of arts from Universidad Anáhuac in graphic design. She moved to the US with her family almost twenty years ago. Ms. Lebrija likes to work in series, which enables her to explore a single theme or idea in a variety of ways. Most recently, she has focused on creating mixed media pieces, where she uses different materials like acrylics, paper, leftover monotypes, fabric, gesso, ink, charcoal, oil sticks, etc.

**Ed MacEwen** has been a resident of Wilton for almost 40 years and retired in 1996 from GTE Corporation as Vice President, Corporate Communications and President of the GTE Foundation. He has a BFA from Carnegie Mellon University and a MA in Communication from Fairfield University. He has volunteered for many organizations throughout Fairfield County, including the library, where he served on the Board of Trustees and is now the art chairman.

**Hadley Seymore** grew up in Wilton. An avid artist throughout her childhood, she spent most of her time drawing and writing. She graduated with a degree in Visual Arts from Naropa University in 2008, then studied illustration for a year at University College Falmouth in Cornwall, England.

As an attorney, **Day Shields** spent most of his adult years drawing Wills and Trust Agreements rather than works of art. After more than 35 years of practicing law, he retired and decided to indulge his childhood love of art, along with other hobbies, fishing and cooking. Without formal training until Silvermine School of Art classes eight years ago, he now has taken guidance from Tom Brenner and Dmitri Wright.

**Bronislava Slagle** was born in a small town called Kadan, near Karlovy Vary in the western part of Czechoslovakia. After attending school there, she worked with mentally challenged children for two years. Through gumption and tenacity, she managed to leave Czechoslovakia, illegally crossed the border into Austria until she finally received permission to enter the US. She worked hard without any support to learn English and establish herself in her new home. Bronislava has been successfully showing her work for more than ten years in juried and non-juried exhibitions in Fairfield County galleries.

**Chengxin Sun** is a member of the Chinese Art Association. Since the 1980s he has held many successful solo exhibitions in China and abroad and gained a lot of respect in the art community. Many of his works have been collected by art museums and art collectors. His painting *Impression of Beijing's Hutong* was collected by the British Museum in London, and his painting *Living in the WuYi Mountain* was collected by the China National Museum of Fine Art. His son, Ning, lives in Wilton where Chengxin spends many months of the year visiting and painting.

The exhibition runs through Friday, April 27. Most of the more than 70 works will be available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the library. The Wilton Bulletin is the media sponsor for the art exhibition.

The library is open Mondays through Thursdays, 10 am. to 8 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old

Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center. For more information and directions, visit [www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org) or call 203-762-6334.

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03/22/18



Erik Kaeyer  
1972 Triumph TR6



Sean Keating  
Self Portrait



Katya Lebrija  
At the Marina



Ed MacEwen  
Checks



Hadley Seymore  
Deer Totem



Day Shields  
Classic Lion



Bronislava Slagle  
Blue V



Chengxin Sun  
Fishing Song

**Caption:** Wilton Library’s April art exhibition, “The Eclectic Eight,” opens on Friday, April 6, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and showcases the works of talented artists from previous Wilton Artists Summer Shows. The artists are Erik Kaeyer, Sean Keating, Katya Lebrija, Ed MacEwen, Hadley Seymore, Day Shields, Bronislava Slagle and Chengxin Sun. A portion of proceeds from sales benefits the library. Exhibit runs through April 27. Pictured: a sampling from each of the artists. Wilton Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT; [www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org), 203-762-3950.