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NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“5 of the Best” art exhibition opens Dec. 6 at Wilton Library

Wilton, CT – Thanks to serendipitous timing at Wilton Library last year, this year’s December art exhibition embraces the work of five talented artists, the majority of whom met as an outcome of the library’s “Unhung Heroes” show in October, 2008. The result of that moment is the “5 of the Best” art exhibition opening at Wilton Library on Sunday, Dec. 6, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The artists featured during the month-long exhibition are C. J. Guerin, Ruth Newquist, Marisa Taddei, Beverly Ward and Laura Wilk.

According to art chairman Ed MacEwen, “Most of these artists had never exhibited at the library before the “Unhung Heroes” exhibition, and their work just really resonated with me. I felt that their collective talent was that good that we deserved to see more of what each had to offer.” The exhibit will showcase more than 50 paintings and prints by the artists. The artists’ backgrounds are as varied as their styles, subject matter and choice of media:

- **C.J. Guerin** is an artist with an eye for nature who travels throughout the Northeast always searching for the best opportunities for her artistry. An elected member of the Silvermine Guild of Artists and an artist-in-residence at the Greenwich Historical Society since 2004, she also is on the Silvermine School of Art faculty where she has been teaching painting and printmaking for the past seven years. Ms. Guerin notes that she “seeks to transfer the beauty of nature to canvas.” She has exhibited in numerous shows throughout the region, including two previous exhibitions at the library. Ms. Guerin lives in New Canaan where she also has her studio.
- **Ruth Newquist** of Newtown is known for her oils and watercolors of New York cityscapes as well as New England landscapes. She is an elected artist member of the National Watercolor Society, the Connecticut Watercolor Society, as well as Allied Artists of America and the Salmagundi Art Club in New York City. Ruth exhibits her paintings throughout New England and New York. She has won numerous awards from prestigious organizations and has been published in several books.
- **Marisa Taddei** is a graphic designer by profession and a printmaker by her heart. She was introduced to monotype printmaking during her graduate studies research in 1994 at Wesleyan University and it has become her medium of choice ever since. Ms. Taddei describes her style as expressive, rather than representational. Her work focuses on her

(More)

love of the outdoors, particularly as she takes walk with her dog in the woods of Hamden, where she lives. According to the artist, “With each print, I work to capture the essence and communicate the emotion of these moments in time.”

- **Beverly Ward**, a Wilton resident, has made her living predominantly as an actress in the musical theatre and has no formal training in the visual arts except “on-the-job.” She works in acrylics and though she is now experimenting with portraiture, she mainly paints landscapes. According to the artist, she is “inspired by the beautiful textures of New England; all seasons appeal to her eye.” She was raised in San Diego, the land of “one season,” which, she notes, “may explain my fascination with painting the terrain here in the east.”
- **Laura Wilk** is an award-winning watercolor artist and instructor, exhibiting at Wilton Library for the second time. The Weston resident uses eye-catching color in her robust paintings. According to Ms. Wilk, “[though] I started as a fiber artist, my work has evolved and I now focus on creating highly detailed representational watercolor paintings.” She was a first place winner of the Connecticut Watercolor Society award in 2005 and in 2009 received the top award in watercolor from Kent Art Association and from the Society of Creative Arts in Newtown.

The majority of the group’s works will be available for purchase, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the library. The “5 of the Best” exhibition runs through Tuesday, Dec. 29 during regular library hours which are Mondays through Thursdays 10 – 8, Fridays 10 – 6, Saturdays 10 – 5 and Sundays 1 – 5. The library will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 24 and 25. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center. For information and directions, visit www.wiltonlibrary.org or call (203) 762-3950.

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“Saturday Crowd,” a watercolor by Ruth Newquist of Newtown, is just one of the more than 50 works being featured in Wilton Library’s “5 of the Best” art exhibition opening Sunday, Dec. 6, from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. The exhibition features artists C.J. Guerin of New Canaan, Ruth Newquist, Marisa Taddei of Hamden, Beverly Ward of Wilton and Laura Wilk of Weston. The reception is open to the public. Wilton Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT, www.wiltonlibrary.org, (203) 762-3950.