

WILTON LIBRARY



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Landscapes and paper mosaics showcased at Wilton Library March 9

Wilton, CT – A diverse collection of oil paintings and ripped paper mosaics are featured in Wilton Library’s art exhibition, “Landscapes by Frank Detrich and Paper Mosaics by Barbara Rist,” opening on Sunday, March 9, from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. The artists’ styles represent two very different techniques. Detrich’s landscapes in oil provide serene, pastoral views capturing the changing seasons on canvas. Rist’s hand-ripped paper mosaics show minute details on large-scale canvases. Together, the artists are exhibiting more than 80 pieces throughout the library.

Detrich began painting for pleasure during his early childhood and according to him, “not always on approved surfaces.” About his work he says, “There should be a kind of timeless quality, a quietness, and hopefully a feeling of something universal expressed through that particular place.” He graduated from The Cooper Union in New York in 1967 with a bachelor’s degree in architecture, and practiced his profession in New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Pennsylvania through 1981. He started painting professionally in 1979, and has had his works in numerous galleries, exhibitions and private collections in North America since then, including Knoedler Galleries, Westbeth Gallery, and Washington Square Gallery in New York. Detrich currently lives in Brooklyn.

Rist’s works may be familiar to some patrons as she has exhibited at Wilton Library in the past, having had a solo exhibition in 2002, as well as having participated in the library’s annual summer shows and the Wilton Art Council’s annual exhibitions. Her intricate work begins with tearing paper into miniscule pieces, usually from art magazine reproductions. She then assembles them on to large scale canvases, creating a complete paper mosaic or collage in which the detail is mesmerizing. The process often takes up to 18 months to produce a finished

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piece. Reluctant to speak about her work, Rist recently said, “I can’t say much about my art except people like it.” This comment is probably an understatement given the time people spend viewing her pieces in the library gallery. The ripped paper process came to her at a particularly frustrating time in her life. From those trying times, she lashed out by tearing up a magazine. From the experience, came the art. Rist is no stranger to hardship. Born in Prussia, Rist and her family became political refugees after World War II when the area reverted back to Poland and Germans were driven from the country. The journey was long and arduous, included time spent in refugee camps, and she experienced the loss of her father. She left the family at age sixteen, moved to England and France, learning new languages and then found her way back to Germany, where she met her husband Richard. They subsequently moved to the U.S. and settled in Wilton in 1972.

The exhibition runs through Saturday, March 29. The majority of the artwork will be available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds benefiting Wilton Library. Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 – 8, Friday 10 – 6, Saturday 10 – 5 and Sunday 1 – 5. The library will be closed on Friday, March 21 and Sunday, March 23. Wilton Library is located in the heart of Wilton Center at 137 Old Ridgefield Road. For information and directions, visit www.wiltonlibrary.org or call (203) 762-3950.



Caption: Frank Detrich’s oil painting, “Land and Sea Gently Meet,” is just one of the more than fifty pieces he is exhibiting at Wilton Library, along with more than twenty works of ripped paper mosaics by Barbara Rist at the opening reception of “Landscapes by Frank Detrich and Paper Mosaics by Barbara Rist” on Sunday, March 9, from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. For information and directions, visit www.wiltonlibrary.org or call (203) 762-3950.