

Newsletter 2013

Cari Amici,

This June was the tenth anniversary of the BAU Institute Residency and the year that 816 saints were canonized in Otranto. We certainly felt blessed to be there!



Newly canonized saints



Ten years is not bad for a utopian fantasy of a castle by the sea filled with creative people making innovative art! It all seems like a dream – but we have the proof in our new work and its on-going momentum that real magic was created here.

Otranto Residency



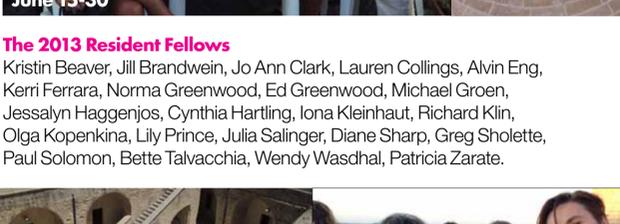
As a new non-profit, this was a year of many firsts. In 2013 the new Board of Directors promised its on-going support to institute fellowships chosen by an independent panel. Fellowships were awarded to JoAnn Clark, Alvin Eng, Lily Prince, Greg Sholette, Bette Talvacchia and Patricia Zarate. This year everyone received small artist grants and associate discounts. Additionally the Carlo Cego grant was awarded to Cynthia Hartling by Paola Iacucci to honor Carlo's work as a painter and his love for Otranto.



Carlo Cego



In residence were 8 painters, 2 photographers, 2 installation artists, a poet, a playwright, an art historian, a dramaturg, a journalist, a choreographer, a curator, a sculptor, and an interior designer. The staff of 8 included graphic designers, architects and visual artists. We were joined by a film-maker and a visual artist as visiting critics. Many local artists and friends participated in BAU Institute activities and shared their expertise.



June 1-15



June 15-30



The 2013 Resident Fellows

Kristin Beaver, Jill Greenwell, Jo Ann Clark, Lauren Collings, Alvin Eng, Kerri Ferrara, Norma Brandwein, Ed Greenwood, Michael Groen, Jessalyn Haggenjos, Cynthia Hartling, Iona Kleinhaut, Richard Klin, Olga Kopenkina, Lily Prince, Julia Salinger, Diane Sharp, Greg Sholette, Paul Solomon, Bette Talvacchia, Wendy Wasdhal, Patricia Zarate.



Mithraic temple site



After a week of blissful solitude in the castle, it re-opened to the public with a gala party. It was a celebration of the renovation of the rooms and the opening of a De Chirico exhibition, which seemed most appropriate in that stark environment. But most impressive to us, was the archeological discovery of a Mithraic temple buried in the center cortile of our studio building!

Visiting Critics

Gianni Sirch and Polly Apfelbaum



Gianni Sirch



Polly Apfelbaum

We were thrilled that Gianni Sirch, art historian and film-maker, returned as a Visiting Critic. He presented a screening of his award winning Documentary, *My Private Zoo*, an expressionistic portrayal of post-apartheid South Africa, honored with "Best Documentary Film" award at the Milan Docucity International Film Festival. In addition, Gianni gave a critical report on the Venice Biennale he had just seen as well as insightful and generous studio visits.

Polly Apfelbaum the Joseph H. Hazen Fellow at the American Academy in Rome, was our second Visiting Critic. Polly is acclaimed for her unique synthesis of painting, sculpture and installation, that were illuminated in her artist presentation. Fellows appreciated her studio visits and were stimulated by her talk sharing her art and her experience of working in Italy.



Giurdignano



Field Trips

This year BAU visited the Baroque city of Lecce, the frescos in Santa Caterina in Galatina, and the Byzantine Vecchia in Giurdignano. We made the annual pilgrimage to the Massa della Vecchia prehistoric megaliths, Dolmen and Menhir. We loved our first visit to the ancient crossroads city of Gallipoli on the Ionian Sea.



Torre Pinta



Porto Badisco

Fellows took walks to local sites such as the Ipoceo of Torre Pinta, a Neolithic burial chamber, and trips to Porto Badisco, the Baia dei Turchi, the Baia dell'Orte on the Adriatic coast and to the Valle delle Memorie and the Idrusa Valley in the surrounding countryside.

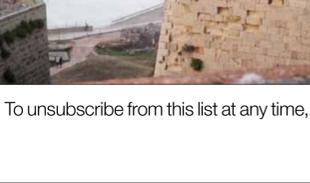
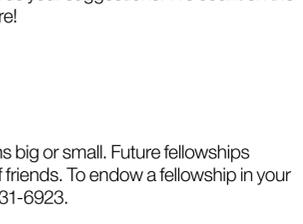
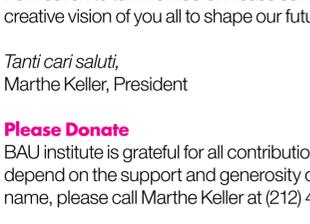
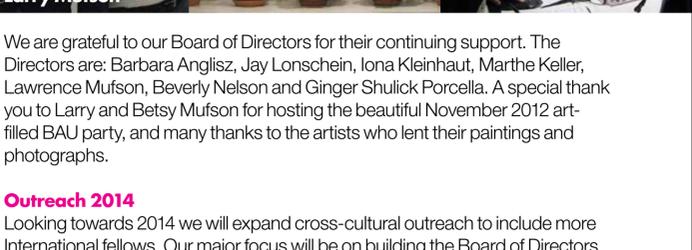


Dott. Carlo Codacci Pisanelli's insightful tour of the amazing Cathedral Mosaics.



Everyone enjoyed delicious regional specialties prepared by local cooks. BAU residents shared impromptu picnics, potluck dinners and restaurant cuisine.

Open Studios, Studi d'arte Aperti al pubblico



The artists opened their castle studios to the public on June 13 and on June 27. Film-maker Caterina Gerardi and gallerist Dores Sacquegna were among the visitors from Lecce who came to see paintings, drawings, installations, photography, the text of a play and a performance.



The grand finale of the month was a traditional music festival in Otranto that had the whole town dancing in the streets.

Mille grazie

Many thanks to BAU Administrator, Barbara Anglisz, and to the housing manager, Dagmar Frinta and the studio managers, Anke Becker and Jutta Wacht for their multilingual brilliance, hard work and good cheer. We are grateful also to the volunteer assistants, Renee Poel, Roman Engel and Ansgar Beinke. Thank you to all the Fellows who provided their wonderful photos. Look for them soon on the BAU Facebook page.

Very special thanks to Paola Iacucci, President of ACCM, Associazione Culturale Città del Mediterraneo, for the organization and coordination of BAU's program in Otranto.

Larry Mufson

We are grateful to our Board of Directors for their continuing support. The Directors are: Barbara Anglisz, Jay Lonschein, Iona Kleinhaut, Marthe Keller, Lawrence Mufson, Beverly Nelson and Ginger Shulick Porcella. A special thank you to Larry and Betsy Mufson for hosting the beautiful November 2012 art-filled BAU party, and many thanks to the artists who lent their paintings and photographs.

Outreach 2014

Looking towards 2014 we will expand cross-cultural outreach to include more International fellows. Our major focus will be on building the Board of Directors from seven to ten members. Please send us your suggestions. We count on the creative vision of you all to shape our future!

Tanti cari saluti,
Marthe Keller, President

Please Donate

BAU institute is grateful for all contributions big or small. Future fellowships depend on the support and generosity of friends. To endow a fellowship in your name, please call Marthe Keller at (212) 431-6923.

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