Music at the Maloof

As a complement to the gallery exhibition, *With Strings Attached: Art in the Craft of Sound*, five special musical events have been planned at the Maloof for 2013. With the arrival of fall, only two of the five remain to be enjoyed, and both are scheduled for Sundays in October.

October 6 features America’s oud virtuoso John Bilezikjian. Perhaps the most prominent oudist of his generation, Bilezikjian is master of an instrument whose 11-stringed, fretless design dates back to ancient Persia, more than 2,000 years ago. Note that this event has been rescheduled from a mid-September date announced earlier in the season.

Master oudist John Bilezikjian takes the stage on Sunday, October 6.

On October 27, African kora artist Amadou appears with classical guitarist Ryoji, offering an unusual blend of world music sounds. Amadou hails from Senegal, Africa, and is one of a long line of kora masters. Ryoji, with roots in Japan, joins Amadou on guitar to create a rare and joyful sound.

The music series launched last spring with sold-out events featuring the string quartet Ambrosia followed by koto artist Yukiko Matsuyama, accompanied by Diana Dentino. In July, violin maker Jim Brown paired with violinist Sarah Wallin Huff for a vocal and musical exploration of Italian-style instrument-making.

The Sunday afternoon events include the exhibition, tours of the Maloof residence and refreshments.

Open house tours will begin at 1 pm followed by the musical performance at 2 pm, then food and drink. Proceeds benefit the Foundation’s mission of educating and inspiring the community through the creative legacy of Sam and Alfreda Maloof. For information, visit malooffoundation.org or call (909) 980-0412.

Past events featured Yukiko Matsuyama on koto (above) and violin maker Jim Brown (left).

African kora artist Amadou will perform on Sunday, October 27.
Ramps Offer Improved Access

Disabled visitors may now enjoy improved access to the Maloof residence. The ramp project, which was made possible thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of Riverside and San Bernardino, has provided for five ramps which allow visitors with wheelchairs or other mobility devices to negotiate steps located at the main entrance and exits of the historic house. As an accommodation for visitors who are unable to climb stairs, tours now also offer a video program which lets viewers experience the upstairs areas from a ground-floor viewing station.

Five out of six ramps detailed in the original specifications for improved access have been completed to date. The sixth ramp, providing access to the historic guest house, and also the most elaborate and costly of the series, is currently being designed. The new ramp presents an additional challenge in its location near an historic oak tree. Additional grants are being sought to build the sixth ramp.

The ramp project has benefited from expertise provided by Robert Chettel of Chettel Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Inc., ramp designers Tada Ryvola and Michael Sandstrom of United Environment Architecture, arborist Susan Sims, and video team Ruby Leavitt and James Schenk.

Betty Davenport Ford A Life in Sculpture

A new touring exhibition, Betty Davenport Ford: Capturing the Animal Spirit, will arrive next spring at the Maloof. Presented by the Claremont Museum of Art in cooperation with the Maloof Foundation, the exhibition celebrates the creative life of one of the Inland Empire’s most prolific sculptors. The exhibition will come to Alta Loma in May, in conjunction with the Maloof’s Sculpture in the Garden show.

The gallery show will feature about twenty of Ford’s works, representing a broad cross-section of her career. The exhibition will focus on the artist’s small-to-medium sized pieces, including bronzes.

Born in 1924, Ford became interested in animals as a child. When she was just seventeen, her “Bear” won a prize at the Los Angeles County Fair, launching a career which continued with distinction for more than sixty years. She still lives in Claremont’s Padua Hills neighborhood with Harold Ford, her husband of 66 years. CMAs Catherine McIntosh will curate the exhibition with the sculptor’s daughter, Catherine Ford Miner, choosing pieces in consultation with Betty herself.

Several of the artist’s larger works may be familiar to Inland Empire residents from their installations at public spaces throughout the region. Her 16-foot-“Siberian Tiger,” made from terra-cotta, has been a fixture at Chaffey High School in Ontario for more than half a century.

The exhibition will begin its tour with a one-day showing at the Padua Hills Art Fiesta on November 3, then moves to the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, where it will remain into March. Featured sculptures will be drawn in large part from the Ford family collection, augmented by a smaller number of sculptures on loan from other collections, including that of the Maloof Foundation. At least two sculptures collected by Sam and Alfreda will be added to the exhibition for exclusive showing during the run at the Maloof. Following the show at the Maloof, another exhibition featuring Ford’s larger works will be offered at AMOCA in Pomona.

About a decade ago, artist Milford Zornes wrote admiringly of Ford’s work, with the perspective of a longtime friend and colleague. “Betty Ford has, as have all artists through the ages, brought sophistication and style to simple things and simple truths,” concluded Zornes. It is that rare achievement and spirit which the exhibition – and the Maloof Foundation – will so gladly celebrate next spring.

Boys and Girls Club Joins Maloof Partnership

The Maloof Foundation, in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Fontana, has launched a new educational program which brings middle-school students to tour the historic residence and learn about photography in relation to the legacy of Sam and Alfreda Maloof. The project, dubbed “My Maloof,” invites the younger students to use tours of the Maloof house, workshop and gardens as inspiration in the making of photos and prints that illustrate aspects of the Maloof story.

The program brings middle school students together with older mentor students selected from the Maloof Teen Advisor (MTA) program. Maloof Teen Advisors are typically high school- and college-aged students from Chaffey Joint Union High School District. They volunteer to serve as student docents and as apprentices in the design, curating and installation of art exhibitions featuring objects from the Maloof collection. The MTA program, which has been operating for two years under the direction of museum educator Rich Deely, has previously worked on a ceramics exhibition featuring the works of local high school art students, and more recently spent the summer developing an exhibition for the Pyramid Room.

Teen Advisors are typically high school students selected from the Maloof collection. The MTA program brings middle school students together with older mentor students selected from the Maloof Teen Advisor (MTA) program. Maloof Teen Advisors are typically high school- and college-aged students from Chaffey Joint Union High School District. They volunteer to serve as student docents and as apprentices in the design, curating and installation of art exhibitions featuring objects from the Maloof collection. The MTA program, which has been operating for two years under the direction of museum educator Rich Deely, has previously worked on a ceramics exhibition featuring the works of local high school art students, and more recently spent the summer developing an exhibition for the Pyramid Room.
Thinking Small
Woodworker Allan Boardman visited the Maloof Woodworking shop, sharing samples of his latest 3D puzzle creations. A retired aerospace engineer, Boardman calls himself a "micrometeorologist"—somebody who makes little 3D puzzles, many no bigger than the eraser at the end of a pencil. He is also the author of the book Puzzle Projects for Woodworkers.

Preservation Advice
Architect Kelly Sutherlin McLeod offered advice for wood conservation, noting that it’s important to document Sam’s preferred preservation, noting that it's important to document Sam’s preferred

Fire Danger
City of Rancho Cucamonga fire marshal Rob Ball recently walked the Maloof site, evaluating this year’s above-average fire danger. During Santa Ana winds, he said, fire storms generally blow from the northeast, which means the Maloof’s best fire protection strategy is to feature dry overgrowth in the ravine along the eastern edge of the property. Brush removal depends on garden volunteers. If you would like to help keep our historic site safe from wild fire, please call 990-980-0412.

Artist Support
Longtime Maloof fan Katharine DeShaw toured the historic home. She was interested in talking about her experiences with fellow artists and craftspeople. Her collaboration with The Ford Foundation and The Rockefeller Foundation helped establish United States Artists, a grant-making organization in which the past seven years has given more than 450 USA Fellowships valued at more than $17 million in support of outstanding artists and craftspeople.

Birthday Lunch
Friend, fan and Maloof collector chef Mark Peel made a gourmet lunch in honor of Beverly Maloof’s birthday. The founder and executive chef of the critically acclaimed Campanile restaurant in Los Angeles, since closed, prepared gourmet panini served at the Maloof table in Beverly’s kitchen. Woodworkers, staff, and selected visitors joined in the celebration. This fall Peel is opening Campanile LAX, a new restaurant located in American Airline’s Terminal 4 at Los Angeles International Airport.

Visitng Woodworkers
During a recent visit, pioneering craft dealer Ray Leier recalled the 1973 founding of del Mano Gallery in Pasadena as an exhibition space for contemporary craft artists, including Sam Maloof. The gallery grew over the years, representing artists from 14 nations around the world, and adding a second gallery in Brentwood. Leier has co-authored books on wood, fiber, and glass art and has more recently moved his gallery online.

Docent Honored
Longtime Maloof docent Ruby Leavitt has been honored with a star on the City of Ontario’s Volunteer “Walk of Fame,” located near City Hall. One of more than 1,000 volunteers serving in Ontario, Ruby also volunteers for the Challay Community Art Association, which opens in mid-September in a new location near the Ontario Museum of History and Art.

The City of Rancho Cucamonga planning department toured the historic home in June. Visitors include (left to right): Donald Granger, Steve Fowler, and Becky McLeod, with her son, John.

United States Artists founding executive director Katharine DeShaw joins Beverly Maloof for a first-time tour of the historic home.

Gallery Founder Visits
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Sanctuario Supporters
Lizette Henderson, field representative for California Assemblyman Chris Holden, met with Maloof staff to discuss disabled access, disaster preparedness, youth art education programs and other subjects. Holden’s district stretches from Rancho Cucamonga in the East through the foothill communities of Upland, La Verne, Claremont and east to Pasadena.

In-kind gift
The motorized cart used to transport visitors up the hill to the historic home received four new tires and wheels, thanks to an in-kind gift from Chris and Linda Apodaca.

Fine Art Auction
One of the leading fine art auction houses has announced plans to feature original work by Sam’s longtime Maloof Woodworking colleagues. According to Katie Nortonis of Bonhams’ Los Angeles office, the company’s October 7 auction of 20th century decorative arts will feature a jarrah wood burl-top table by Maloof artist/craftsman Larry White. Mike Johnson, and David Wade. The work by Maloof “boys is the first of its kind known to be offered by a fine art auction house following Sam’s passing in 2009.

Mission
The mission of SAMFAC is to honor and further the legacy of Sam and Alfreda Maloof. The Foundation pursues the promise inherent in this legacy as it:  
- inspires woodworkers, artists, craftsmen, collectors and others  
- maintains and grows the principal archive of the lives, work and collections of the Maloofs  
- celebrates the Maloofs’ creative spirit, love of woodworking, artistic expression and collecting  
- produces educational tours, exhibits and programs  
- stewards the historic compound in Rancho Cucamonga, California  
- partners with like-minded organizations and individuals
In 32 years as a teacher, Evelyn learned to lead, teach, and tell a good story. Those qualities helped make her an effective docent... Now retiring, Evelyn George has arranged hundreds of tours for thousands of visitors. If you would like to become a Maloof docent or volunteer, please call the Foundation office at (909) 980-0412.

Volunteer Leader Announces Retirement

Why don’t you become a docent?” asked Sam Maloof.

That was in 2005, and less than a year later, when her predecessor suddenly resigned, Evelyn George was put in charge of the Maloof docent program.

“I was hesitant,” she says, but agreed.

That was in 2005, and less than a year later, she’s managed some fifty tours of the Maloof site to explore photography and art-making.

Boys and Girls Club continued from page 3

Middle school students from the Boys and Girls Club of Fontana used their tours of the Maloof site to explore photography and art-making.

With the new program, Boys and Girls Club members visited the Maloof site three times through the summer, touring the historic home and participating in hands-on photography workshops led by a professional art teacher. Students will have a chance to work with both digital and film photography, and images captured during the visits will be printed and prepared for showing in an exhibition at the Maloof of the students’ best works. In addition to participating in the development of curriculum for the younger students, high school interns and volunteers attended gallery talks with African art collector John Scott, and musical instrument craftsman Richard Barnes.

The Maloof Teen Advisor program is made possible thanks to a generous grant from The Rose Hills Foundation, with summer intern support funded by San Bernardino County Supervisor Janice Rutherford.

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Through Oct. 31 – With Strings Attached in the Jacobs Center

Through Oct. 27 – Tribal Passion: The Art of Africa in Pyramid Room

Saturday, Oct. 6 – Oud master John Bilezekjian

Saturday, Oct 19 – Pruning and planting workshop, 8:30-11:30 am

Sunday, Oct. 27 – African kora artist Amadou with guitarist Ryoji

Saturday, Nov. 9 – Pruning and planting workshop, 8:30-11:30 am

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 29-30 – Mexican Folk Art Weekend (Closed Thanksgiving Day)

Make your holiday season reservations early!

Plan Your Visit

Docent Tours

Thursdays & Saturdays
1 pm, 2 pm, and 3 pm
$10 per person
Seniors $8; Students $5
Appropriate for older children
Limited capacity
Reservations recommended

Custom Group Tours

(Maximum 60)
By appointment

Discovery Garden Hours

Thursdays & Saturdays
Noon-4 pm

For information, reservations and special needs, please call (909) 980-0412 or email info@malooffoundation.org

5131 Carnelian Street
Alta Loma, CA

Appropriate for older children.
FRIEND LEVEL
Family ($75)
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Student ($35)

Benefits include: Membership, unlimited docent-led house tour and gallery admission, newsletters, 10% Maloof store discounts, advance notice of art and garden sales and ticketed special events.

DONOR LEVEL
Patron ($125)
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All Friend-level benefits, plus: one copy of The House that Sam Built book, 20% store discount, and entry into drawing for exclusive Maloof discovery experience (see description in Maloof Circle column to right).

Please select a support level and include your name and payment.

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