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CEO News

OHA Announces a Benefit Reception for The Other New York: 2012 (TONY: 2012),

Date: 3/27/2012

Category: Member News

Onondaga Historical Association announces a reception on Thursday, April 5 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the John H. Mulroy Civic Center to benefit the community-wide, biennial art exhibition, The Other New York: 2012 (TONY: 2012). County Executive Joanne Mahoney will be the honorary host of the reception.

Featured at the event will be 27 painting by local artist Betty Munro, known collectively as the "Civic Center Suite", which chronicles the construction of the Civic Center in the mid-1970's. Refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$20 per person and \$35 per couple. Reservations can be made by calling 428-1864, ext. 312. Tickets are also available at the door.

Recently, Onondaga Historical Association brought together and restored Betty Munro's "Civic Center Suite", a stunning ensemble of 27 individual watercolor paintings. OHA's benefit reception for TONY: 2012 will be an opportunity for the public to view at one location this Betty Munro collection that dynamically expresses the historic construction of the Civic Center in downtown Syracuse.

A former art teacher, Betty Munro exhibited her paintings at various museums and galleries in New York, New England, and Chicago. Betty won several prestigious art awards including the John Detore Memorial Prize for the best watercolor in the Associated Artists of Syracuse exhibit in 1976. While painting in Syracuse, Betty considered downtown to be her personal studio where she recorded different aspects of city life. Betty's most comprehensive series is "Civic Center Suite" and she considered the series to be her major work. Painted on-site, the 27 paintings document the construction of the John H. Mulroy Civic Center between 1974 and 1975. Betty thought of the paintings as "one continuous watercolor," a group rather than individual works. Betty recalled that when she arrived to paint the construction, "everyone and everything was moving. I felt a need to record the excitement and action with my brush."

Syracuse has had a long tradition of regional art exhibitions and the latest incarnation of that tradition, TONY: 2012, will offer a unique opportunity to experience art around Central New York. TONY:2012 is organized by the Everson Museum of Art in collaboration with ArtRage – The Norton Putter Gallery, Community Folk Art Center, the Erie Canal Museum, Light Work, Onondaga Historical Association, Punto de Contacto/Point of Contact, Rosamond Gifford Zoo, Stone Quarry Hill Art Park, SU Art Galleries, Urban Video Project, the Warehouse Gallery, the City of Syracuse and XL Projects.

Major funding is provided by The Central New York Community Foundation through the John F. Marsellus Fund. A new element to this year's exhibition will be alternative art spaces made of freight containers that will encourage downtown visitors to experience art as they walk around the city. TONY: 2012 will open in September of 2012.

Reservations for OHA's benefit event for TONY: 2012, featuring Betty Munro's "Civic Center Suite" and hosted by County Executive Joanie Mahoney, can be made by calling Karen Cooney of Onondaga Historical Association at 428-1864, ext. 312. Parking information for the John H. Mulroy Civic Center, an Oncenter venue, is available at oncenter.org/maps-and-directions#parking.

For more information about Onondaga Historical Association, visit cnyhistory.org.

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