

Junior Docents Meet Self-Taught Artist at Hudson River Museum



Nearly 40 Hudson River Museum (HRM) Junior Docents met artist Winfred Rember on Friday, February 10. Rember, whose leather art is on display at HRM until May 6, told the Docents of the joys and griefs of living in a small Southern town during the Civil Rights Movement. Junior Docents will present the vivid images and the story of Rember's life — from growing up to being on a chain gang to being an artist — to family audiences who visit HRM. Junior Docents, students from the Yonkers high schools, learn study and presentation skills at HRM. They also conduct Weekend Family Workshops, a free program of creative arts activities that take inspiration from HRM's current exhibitions, on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 3 p.m. Pictured above are (front row, l to r): Junior Docents Zachary Grant Bass, Destiny Matthew, Adjoa Gyimah, Jason Allen, Mariah Cameron, artist Winfred Rember, Junior Docents Marisol Meija, Ashley Joseph, Marco Lucero, Sherin Vaidian, Shi Shi Li and Fatima Aubbah; and (second row, l to r): Junior Docents Afra Rahman, Sarai Melendez, Heather Castillo, Essie Jean Ragin, Raven Hicks, Lexly Xavier, Deanna Primus, Jasmine Chacko, Gabby Addane, Neomy Kwipu, Bradlee Valdez, Pedro Betanzos, Terry Robinson, Christian Haws, Jorge Bencosme, Janina Sevilla, Tiara Fredericks, Yajaira Gutierrez, Ashley Santoro, Jensine Varughese, Cynthia Valdivinos, Samantha Brown, Gloria Kodua Junior, Brian Aguilar, Aditi Shah, Mysha Alavi and Hector Sanchez.

Winfred Rember's 'Amazing Grace'



Rember's "Flour Bread" (above) and "Cotton Field Rows" (below), two of his dye on carved and tooled leather art works



The Hudson River Museum (HRM) presents the art of Winfred Rember from now until May 6.

African-American self-taught artist raised in 1950s rural Georgia, Rember's art dramatically reflects moments in the South's civil rights struggle and his own compelling personal narrative during this tumultuous time.

As a boy growing up in 1950s rural Georgia, Rember did backbreaking labor in the cotton fields. A young man, he barely escaped arrest during a 1960s civil rights march and survived a near lynching. A prisoner serving an unjust seven-year sentence, he learned to make patterns and designs on hand tooled leather by watching a fellow inmate create tooled leather wallets. Years later, in colorful tableaux on tanned leather, Rember conjured a world of incredible brutality and close personal ties existing in dis-comforting proximity.

In more than 50 works on hand-tooled

leather, Rember constructs scenes from the rural southern town where he was born and raised, and peoples it with characters working the fields, joyous at church meetings and enjoying its pool hall, jazz club and café. His images are alive with figures and color and dense with pattern. Some, more somber, convey the strife and grief of his own experiences.

This is the first major museum exhibition dedicated to this remarkable artist. Historical photographs of his life and a new documentary of his work, created by noted filmmaker Vivian Ducat, will be on view. In the galleries, traditional gospel music, pivotal for Rember, will be heard in recordings, and Rember will both sing gospel songs and discuss his experiences in the galleries on several dates.

This exhibition is organized by HRM and curated by Bartholomew F. Bland. For more information, call the HRM, located at 511 Warburton Ave., at 914-963-4550 or visit HRM.org.

YOHO Welcomes Constructive Painter David Schroeter



Photo by Greg Baldwin

Artist David Schroeter

Recently emerging into the YOHO scene is David Schroeter, a painter of compelling abstract cityscapes and attendee of the Bronx Museum of the Arts' Artist in the Marketplace (AIM) program.

Architectural themes and subjects in various stages of construction and deconstruction make up the bulk of Schroeter's work, and his use of dramatic angles and bold colors result in stunning pieces that resonate with the viewer.

He is currently working on the Polis series and is looking forward to having his paintings featured at YOHO and the upcoming AIM exhibition.

YOHO Artist Studios, located at 540/578 Nepperhan Ave., is artist studio spaces, gathering talented artists who's collective goal is to advance the arts in Westchester and, specifically, Yonkers. Schroeter works from studio 549A. For more information, visit DavidSchroeter.com or YOHOArtists.com.



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