





(Banyan Tree'' by Elexis McGrath









Welcome to the Florida Heyr' Culture



Mayor Heather Caruthers

The Florida Keys are known for crystal clear waters, a laid-back lifestyle and all kinds of fish, flora and fauna. We are also lucky to boast an amazing depth and variety of visual, performing and literary cultures. Artists of incomparable caliber bring life to the canvas, the concert hall and the stage from Key Largo to Key West – and often

in a very Keys-y way, even underwater. Our culture will intrigue, educate and entertain you. We look forward to welcoming you to

Florida Keys &KeyWest

MONROE COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL fla-keys.com ~ I-800-FLA-KEYS

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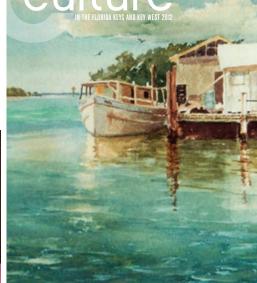
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About the Cover Artist - Betty Rondeau

Marathon has been my home since 1943. I began drawing as a child and painting with watercolors by age 13. I've been a member of Marathon Art Guild, Key West Art Center, Miami Watercolor Society, and am a founding member of FL Keys Watercolor Society. I studied oils, watercolors and portraits with Gerald Leake, Millard Wells, Tony Couch and many others. I am a winner of many awards. I paint portraits and I love to paint scenes of old Marathon

commercial docks. shrimp boats and fishermen as I remember them when fishing and shrimping were the way of life in the Keys.





Peace" by Karen Dimaura

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Event listings are for use as a guide in contacting event coordinator and receiving information on event dates, times and locations. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, but verification of information should be made when planning to attend these events. Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Neither the Monroe County Commission, Monroe County Tourist Development Council, nor their agency may be held liable for incorrect information, errors or omissions.

treasures OF THE FLORIDA KEYS

by Sara Shea

Historically, the Florida Keys have been celebrated for treasure - precious pirate cargo, salvaged from sunken ships. The era that first drew opportunists to the Keys is wrapped in lore, mystery and magic.



IN SEARCH OF NEW AVENUES

Seeking inspiration and adventure, I applied for a scholarship to the January 2011 Key West Literary Seminar. Reeling from a layoff, I felt I had reached a dead end in my life. I mailed my poetry submission off to Miles Frieden, the seminar's director. To my amazement, I received financial assistance. But that was only the beginning of the magic.

As the moon rose over an amethyst ocean, I sipped champagne at the seminar's opening reception, held in the gardens of the Audubon House. Strolling among silver palms, orchids and bougainvillea, I found myself in the company of notable literary figures including Billy Collins, John T. Edge, Adam Gopnik, Jane Hirschfield and Calvin Trillin.

The literary seminar offered a treasure trove of captivating lectures, elegant garden parties, museum receptions, supportive workshops and an introduction to a vibrant literary community built on the shoulders of legendary island authors Ernest Hemingway and Tennessee Williams. The seminar fed my hungry muse, invigorated my spirit and catapulted me into the larger arts and culture scene.

Miles Frieden says he "ran away" from a life in Maine to take his dream job as director of the literary seminar. Appointed to the position by seminar founders David and Lynn Kaufelt, Frieden furthered their mission of creating an intimate readers conference that attracted the world's best writers. The prestigious seminar marks its 30th anniversary in 2012.

INSPIRED LOCAL WRITERS

The Literary Seminar also involves such local authors as Rosalind Brackenbury. A respected novelist and poet, Brackenbury has enjoyed the festival from many angles, serving as a volunteer, workshop leader and participant. Inspired by the seminar, Brackenbury and her associate author Rick Skwiot set out to launch the Key West Writers Lab, an innovative, nonprofit coaching program for emerging writers. Established in 2011, the lab provides guidance for writers working toward publication.

This is exactly the sort of thing that happens in the Keys – talented people get inspired. They get together, brainstorm and run with creative ideas. And the wonderful magic is that the community recognizes those initiatives as treasures.

MUSIC FESTIVALS BLOSSOM

While the literary seminar pulls in authors and writers, two

major springtime music festivals draw songwriters, performers, musicians, music industry professionals and music-loving audiences to the Keys. The Key West Songwriters' Festival runs May 2-6, 2012, and the Key Largo Singers & Songwriters Festival runs May 19-22, 2012.

Charlie Bauer, who founded the Key West Songwriters' Festival in 1996, said, "I was running Hog's Breath Saloon when my friend Drew Reid, a Nashville musician, suggested pairing musicians with island venues. Our first festival highlighted musical guests Shel Silverstein and Mickey Newbury."

Today, the Key West Songwriters' Festival works directly with licensing companies BMI, ASCAP and SESAC to attract performers. The 2012 festival features 160 performers, free concerts at hotels, resorts and clubs, and two ticketed shows at Tropic Cinema and the San Carlos Institute. "Music festivals are enhancing the level of entertainment in the Keys," said Bauer, now festival director.

The Key Largo Original Music Festival, founded in 2008, delivers live music and entertainment to the Upper Keys. "Our 2012 festival features 24 performers and four music-filled days and nights at Key Largo restaurants and clubs," said event coordinator Sue Finney.

The Key Largo Original Music Festival is managed by Key Largo Merchants Association, an organization celebrated for establishing many events, including the Holiday Boat Parade, New Year's Eve Fireworks on Blackwater Sound, the January Seafood Festival and the "Anything That Floats Race" in August. The Upper Keys Business Group, a partner organization, manages Key Largo's October Pirate Festival and summertime food and wine festival.

NEW PERFORMING ARTS VENUE

A new pearl that's gleaming in the Keys cultural scene is the Islamorada Amphitheater in Founders Park. The amphitheater, funded in part by grants, was guided to completion by Islamorada Community Entertainment.

David Feder, ICE director, describes the amphitheater as "a miniature Sydney Opera House boasting magnificent sound quality." Feder emphasizes the amphitheater's design, "which provides audiences a sunset view, yet band members never have the sun in their eyes." Details like this matter in the Keys, where sun and ocean govern daily routines.

The Islamorada Amphitheater hosts many events, including November's BayJama Reggae Fest, the CocoNutcracker (a tropical

Key West Literary Seminar – The Hungry Muse





Key West Literary Luncheon at The Oldest House

version of the Nutcracker), MoradaPalooza, Shakespeare in the Park in February, Bay Jam Festival in April, various acoustic concerts and Pops in the Park, a free series presented by the Keys Community Band.

PAINTER DISCOVERS NEW PATHS

The visual arts are vital to the Keys cultural scene. Eric Anfinson is one Key West artist who's gaining a national reputation. His paintings are intimate, powerful, graceful and haunting windows into his world of archetypes and symbols. Anfinson's 2011 book, "Around the Edges of Beauty," showcases the breadth of his creative energy.

Those fortunate enough to meet Anfinson during an opening may learn some local arts history through stories of early, visionary galleries including Salt and The Lemonade Stand. Anfinson encourages visitors to enjoy art strolls such as First Fridays on Upper Duval, Walk on White Street and Caroline Street Art Walk, as well as arts events at the old Armory, now the Studios of Key West.

Anfinson moved to Key West in search of a warmer climate and a new outlook. "I came to Key West because I ran out of options," he said. "After spending time on the islands, I realized I'd been looking in the wrong directions all along. Ironically, when I reached the end of the road, I suddenly saw the possibilities, the treasures, all the potential directions for my life. THAT was where I found inspiration to pursue painting."

The Keys are where people arrive when they run out of conventional options. People adopt a pirate mentality: Do your own thing. Get creative. Take no prisoners. Live for adventure. Aim for uncharted waters. These people become passionate about their treasures.

Shel Silverstein, the famous songwriter and poet, remained involved with both the Key West Literary Seminar and the Key West Songwriters' Festival until his death in 1999. Silverstein had arrived in the Keys in the early 1970s, publishing a book of poetry

titled "Where the Sidewalk Ends" in 1974.

As the southernmost point, Key West is literally the end of the road. Maybe the Keys are also a metaphor, a place where the sidewalk ends. We all face dead ends, times when the road runs out. The question is, what do we do when the sidewalk ends? These are times to get creative, shift perspective, find adventure, look inward and follow our own maps. They're times to seek out our own treasures.

In the Keys, dead ends have a way of becoming new beginnings. Meet the community of people driving the arts and culture scene, and you'll understand the magic. You'll find the treasures.

"Blue Guitar" by Eric Afinson







Sit back and enjoy the natural cinematic beauty of the Florida Keys. This alluring string of islands dangles like an afterthought from the southern tip of Florida, drawing people south with the promise of adventure, romance and escape from the real world – the same promises movie trailers offer to theatergoers.

Visitors lower themselves into our lounge chairs just as they relax into the dark comfort of a theater seat in anticipation of love, laughter, adventure or fantasy.

The Florida Keys hold all the same possibilities, and they come to life daily in stunning, natural high-definition.

The Keys are their own action/adventure film, overflowing with options for real-life drama on the high seas. We don't need to watch an actor fight a colossal marlin or explore the ocean floor — we do it all ourselves here. In the Keys, we're the actors, not the audience, and life is not a spectator sport.

Even so, we have watched plenty of Hollywood action erupt throughout our islands over the years. Ever since Humphrey Bogart bested the mobsters in "Key Largo," the Keys have become the quintessential place for tropical treachery. James Bond hunted a drug lord here in "License to Kill," and Arnold Schwarzenegger blew up part of the Seven Mile Bridge in "True Lies."

Our laid-back community converts easily to breathless, fast-paced thrills when Hollywood calls, but then reverts back to a place where movie stars can sit at a bar, largely unnoticed, and enjoy their own escape.

As the islands' film commissioner, Rita Troxel markets the Florida Keys and Key West to the movie, television and print industries. She works with production assistants, providing photos of potential film locations, from stately mansions and deserted beaches to weathered fishing boats to crowded bars.

"It may take nine months for them to decide what they like or what they want," said Troxel, recalling one production company that paid top dollar to rent a Keys home for several months.

Their plan? Build a new façade across the front and burn it down.

Troxel markets the Florida Keys as a Caribbean island with a highway linking it to the rest of the world, thereby saving on airfare for actors, crew and equipment.

"Because, if things start going way over budget, and New Orleans is cheaper or offering better incentives, they'll cross Miami off and put in New Orleans in a heartbeat," she said.

Actor Tyrese Gibson, left, takes a break from filming "2 Fast 2 Furious" in the Florida Keys in 2003. Producers shot several scenes of the high-speed, car-race thriller along U.S. I and on the Seven Mile Bridge.





A labyrinth of wires, lights and sound equipment are rigged to capture an in-car conversation between the two actors inside the vehicle. The scene was shot alongside U.S. I in the Florida Keys for the blockbuster 2003 sequel, "2 Fast 2 Furious," starring Paul Walker, Tyrese Gibson and Eva Mendes.

The usually laid-back U.S. I, which meanders past the blue-green waters of the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the Gulf of Mexico on the other, became anything but idyllic in 2002. That aquamarine water flashed by and lines of palm trees blurred together as the producers of "2 Fast 2 Furious" turned up the heat – and ignored speed limits – along stretches of highway that they claimed as their domain for a few hours a day – and for a fee.

Also in 2002, the pure evil of Dr. Hannibal "The Cannibal" Lecter made its chilling way to the Keys, as the deranged doctor tracked his FBI nemesis, played by Ed Norton, to the islands long known for hiding people who come here to simply disappear.

But the Keys aren't all about high-speed chases aboard Jet Skis, as happened when Vin Diesel arrived to shoot "The Pacifier" in 2004.

We're also the set for love stories, hosting countless weddings every year on our beaches, in our backyards and aboard our majestic schooners.

Michelle Pfeiffer's and Robert Redford's characters in "Up Close and Personal" recall fond memories of bonefishing in the Keys; their trip is revealed in a series of Upper Keys flashbacks.

Love stories begin – and sometimes end – right here in The Florida Keys & Key West. Real-life action and adventures are pushed to the limit daily as divers explore the dark ocean depths, and fishermen strap themselves to fighting chairs for battles against behemoth marlin.

This string of islands – its oceans, history and assortment of fascinating characters – is the source of documentaries about everything from Ernest Hemingway to a doll named Robert that many claim is haunted.

The Keys offer everything promised in movie trailers and red carpet interviews, with one exception: We rarely wear high heels, as they tend to sink in the sand. Our version of the "big screen" is the ever-changing evening sky as we sit back and watch nature's special effects crew tie-dye the sky at sunset, churn up the ocean on a windy day or create water so clear that sea turtles are visible from an airplane.

The Florida Keys don't need Hollywood sound stages. They produce their very own romantic comedies, adventures, political thrillers, crime dramas and documentaries.

And the only resemblance to a horror movie occurs when the trip is over, and the return flight beckons.

Some arrive early and get a good seat for Key West's version of a happy ending, watching the sun slip gracefully below the horizon as the credits roll on another day of life in the Florida Keys. Now that's a wrap.

Here is a sampling of films that were filmed in whole or in part in the Florida Keys:

1948 – "Key Largo," Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall

1954 – "The Rose Tattoo," Burt Lancaster, Anna Magnani

1959 - "Operation Petticoat," Tony Curtis, Cary Grant

1962 - "PT 109," Cliff Robertson

1974 - "92 in the Shade," Peter Fonda, Burgess Meredith

1979 - "The Last Resort," Eartha Kitt

1985 – "Running Scared," Billy Crystal, Gregory Hines

1988 – "License to Kill," Timothy Dalton

1993 – "True Lies," Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jamie Lee Curtis

1995 – "Up Close and Personal," Robert Redford, Michelle Pfeiffer

1997 – "Tomorrow Never Dies," Pierce Brosnan

1998 – "Office Space," Jennifer Aniston

2000 – "Heartbreakers," Sigourney Weaver, Jennifer Love Hewitt

2004 – "Meet the Fockers," Dustin Hoffman, Barbra Streisand, Robert DeNiro

2008 – "I Love You, Philip Morris," Jim Carrey

For a complete listing of past productions as well as a comprehensive production guide detailing facilities, locations, skilled crews and permit information, visit www.filmkeys.com.

calendar of CULTURAL EVENTS

FESTIVALS & FUNDRAISERS

September 26-30

Florida Keys Birding & Wildlife Festival Curry Hammock State Park, MM 56.2, Big Pine & Marathon.

872-0774, www.keysbirdingfest.org

September 30-October 2 Conchtoberfest

Various times and locations in Marathon. lennifer Dinan, 289-4901

October 10-23, 27 & 28, 30 & 31 Fort Zachary Taylor Haunted Fort Entrance at Southard & Thomas streets, Key West.

www.foftkw.com/calendar.html

October 20-23

Key Largo Pirate's Fest

Various venues in Key Largo, Upper Keys. 522-1300, www.keylargochamber.org

October 20 & 22 Goombay Street Festival

Island arts and crafts, music and food in the heart of Key West's historic Bahama Village.

www.goombay-keywest.org/schedule.htm

October 21-30

Fantasy Fest 2011 "Aquatic Afrolic"

Now in its third decade. Celebrity Look-A-Like Contest, Street Fair, Fantasy Fest Parade. Various times and locations in Key West.

www.fantasyfest.net

October 25 Headdress Ball 2011

"Underwater Odyssey." 29th annual. 8 p.m. at Southernmost Hotel on the Beach.

www.keystix.com

November 2-6 12 Step Music Fest

Clean and sober Woodstock. Camping, music, 12-step meetings for all fellowships, recovery speakers, vendors, activities and more. Sugarloaf Key KOA Campground.

www.12stepmusicfest.com

November 3-6 Meeting of the Minds: Parrot Heads in Key West "Don't Stop the Carnival"

Various times and locations in Key West. **www.phip.com**

November 24-December 4
Pirates in Paradise Festival 2011
Truman Waterfront Commons and other

historic venues in Old Town Key West.

797-7162, www.PiratesTour.com

November 25-December 31 Key West "Bight Before Christmas" Holiday Celebration

Exhibitions and receptions at galleries and shops, Key West Historic Seaport. http://keywestchristmas.org

November 26-December 25
MARC House Christmas Tree Sale
Benefits MARC House programs. 9 a.m.
at 1401 Seminary St.

294-9526 ext. 25, www.marchouse.org

December 6

MARC Decorated Christmas Tree Benefit Supports MARC House programs. 7 p.m. at Westin Hotel, 245 Front St.

294-9526 ext. 25, www.marchouse.org

394-3736, www.keylargoboatparade.com

December 10 Key Largo Boat Parade

Blackwater Sound, MM104

December 10

Schooner Wharf Light Boat Parade 8 p.m. at 202 William St., Key West.

schoonerwb@aol.com

December 31

New Year's Eve Celebrations

Fireworks. Watch the Conch Shell, the Drag Queen or the Pirate Wench drop. Key West. www.keywestchamber.org

January 14 Florida Keys Seafood Festival

Family-friendly. Fresh seafood, marinerelated crafts, youth activities and live music. Free admission. 10 a.m. at Bayview Park, Truman and Jose Marti Dr., Key West.

872-9026, www.fkca.org

January 26-29

Key West Food & Wine Festival

11 a.m.-9 p.m. at various locations

in Key West.
www.kwfwf.com

January 28

Anne McKee Artists Fund Auction
Preview 7 p.m., auction 8 p.m. at East Martello
Museum, 350 I S. Roosevelt, Key West.

www.mckeefund.org

January 28-29 Key West Craft Show

II a.m.-9 p.m. at Key West Art Center, Key West, 294-1241. Whitehead and Caroline streets.

www.keywestartcenter.com



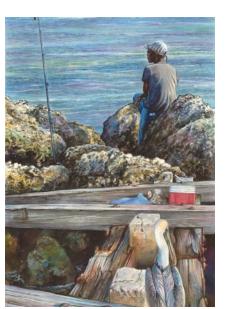
"Rainforest Bouquet" by Timothy Leistner



"From the Bow" by Jon McIntosh



"Superimposed Color of Painting" by Chuck Faulkner



"Fish Thief" by Dwight Hoffman



"Single Mango" by Teresa Willis



"Pelicans" by Kathleen Clements

January 29 Key Largo Rhythm & Ribs Festival

7-10 p.m. at Murray E. Nelson Key Largo Government & Cultural Center. 102050 Overseas Hwy., MM 102.

424-9217, www.fklcc.org

January 29 MARC House

18th Annual Master Chefs Classic Westin Resort & Marina, 245 Front St.

294-9526, www.marchouse.org

February GardenFest

Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd.

296-1504, www.keywestbotanicalgarden.org

February 11-12 Pigeon Key Art Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Pigeon Key Foundation, Marathon City Park, Marathon. Artists, vendors, musicians and awards.

289-0025, www.pigeonkey.net

February 25-26

Old Island Days Art Festival

10 a.m. at Key West Art Center, Whitehead and Caroline streets, Key West. Juried fineart show with exhibitors from across the U.S. and Canada.

294-1241, www.keywestartcenter.com

Annual Conch Shell Blowing Contest 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Old Island Restoration

Foundation, 322 Duval St. 294-9501, www.oirf.org

March I-31

Tennessee Williams Festival

Month-long celebration commemorates the 101st birthday of the legendary writer and Key West resident of 36 years. Fort East Martello Museum, 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

March 3

Schooner Wharf Open Air Art & Music Affair

Food, art and music. 10 a.m.-sunset at 202 William St, Key West.

schoonerwb@aol.com

May 24-27

Key Largo Original MusicFest Various locations in Key Largo.

www.keylargosongwritersfestival.com

June 6-10

Pridefest Key West Various locations in Key West.

292-3223, www.pridefestkeywest.com

June 23

Midsummer's Night Dream & Spectacle

Celebration in a wonderland of costumed revelers, entertainers and multiple stages featuring local, national and international musicians. Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd.

296-1504, www.keywestbotanicalgarden.org

ReMARCable Mattheessen's Ice Cream & Fresh Fruit Social

MARC House, 1401 Seminary St., Key West.

294-9526 ext. 25, www.marchouse.org

VNA/Hospice of the Florida Keys Fourth of July Picnic and Fireworks

Casa Marina Resort, 1500 Reynolds St., Key West.

luly 11-15

Mel Fisher Days

Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, 200 Greene St.

294-2633, www.melfisher.org

July 17-22

Hemingway Days Festival

Various locations in Key West.

292-8445, www.hemingwaydays.net

July 14

Underwater Music Festival

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Looe Key Reef Resort National Marine Sanctuary, MM 27, Ramrod Key.

872-2411, www.lowerkeyschamber.com

August 2012

Key West Lobsterfest

Lower Duval Street.

www.keywestlobsterfest.com

September 2012

Key West Women Fest

Various times and locations in Key West. www.womenfest.com

MUSIC

Mondays-Fridays Organ/Piano Recitals

Featuring Joe Lowe and Auwinna Weed. Donations welcome. Noon-I p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 401 Duval St., Key West.

296-5142

OF KEY WEST

December 17 MCT Holiday Concert

5 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Marathon Community Theater, 5101 Overseas Hwy, MM 49.5.

743-0408, www.marathontheater.org

January 23-24, February 27-28, March 19-20 Sentimental Journey of the Truman Years -Bobby Nesbitt Concert

Cocktails 7:30 p.m., concert 8 p.m. at Truman Little White House, III Front St. 294-9911, www.keystix.com

Various dates IMPROMPTU CLASSICAL CONCERTS

40th anniversary season. All performances begin at 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 410 Duval St. January 8 – Firebird Chamber Orchestra; January 22 – Trio Solisti; February 12 – Marina Lomazov; February 26 – La Catrina Sting Quartet; March 4 – Conrad Tao; March 18 – String Orchestra of New York City; July 15 - Symphony of

All performances begin at 8 p.m. at

KEY WEST POPS CONCERT SERIES

St. Paul's Church, 410 Duval St., and Tennessee William Theatre, 5901 College Rd. December 29-30 – Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (St. Paul's Church); January 22 – Obbligato (Tennessee William Theatre); March 24-25; Kiss Me Kate (Tennessee William Theatre).

296-6059, www.keywestpops.org

Various dates POPS IN THE PARK CONCERT SERIES

Free outdoor concerts. All performances begin at 4 p.m. at Islamorada Founders Park, MM87 Bayside. November 26 – Sounds Like Fun; December 17 – Tropical Christmas; January 28 – Get On Board; February 18 – Animal Fair; March 24 & 31 – Sunshine Heritage; April 28 – Young People's Concert.

853-7294.

Various dates

www.keyscommunityconcertband.org

Various dates PERFORMANCE AT ST. PAUL'S **CONCERT SERIES**

St. Paul's Church, 401 Duval St., Key West, November – Chorale Event, Classical Music Event; December – String Studio of Key West Recital, Caroling Event, Annual Christmas Concert; February – Black History Month Event: August – Summer Jazz & Classical Event.

296-5142, www.keysarts.com

Various dates OLD TOWN NEW FOLK **CONCERT SERIES**

The Studios of Key West, 600 White St., Key West. September 7 – Natalia Zuckerman & Adrianne Gonzalez, 7 p.m.; November 18 – Thanksgiving Benefit, 8 p.m.; December 2 – Krista Detor, 8 p.m.; January 20 – Susan Werner, 8 p.m.; February 3 – Ben Harrison TSKW Benefit Concert, 8 p.m.; February II – Noel Paul Stookey, 8 p.m.; February 12 – Multi-Faith with Betty & Noel Paul Stookey & Josh White Jr., 2 p.m.; March 9 – Darrell Scott, 8 p.m.; March 16 – Classical Gala Concert Vienna in Paradise, 8 p.m., Herbert Weissberg, Heinz Medjimorec, Peter Siakala & Catherine Weinfield: March 29 – Carrie Newcomer. 8 p.m.; May 12 - Catie Curtis, 8 p.m.

296-0458, www.tskw.org

Various dates CABARET CONCERT SERIES AT THE STUDIOS OF KEY WEST

All performances begin at 8 p.m. at The Studios of Key West, 600 White St., Key West. November 19 – Catherine Sembert; December 3 – Valerie Carr; January 21 – Phyllis Chappell; March 17 – Fiona Malloy; March 30 – Nancy3 Hoffman; May 11 – Gordon Ross & Friends.

296-0458, www.tskw.org

Various dates MUSIC CLASSES

Keys Chorale – Florida Keys Community College Continuing Education department. 809-3185. Dean Walters, Artistic Director; The Music Room – Private piano, woodwind and guitar lessons. Robin Kaplan, 294-7382; Violin/Viola/Cello Classes – Individual lessons in Key West. Beginning to advanced, preschool to adult. Paul, 879-0560. Bahama Village Music Program – Free classes in steel pan, drums, piano, guitar, clarinet, saxophone, flute, violin and gospel choir for kids during the school year.

727 Fort St., 292-9628. bvmpkw@aol.com.

2 p.m. Sundays Keys Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal Pavilion at Venture Out Resort.

701 Spanish Main, Cudjoe Key. 304-7544, kco@sunlink.net

THEATER

Various dates **ENCORE SERIES** at the TENNESSEE WILLIAMS THEATRE

All performances begin at 8 p.m. at 5901 College Rd. January 13 – Tommy Tune, Steps in Time; February 3 – The Midtown Men: February 21 – Spam A Lot: March 14 -The Color Purple.

296-1520, www.keystix.com

Various dates FRIENDS OF THE KEY LARGO CULTURAL CENTER

All performances begin at 8 p.m. at Murray Nelson Government & Cultural Center, 102050 Overseas Hwy., MM102, Key Largo. October 14-16 – The Rocky Horror Picture Show; November 4-6 – Steel Magnolias; March 9-10 – Who Killed The Director?; March 22-24 -Run for Your Wife.

305-424-9217, www.fklcc.org

Various dates KEYS KIDS

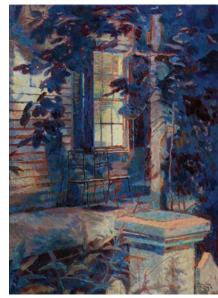
Performances at 7:30 p.m., Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. at 5855 College Rd. September 29-October I – Pocahontas; December 1-4 – Santa's Holiday Hoedown: lanuary 12-13 – Let It Shine: February 23-26 – Footloose; March 29-31 - Robin Hood.

509-1370, www.keystix.com or www.keyskidskeywest.com

Dates TBA KEY WEST FRINGE THEATER

Key West Characters, TBA; Immersion Theater, TBA.

www.peoplestheaterofkeywest.com



'The Two Chairs'' by Marylene Proner



"Cock Cruiser" by Janell Garcia



"Pink Bicycle" by Connie Hurst

the Americas.

CULTURE 2012





"Coconut Man" by Kathleen Clements



"The Cellist" by Eric Anfinson

Various dates MARATHON COMMUNITY THEATER

Performances begin at 8 p.m. at 5101 Overseas Hwy, MM49.5. October 7-9 Hooray for Hollywood Variety Show; November 10-December 3 – Sleeping Indoors; January 5-28 – Dixie Swim; January 22 (3 and 8 p.m.) - Discovering Henry Flagler; March 1-31 – Once Upon a Mattress; May 3-12 - Forever Plaid.

743-0408, www.marathontheater.org

Various dates **RED BARN THEATER**

Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. at 319 Duval St. December 2-3 – Made in Key West Variety Show & Fundraiser; December 13-January 14 – Forbidden Broadway; January 18-28 – Red; February 7-March 10 - God of Carnage; March 20-April 14 -Match; April 24-May 12 – Short Attention Span Theatre/Key West Burlesque; February 26-27 - Kathleen...Peace, Love and Jazz (Sunday & Monday evening performance only); February 12-13 – Love Letters. 296-9911, www.redbarntheater.org

Various dates THE KEY PLAYERS

Performances begin at 8 p.m. at Key Largo Lions Club, MM99.6, Oceanside, September 14, 16, 17, 21, 23-24 – Men Are Dogs; December 1-3, 8-10, 15-17 - Taffetas Christmas (venue TBA); February 22, 24, 25, 29, March 2-3 – 'Til Beth Do Us Part; April 26-28. May 3-5. 10-12 - Red. White, and Tuna (venue TBA).

509-0027, www.thekeyplayers.org

December 8-10, 16-18 Key West Burlesque Holiday Spectacular 8 p.m. at The Studios of Key West, 600 White St., Key West.

296-0458, www.tskw.org

Various dates WATERFRONT PLAYHOUSE

Performances begin at 8 p.m. at 310 Wall St. October 22-24 – The Twirling Buoy Salacious Sideshow; November 18-19 It Takes Two – An Evening of Duets; December 20-January 14 – August: Osage County; January 20 – A Concert with Denis Hyland; January 31-February 18 – Dead Man's Cell Phone; March 6-April 7 – The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; April 21 – A Concert with Carmen Rodriguez at The San Carlos; May 3-26 -Home Exchange.

294-5015, www.waterfrontplayhouse.org

VISUAL ARTS

October-November Presidential Cartoons on Display Truman Little White House, 111 Front St. 294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

November 25-27, March 10-11 Florida Keys Art Guild Outdoor Art Festival

Free. City Events Field, City Hall, Marathon. 743-7441, www.floridakeysartguild.com

November-March Mario Sanchez -Paper Bags & Paintings Exhibit

More than 70 never-seen-before paper bag drawings of folk artist Mario Sanchez. Fort East Martello Museum, 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd., and The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St.

296-6616, www.kwahs.org

December

A Very Merry 1940s Christmas Presidential greeting cards on display. Truman Little White House, III Front St.

294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

December 27-31 Florida Keys Art Guild Outdoor Art Festival

Free. 10 a.m. at Bayview Park, Key West. 743-7441, www.floridakeysartguild.com

December-January 2013

Seward Johnson - Man in the Street

Twelve new bronze figures celebrating the familiar and simple pleasures, showing how much fun life can be. The Custom House Museum & Sculpture Garden, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

December-February 2013 A New World – Paintings of Van Eno

Profoundly detailed fantasy scenes and mythical characters in the style of ancient Flemish tapestries. Included in exhibit are paintings from private Key West collectors. The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

January-April

Presidents in the Florida Keys Exhibit Truman Little White House, 111 Front St. 294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

January 19-22 Morada Way Arts &

Cultural District Fine Art Expo

luried show exhibits works of more than 100 artists. MM 81.5, Islamorada.

moradawayarts@gmail.com, www.moradawayarts.org

February 4-5, April 7-8 Florida Keys Art Guild Outdoor Art Festival

Free. Lorelei Resort Marina, Islamorada. 743-7441, www.floridakeysartguild.com

February 18-20, March 3-4 and 17-18 Florida Keys Art Guild Outdoor Art Festival

Free. Waldorf Plaza, Key Largo.

743-7441, www.floridakeysartguild.com

April-June Ioan Brady – Between Brush Strokes Watercolor Exhibit

The Custom House Museum, Key West Art & Historical Society, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

Third Thursdays Walk on White

6-9 p.m. Exhibitions and receptions at galleries and shops along White Street, from Southard to United streets, Key West.

All phone numbers are area code 305 unless otherwise noted.

Third Thursdays Morada Way Arts & Cultural District Walkabout

Park and stroll along the Old Highway to visit galleries and enjoy culinary arts and music in the Heart of Islamorada. MM 81.5, Islamorada.

moradawayarts@gmail.com, www.moradawayarts.org

First Fridays Upper Duval Street Art Stroll

6-9 p.m. Galleries, boutiques and cafés open late for receptions and exhibitions.

First Fridays Flock to Fleming Art Walk

6-9 p.m. Art walk on Fleming and Southard streets, Key West. Art, jewelry, eyewear, books, home furnishings, wine refreshments and music.

First Fridays Walk on Winn-Dixie

6-9 p.m. Art exhibitions, music and receptions at galleries and shops within the plaza. Big Pine Key, MM 30.

872-1872

Last Fridays Gallery Night

6-9 p.m. Key Largo Art Gallery, 103200 Overseas Hwy., Bayside.

45 I-0052, www.keylargo.com

DANCE December 17

Coffee Mill Dance Studio Performance Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd.

296-9982, keystix.com

April 12-14 The Key West Contemporary Dance Company

The Waterfront Playhouse, 310 Wall St. 294-5015, www.waterfrontplayhouse.org

May 20

DanceWorks! Annual CoffeeMill Studio Recital

4 p.m. at Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd.

296-9982, keystix.com

June 2

The Dance Factory 28th Annual Recital I and 6:30 p.m. at Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd.

www.keystix.com

lune 16-17 tah-Dance

Marathon Community Theater, 5101 Overseas Hwy., MM 49.5

743-0408, www.marathontheater.org

lune 12-17

Key West Modern Dance Workshop

Faculty from Martha Graham Dance Company, Keigwin+Company and Choreography-On-Camera with Whitney V. Hunter, dance documentaries and lectures. 646-220-0389.

www.keywestmoderndance.com

DANCE CLASSES

CoffeeMill Dance & Yoga Studio

Ballet, modern, jazz, tap, hip-hop, Latin, belly dance, and African dance, 916 Polhaski Lane, Kev West.

296-9982, coffeemilldance@aol.com

Key West Country Western Dancers Cowboy Bill's, 610 Duval St. lay, 293-0198

Learn to Dance with Lucy & Leon

Monthly dance socials, eight-week courses in swing, hustle, salsa rueda, cha cha and more. 1706 N. Roosevelt Blvd., Key West.

www.keywestdance.wordpress.com

Dallas MacDonald Senior Center Line dancing and lessons. 380 Key Deer Blvd., Big Pine Key.

Norma, 745-2383

The Dance Factory Ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, hip-hop and creative movement for children and adults. 906 Kennedy Dr., Key West,

296-5015,

dancefactory@bellsouth.net

Theo & Ganine's Dance Center

Classes and workshops in ballroom and Latin dance. 11450 Overseas Hwy., Suite 203, Marathon.

743-0660

FILM

Saturdays & Tuesdays, September-May Saturday Morning Film Festival (10 a.m.) and Tuesday Film Matinee (3:30 p.m.) Free matinees highlighting classic films. Key West Library, 700 Fleming St.

292-3595, www.keyslibraries.org Tuesdays in November

Pirate Cinema Under the Stars Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, 200 Greene St.

294-2633, www.melfisher.org

February 26

The Oscars® Key West

7 p.m. Live telecast of the world's mostwatched awards program and a gala red carpet full of Key West's own stars and luminaries.

Ongoing

Key West.

New, independent, foreign, documentary and urban films. Daily. The Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St.,

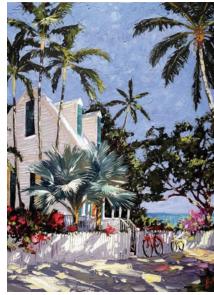
www.tropiccinema.com

MUSEUMS & MORE

October I-June 15

Pirates - Menace & Mayhem Exhibition Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, 200 Greene St..

294-2633, www.melfisher.org



"Key West's Best" by Peter Vey



"Playful Shadows" by Priscilla Coote



"Moonset" by Jenny Emerson

CULTURE 2012

All phone numbers are area code 305 unless otherwise noted.

The West Martello Tower is a Civil War fort and a National Historic Site. Where Higgs Boach and White Street meet...

NOV 19 & 20, 2011—10am-3pm ANNUAL PLANT SALE AND ART SHOW

unique gifts, and great food. MAR 3 & 4, 2012

PRIVATE KEY WEST GARDEN TOURS An intimate view into the private gardens of some of the island's most beautiful homes.

Florida Keys & Key West

OPEN DAILY 9:30 am-5:00 pm keywestgardenclub.com 305-294-3210

The Key West

Garden Club

Stroll its oceanfront garden

paths filled with sub-tropical

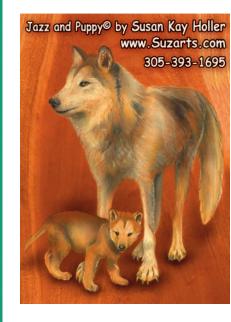
natives, and among towering trees and historical battlements covered with clerodendrum and

bougainvillea blooms

Season 2011-2012

Highlights...





October 2 Trail Talk – Bicyclists' Tour of Flagler's Railroad Sites

9 a.m.-noon. Series of monthly tours, jointly sponsored by Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail and KWAHS. The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

October 18 Hemingway's Boat -Lecture & Book Signing

5:30 p.m. Paul Hendrickson, Pulitzer Prize nominee and author, traces Hemingway's highs and lows around the one constant in his life; his beloved Pilar. The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

October 24

The Ghosts of Fort East Martello

2 p.m. Ghost tours of the fort and a special 107th birthday celebration for Robert the Doll, Fort East Martello Museum, 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

December 18

Harry S. Truman Foundation Members Holiday Party

5-7 p.m. Truman Little White House, III Front St.

294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

December 27-28, January 20-21, February 17-18, March 3, 16-17 Old Island House & Garden Tours

Old Island Restoration Foundation. 322 Duval St. Each tour features five private homes and gardens reflecting the varied tastes and originality of their owners.

294-9501, www.oirf.org

lanuary 6-7

An Evening with Senator Bob Graham Truman Little White House, III Front St. 294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

January 22-December 31, 2012 Centennial Celebration of the Arrival of Flagler's Railroad to Key West Exhibition Includes the story of the Roaring Twenties and the booming days following the railroad's arrival: the effect of The Great Depression on Key West and how its citizens, including Ernest Hemingway, coped; the greatest hurricane to ever hit the United States and the end of the railroad; and the rebirth of Key West as tourist destination. The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

February 18

Presidential Families

Relatives of United States presidents share their insights and memories. Truman Little White House, III Front St.

294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

March 2-3

House and Garden 36th Annual Tour 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Marathon Garden Club, 5270 Overseas Hwy., MM50 Bayside, Marathon. 743-4971, www.marathongardenclub.org

March 10-May 31 Mother Goose & Grimm -25th Anniversary Exhibit

Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist and parttime Key West resident Mike Peters. The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

May 18-19

Truman 10th Annual Symposium on Foreign Aid Opens

6 p.m. May 18 at Truman Little White House, III Front St.

294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

May 19

Truman 10th Annual Symposium on Foreign Aid

8 a.m. at Marriot Beachside Resort, 3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd.

294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

May-August

Hail to the Chief Exhibition

Truman Little White House, 111 Front St. 294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

May 13

Mother's Day Tea & Fashion Show

Museum staff members will dress up and discuss how children would have behaved and dressed for tea during the early 20th century as part of the Henry Flagler celebration. The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

May 18

International Museum Day

Visit Fort East Martello, Key West Lighthouse & Keeper's Quarters and The Custom House Museum. Half-price admission all day.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

June 29-October 29

lack Baron - Celebrating the Colors of Key West Exhibition

Needlepoint tapestries inspired by Key West. The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Key West Art Historical Society. 295-6616, www.kwahs.org

July 6-November 12 Coping with Depression -

WPA Artists in Key West The Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Key West Art Historical Society.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

July 15-November 30

Harry Potter's World Exhibition Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, 200 Greene St. 294-2633, www.melfisher.org

luly 24-25

Hemingway on Stage & Award Ceremony Canadian Hemingway scholar Brian Gordon Sinclair's one-man show on Hemingway's life in Key West in the 1930s. Annual prize awarded for significant contributions to the Hemingway Days Festival and Key West. Location TBA.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

August-September Presidential Campaigns

Truman Little White House, III Front St.

294-9911, www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com

September

Florida Lighthouse Day

Free for Florida residents. Key West Lighthouse & Keeper's Quarters, 938 Whitehead St.

295-6616, www.kwahs.org

September 2012

Florida Keys Shipwreck Symposium Visit website for dates and special venues. 294-2633, www.melfisher.org

Various dates KEY WEST GARDEN CLUB

West Martello Tower, 1100 Atlantic Blvd. October-April – Educational Lecture Sessions; November 19-20 – Fall Plant & Art Show; January-April – A Horticulture Lecture Series; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. March 3-4 -Garden Tours.

294-3210, www.keywestgardenclub.com

Various dates KEY WEST TROPICAL FOREST & **BOTANICAL GARDEN**

5210 College Rd. October – HallowGreen; November, January, May & July – Scientist Speaker Series; February – GardenFest; March - Cuban Cultural Exhibition/HHN; April -Migration Mania; April-June – ArtGarden. 296-1504, www.keywestbotanicalgarden.org

Third Wednesdays Immerse Yourself! Series

7 p.m. Free programs offer a wide variety of topics related to diving and the Florida Keys. The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy., MM83, Islamorada. 664-9737, www.divingmuseum.com

LITERARY

January 5-8

Yet Another World, Literature of the Future – 30th Annual Key West Literary Seminar & Writers' Workshop Program San Carlos Institute, 516 Duval St. 888-293-9291, www.kwls.org/seminar

November-May

Key West Maritime Historical Society Preservation of the maritime heritage of the Florida Keys. Monthly lectures, field trips, exhibits, publications and special events. Award-winning Florida Keys Sea Heritage Journal, published quarterly.

292-7903

First Sundays Key West Poetry Guild Meeting 8 p.m. Open to all interested in poetry. Blue Heaven Restaurant, 729 Thomas St – upstairs.

Mondays, January-March Friends of the Key West Library Free Lecture Series

292-8577, boatsy2002@aol.com

6 p.m. Weekly lecture series with notable authors. The Studios of Key West, 600 White St.

www.friendsofthekeywestlibrary.org

Third Mondays, January-April Lunch Bunch Group

Noon, Hooked on Books, MM 81,9 Oceanside.

517-2602

First Wednesdays Keys Writers Meeting

I p.m. Read-aloud critique group for all forms of creative writing. All levels welcome. Big Pine Library, 213 Key Deer Blvd. patriciabsrbera@live.com

Second Wednesdays, September-May Book Bites Reading Group 5:30 p.m. Monthly meeting discussing anything by or about a specified author. Kris, 292-3595, www.keyslibraries.com

Last Wednesdays, September-May Latitude 25 Writers Meeting 7 p.m. Key Largo Library, Tradewinds Shopping Center, MM 101.4. Steve Gibbs, 853-7277 ext. 16

Thursdays, January-March Friends of the Marathon Library Books and Coffee Lecture Series

1:30 p.m. Notable local authors such as Tom Corcoran, Ben Harrison, Gail Swanson and lo Lee Scarborough. Refreshments at 1:30 p.m., program at 2 p.m. St. Columba Episcopal Church, 45 I 52nd St., Marathon. 289-3137, www.keyslibraries.com

Second Thursdays, January-April Café con Libros

9:30 a.m. Monthly book meeting. Key West Library, 700 Fleming St. Kris, 292-3595, www.keyslibraries.com

First Saturdays, November-April Book Sale 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Key West Library

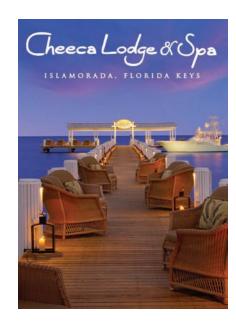
Palm Garden, 700 Fleming St. 292-3595, www.keyslibraries.com

Second & Fourth Saturdays Key West Writers Guild Meeting 10 a.m.-noon. All newcomers welcome. Key West Library, 700 Fleming St. 296-9051

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

October-September Workshop Series, Artist Exhibitions & Receptions, Special Events & Presentations The Studios of Key West, 600 White St. 296-0458, www.tskw.org

Please visit www.keysarts.com under "Your Visit" to view Florida Keys Council of the Arts Cultural calendar and the Keys Arts Quarterly brochure for details.







Mile Marker 83 Islamorada, FL Open daily 10 AM - 5 PM (305) 664-9737 DivingMuseum.org

A not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization

CULTURE 2012





True art is inspired by its surroundings. Which may explain why The Florida Keys & Key West has been providing a blank canvas for artists, writers, actors, dancers and musicians for more than a century.

fla-keys.com 1.800.fla.keys

