



KELLY'S CORNER

by Jan Kelly

The P. I. A. I.

Provincetown enjoys its centennial anniversary this summer as an active, working art colony on many levels. The glory and nostalgia of the past have been demonstrated in an exhibition of Charles Hawthorne's works, his contemporaries and his students. The forums, discussions and writings have extolled each changing step of the past hundred years. The Hawthorne School and Cape Cod School of Art have joined in explaining their roles as schools over 100 years teaching students on all skill levels. The Cape Cod School of Art kept to the tenets of American impressionism throughout—no wavering. The Hawthorne's School went through changes of abstract impressionism with Hans Hoffman. Morris Davidson taught non-objective painting in the '60's and presently Peter Gee teaches as a colorist. The Fine Arts Work Center is an open campus on the graduate level which gives fellowships for serious young artists who wish to pursue their talent in a beautiful seaside setting, minus some stress because they are given living quarters and a stipend. In the past 30 years we have seen many writers, painters and sculptors from this program rise to national and international recognition. There have also been many smaller schools and private teaching through the 100 years. Provincetown, ever reinventing itself, not only continues these successful schools but will move into the next century, indeed the next millennium, with a concept not possible until today.

A satellite campus has ever been a dream for Outer Cape residents, but until the technology and the cooperation of four institutions was pieced together the dream remained a dream. Burt Wolfman—President and Chairman of the Fine Arts Works Center for ten years, Vice President for Financial

Affairs at Brandeis, Dean at Radcliff, a Director at Dartmouth College and a member of the Accreditation Team for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and currently Treasurer of the Art Association and Board Member of the Cape Cod Community College Foundation—is the dreamer who made this satellite campus happen. He has nurtured this dream from concept to reality. He turns words into plans and turns meet-

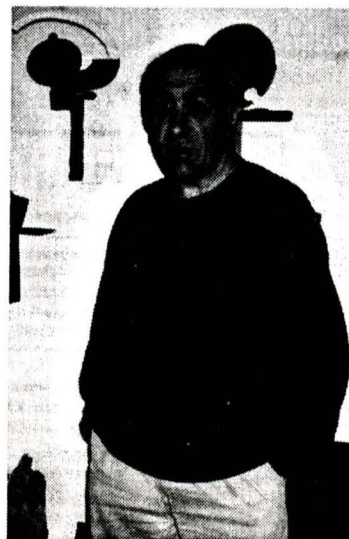
ings into action. A quiet intensity keeps the plan alive—he same intensity that explains an idea over and over until one can touch it. When re-explained and understood, Wolfman has the input, the work offering, the cooperation and the good will needed. Like a sculpture emerging from clay, Burt Wolfman formed this idea and patiently worked with all of us until we could see it. Burt's art, as an independent and working course of art study, explains why we refer to him as "the man who gets things done."

Burt Wolfman has formed the Provincetown International Art Institute, P.I.A.I.—an educational collaborative composed of Cape Cod Community College, the Robinson Museum School at the Provincetown Art Association and Museum, The Provincetown High School and The Schoolhouse Center for the Arts in Provincetown. Our 100 year tradition as an art colony will expand into the next century offering collegiate credit courses meeting the requirements of a Bachelor's Degree. The Beginner's Visual Arts Program, will help students build portfolios as well as confidence using the *atelier* approach,—not a classroom, but more tutoring from an experienced working artist—open to all Massachusetts residents, U.S. residents and foreign students, on a full- or part-time basis. The courses will be offered in the "off-season" when housing becomes affordable.

Midge Batelle • Photography



Paul Bowen • Sculpture



The cost per course? An affordable \$78.60 per credit, or \$235.80 for a three unit course. Students will choose from two core courses: Drawing, Design and Studio Fundamentals plus one elective in Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, Non-darkroom Photography or Graphic Design. The courses are intensive and the classes small since each student receives much individual attention. Courses will run 6 hours a week for 14 weeks, 9-12pm & 1-4pm or 4-7pm for computer work at the high school from September 13 through



Ewa Nogiec • Graphic Design

December 14. More courses are planned for next year.

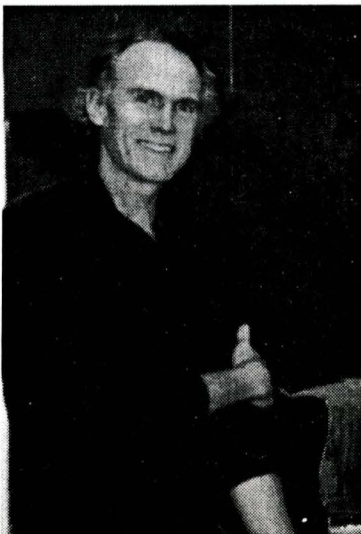
The availability and affordability of courses come as a result of many grant donations from people eager to see the project succeed: The Cape Economic Development Commission donated \$9,000 (Revenue from the Cape & Islands Vanity License Plates), the Provincetown Visitors Service Board donated \$2,500, the College and Art Association wave their fees and many individuals contributed private funds. Gifts in kind also helped such as

the discounted publication of 50,000 printed supplements publicizing the Provincetown International Art Institute—a gift of \$1,800. from the Cape Cod Community News.

With all the mechanics in place now the emphasis switched to the artists who will be teaching at the Institute. Six professional artists, all residents of the Outer Cape make up the faculty: M.M. Battelle, photography; Paul Bowen, sculpture; Ewa Nogiec, graphic design; Haynes Ownby, painting; Jim Peters, painting; Kathi Smith, printmaking. Kathi Smith feels “The program fills an existing need within the arts community here in Provincetown and beyond. It offers freshmen level studio classes taught by quality artist/instructors in the unique Provincetown environment. While the F.A.W.C. offers post graduate level study, and Castle Hill provides extensive workshops and P.A.A.M.’s Robinson Museum School offers 8-week classes in traditional disciplines, the P.I.A.I. will bring to Provincetown college accreditation and an opportunity for students at the beginning and intermediate portfolio development level to work and study here.... In addition to foundation skills the instruction will focus on fostering individual direction and building upon a student’s existing skills and awareness.

“What excites me most about our school is that our faculty members all have current working professional experience to offer their students. All of the artists/instructors are well known and well respected in their various fields. All have exhibited widely and continue to broaden their individual horizons and meet current challenges professionally, This lends a certain ‘real-world’ vitality to the teaching experience, bringing an awareness that academia alone cannot provide. As in any intense

Jim Peters • Painting



study program, the student is immersed in the learning process. What P.I.A.I. has to offer goes a step beyond the typical classroom experience. Our artist/ instructors have an experimental vantage point that differs from tradition academics.”

Kathi Smith, exponent of the Provincetown white-line print chairs the faculty of the Herman & Mary Robinson Museum School at the Art Association and serves as a P.A.A.M. Board Member. She has also worked closely with Burt Wolfman in the planning of P.I.A.I.

Ewa Nogiec, head of her own successful studio, ENS Graphics is also eager to begin the P.I.A.I. program. To future students she says, “You are a dreamer, you can do impossible things. You know how to love and hate, you can see colors in the middle of the night, you are perfect for my class.

Haynes Ownby, after a long list of credentials, has taught at the Robinson School at the P.A.A.M. for the past four years. He has been acquainted with Provincetown since 1952 when he studied with Hans Hoffman for four summers. He has successfully exhibited through the years. “Abstract painting does not represent another reality but is, in itself, a reality.” Of P.I.A.I., his next teaching post, Ownby states, “I want to get people started on a life-long process of self-education.”

Midge Batelle feels P.I.A.I. is a most comfortable obvious next step for Provincetown. “From 1992 until the present, my work as an artist has flourished and continues to surprise me. I found that there is a great satisfaction in teaching what I know how to do and by some miracle I’ve come to find a place on the wheel where everything just as it is, nothing special.”

P.I.A.I. should be Provincetown’s next success story. All too-

Kathi Smith • Printmaking



Haynes Ownby • Painting

well planned, all too-well formed to not be a top experience for its lucky participants. A view to the next century. You can view the website www.piai.org or you can call 508-487-2230 or fax 508-487-2230. Become a student once again. Refresh your thinking and practice your skills. You’ll never regret it.