

Bard College at Simon's Rock presents Ann Getsinger's *Panoptica* and the *San Francisco Calendar*

Larry Burke presents film on the making of *Panoptica*

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GREAT BARRINGTON, MA – On Friday, January 27th Bard College at Simon's Rock will open an exhibition by local artist Ann Getsinger in the new Hillman-Jackson Gallery located in the Daniel Arts Center. An opening reception for the artist will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. A gallery talk will be held on Thursday, February 2nd at 11:00 a.m. Getsinger's show will present two series, one in painting, the other in pen, that focus on the passing of time - but in very different ways. The two are separated by thirty years.

Never before exhibited, the *San Francisco Calendar Series* consists of twelve ink drawings created when Getsinger arrived in San Francisco at the age of twenty-two. Working with a Bic Accountant's fine ballpoint pen, she completed a page a month beginning in January of 1979. Never having lived in a city before, especially one so turbulent at that time, Getsinger found herself alone in what felt like a foreign land. The artist states that "creating the calendar was both grounding and freeing."

In contrast is *Panoptica*, another project that took about a year to complete, but done thirty years later in 2009 in Getsinger's studio in New Marlborough, MA. *Panoptica* is a series of ten oil paintings which run over thirty feet long and four feet high. There is no beginning or end. Using unusual, realistically painted still life subjects and figures in an unbroken landscape, non-linear narratives are woven within the natural cycles of the changing light of a day, seasons, and place. The grand scale of *Panoptica* along with the intensity of colors, forms, and powerful foregrounds, draws the viewer into this work.

Getsinger, well-known in the Berkshires as an artist with realist roots and surrealist edges, studied at the San Francisco Art Institute and later with Berkshire painter Sheldon Fink. She is represented by Dowling and Walsh Gallery in Rockland, Maine and locally by Lauren Clark Fine Art in Housatonic, MA. Getsinger has made her home and studio since 1988 in New Marlborough, MA and she regularly works on the mid-coast area of Maine. More information and images can be found at www.anngetsinger.com.

In addition to Getsinger's work, independent filmmaker and Simon's Rock Film Professor, Larry Burke, will present a short film he made in 2010 about the creation of *Panoptica*. The film will be on view in the lower lobby of the Daniel Arts Center during regular gallery hours.

The gallery is open daily from 10 – 5pm and by appointment by calling the Exhibitions Curator at (413) 528-7389. The exhibition is on view to the public from January 24 – February 17, 2012. The Daniel Arts Center is located off of Alford Road (an extension of Taconic Avenue) about a mile and a half west of Main Street, Great Barrington and about a half mile before the main entrance to Simon's Rock. For more information visit www.simons-rock.edu/events.