

Preservation News

The Newsletter of Historic Seattle

Good Shepherd Center Artists in Residence *Contributed by Marga Rose Hancock*

ON THE FIFTH FLOOR of a building originally erected to house a Catholic school for “wayward girls” are six studios that serve as affordable artists’ housing. Historic Seattle converted the spaces in 2002 from their previous use as Pacific Northwest Ballet’s classrooms and costume storage.

The Good Shepherd Center’s history—and its present—clearly inform and inspire the resident artists.

Julie, a “cabaret chanteuse,” often performs in the Center’s Chapel. She recalls anticipating living and working at the Center, asking herself, “How will you create and give back to the community?” Her answer: food. Thus she works with fellow Center tenant Seattle Tilth, helping prepare and deliver garden produce to neighbors near and far.

Charles moved to Seattle in the early 1990s, settling in Pioneer Square and intending to help “establish an art scene.” He recalls the pleasure of joining the Center’s artistic community-in-progress. His paintings were recently on view at Sisko Gallery’s “Northwest Masters: Charles Emerson, Guy Anderson.”

Mary began *Wayward Girls Productions Lift Up Your Skirt and Fly* after moving to the Center, and many of her works have referenced its history and character. In *Closet*, a site-related group of 22-foot

dresses were hung from the Chapel’s ceiling; in *Ashes to Ashes*, *Wayward Girls* “staged its own wake” in their final show, featuring 20 coffins made by other local artists.

Jere has crafted an eclectic career combining graphic design and human behavior as a “neocompostmodern illustrative artist” in fine art and editorial illustration. He taught at the School of Visual Concepts and cofounded Arts-R-U in Alaska. Most recently, Jere began writing a pictorial memoir.

Jan describes herself as “not a Catholic, but living like a Mother Superior” in her studio, with its view of Mount Rainier. Her artistry incorporates acting, film-making, painting, textile art, fiction, and poetry, and her paintings and needlepoint accent her living space.

Roger has had a life in classical theatre including performing on and off Broadway, making movies and commercials, and working in circuses and ice shows. His studio at the Center holds the many props he uses in his current work entertaining as a clown or court jester. He values the regular exchange with other Good Shepherd Center artists in residence.

These artists show the impact that preservation has beyond protecting a building.

By securing affordable housing in a reused historic building, they’ve been able to pursue their art and share it with the community—a win for all.



Above: Good Shepherd Center Artists in Residence Jere, Mary, Charles and Julie with contributor Marga Rose Hancock
Credit: Marga Rose Hancock

Grant Completes Washington Hall Campaign

King County and 4Culture’s Building for Culture program awarded \$986,000 to fund the fourth and final phase of Historic Seattle’s restoration of Washington Hall, which will reopen to the community in late spring!

The Greenest Gift

MANY THANKS TO EARTHWISE ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE for their generous gift towards Historic Seattle’s nonprofit mission! In 2015, the company donated \$5,134 from the sale of salvaged materials. By selecting Historic Seattle as a community partner, Earthwise ensures that pieces of places that could not be saved provide support for those we can protect. The company says, “We are committed to working within our community to reduce waste while preserving architectural heritage and reclaiming materials that would otherwise be headed to the landfill.”

This creative approach shares the importance of reuse and preservation with the community at large.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 4 Members Meeting: Congregation Shevet Achim
- April 9 Digging Deeper: Seattle Theatre Group Library
- April 30 Good Shepherd Center Gardens Tour
- May 7 Digging Deeper: Ballard Historical Society
- May 9 World War I and Seattle’s Cityscape Lecture
- May 22 Bloxom Residence Tour



Letter from Executive Director Kji Kelly

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO IMAGINE THAT SEATTLEITES ARE UNAWARE of the changes underway here. Our city's future is constantly debated and analyzed by the media, politicians, private citizens, and special interests. While such change brings new opportunities and experiences, it can carry uncertainty, confusion, and a concern for people who are often displaced and buildings that are lost.



For 42 years, Historic Seattle has advocated for preservation and shown how historic buildings can be repurposed, thus allowing change and preservation to co-exist. Places like Town Hall, Fire Station No. 18, and the Good Shepherd Center have all found new life in public use. We are proud to have saved and helped creatively repurpose these and many more buildings around Seattle.

Growth should not come at the expense of losing irreplaceable historic structures that remind us of our common history.

We are currently advocating for the preservation of the Nuclear Reactor building (More Hall Annex), which the University of Washington intends to demolish to make room for a new Computer Science and Engineering building. Claiming that its campus is exempt from city preservation regulations, the UW recently filed a lawsuit against the City of Seattle and Docomomo WEWA, a nonprofit organization which submitted a landmark nomination for the building which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Seattle and the Washington

Trust for Historic Preservation have joined the legal fight to preserve the building, a case which may have far-reaching impact on preservation around our city and state.

While this Brutalist style building may not be your favorite, its social and cultural place in history deserve the same protections as beloved architectural treasures.

It's important to note that Historic Seattle does not oppose the University's need to expand as the city becomes an epicenter for technological innovation and business. We, in fact, encourage alternatives that would reuse the historic building in a creative way that complements a new building. The UW's recent suggestion that the Computer

SAVE THE DATE
Thursday, October 13

The 8th Annual
Preservation Awards,
for the first time
at Washington Hall

 **HISTORIC SEATTLE**
a benefit for Educate Advocate Preserve

Space is limited. For advance purchase, sponsorships, or more details, please contact: Naomiw@historicseattle.org

Science and Engineering Department would create a "computer simulated, virtual replica" of the structure is, however, not an acceptable alternative.

Preservation saves entire buildings, not pieces, or facades. A virtual model is no substitute for the real thing and would only provide a simulated tombstone marking the grave of this piece of Seattle's history.

Historic Seattle firmly advocates for responsible change and balanced growth. We will continue to work hard to save places that matter, and we need you on our side.

Transitions in Preservation

HISTORIC SEATTLE'S Office Administrator Bailey Hess now serves in the capacity of Philanthropy & Communications Coordinator replacing Dana Phelan, who is now Preservation Lead Staff at 4Culture. Bailey looks forward to building awareness for Historic Seattle and getting to know our supporters.

Evyann Horton is our new Office Administrator, bringing more than 15 years of nonprofit experience including volunteer management, fundraising, and museum administration.

In addition, Jane Davies, formerly of Homestead Community Land Trust, replaced Historic Seattle's Bookkeeper Suzanne de van der Schueren, who moved to Housing Resources Bainbridge.

Cathy Galbraith, who served as Executive Director of Historic Seattle from 1987 to 1992, has retired from her most recent role as Executive Director of the Architectural Heritage Foundation in Portland.



We thank Cathy, Dana, and Suzanne for their service to Historic Seattle, and look forward to Bailey, Evyan, and Jane's contributions to our preservation work.