ARONSON TO ARONSON
The Lineage of Expressionism
OGUNQUIT MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART
ARONSON TO ARONSON

The Lineage of Expressionism

The Art of:
David Aronson
Georgianna Nyman Aronson
Ben Aronson

August 27 - October 31, 2011

Foreword by Ron Crusan

OGUNQUIT MUSEUM
OF AMERICAN ART
OGUNQUIT MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART
543 Shore Road
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Front Cover:
DAVID ARONSON
Young Man in Red Coat (detail), 1972
encaustic on panel, 24 x 16 inches
private collection

Title Page:
DAVID ARONSON
Teacher and Students (detail), 1965 - 69
bronze, 26 1/2 x 25 1/2 x 20 1/2 inches
private collection
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DAVID ARONSON
*Teacher and Student II*, 1972
encaustic on panel, 48 x 30 inches
private collection
ARONSON TO ARONSON: The Lineage of Expressionism

In post World War II America, New York was emerging as the new center of the art world, and Abstract Expressionism was soon to be the primary source for new ideas in art. Artists like Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning and Mark Rothko practiced an art that looked to the inner, emotional life of the artist for inspiration. Non-objective art became the focus of most of those concerned with contemporary art in the 1940s and 1950s.

In contrast to the happenings in New York and beyond, a small significant movement called Expressionism took hold in Boston, Massachusetts. Among those who are considered to be Boston Expressionists, Karl Zerbe, Hyman Bloom, Jack Levine and David Aronson stand out as the best of the early practitioners. Though differing in styles, they did share fundamental beliefs and practices. While incorporating abstract expressionist methods of paint application and other materials, the Boston Expressionists were also interested in presenting their thoughts about the external world of people, religion, business and politics filtered and intensified through their own internal world of emotion. They also maintained a strong awareness and connection to classical art. What they created was a new dynamic extending the elements of the New York School to include the human figure placed in narratives which powerfully expressed each artist's view of human experience and the state of the human condition in mid-twentieth century America.

The exhibition Aronson to Aronson: The Lineage of Expressionism traces the lineage of the Boston Expressionist movement through the art of one prominent Boston artist family: David Aronson, the early Expressionist, his wife Georgianna Nyman Aronson, a prominent portrait painter, and their son Ben, also a well-known painter who exhibits regularly in Boston, New York and San Francisco. Born in 1923, David was a young man when he first embraced the Expressionist movement. His early work shows a preoccupation with humanistic expressionism. Though much different in style and substance, Georgianna’s work shares the common element of the human figure, and Ben whose work for many years depicted birds’ eye views of New York City streets has recently turned to the all too human business of high finance, Wall Street and fine art auctions.

It is a pleasure to host Aronson to Aronson: The Lineage of Expressionism, the first exhibition of its kind, of such a prestigious family of artists. All three artists, accomplished individually, bring a wealth of beauty and accomplishment together for the first time. I would like to thank the entire staff of the Ogunquit Museum of American Art for their assistance in the completion of this project and the many other projects which comprise our season. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their unflagging support, and the Docents and Volunteers who inquire for answers and deliver outstanding service to our visitors.

Thank you to the Aronson family: David, Georgianna, Ben and Eileen for making the exhibition and catalog possible in so many ways. A special thank you to Martin and Estelle Karlin for their far-reaching assistance in the formulation of the exhibition.

RON CRUSAN
Director/curator
DAVID ARONSON
LEVITATION II, 1972
encaustic on panel, 48 x 33 inches
private collection
Above:
YOUNG MAN IN RED COAT, 1972
encaustic on panel, 24 x 16 inches
private collection

Right:
FIDDLER, 1974-76
bronze (photographed in the clay), 22 3/4 x 11 3/4 x 11 inches
private collection
Above:
THE MEDIUM, 1983
bronze, 15 x 13 x 12 1/2 inches
private collection

Right:
ANGEL WITH FLUTE, 1978
bronze, 24 1/8 x 8 x 20 inches
courtesy of David Findlay Jr. Fine Art, NY
Above:
THE MEID, 1983
bronze, 15 x 13 x 12 1/2 inches
private collection

Right:
ANGEL WITH THE FLETCHER, 1978
bronze, 24 1/8 x 8 x 20 inches
courtesy of David Findlay Jr. Fine Art, N
Above:
WARrior II, 1995
bronze, 30 x 24 x 20 inches
private collection

Left:
Harlequin, 1986
bronze, 39 3/4 x 12 3/4 x 14 inches
courtesy of David Findlay Jr. Fine Art, NY
YOUNG FLUTIST, 1972
encaustic on panel, 15 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches
private collection
TEACHER AND STUDENTS, 1965 - 69
bronze, 26 1/2 x 25 1/2 x 20 1/2 inches
private collection
GEORGIANNA NYMAN ARONSON
THE SICILIAN, 2008
oil on panel, 35 1/2 x 26 1/2 inches, framed
private collection
ABIGAIL IN PROFILE, 1971
oil on panel, 16 1/2 x 13 1/2 inches, framed
private collection
ANNIE BENSON MULLER, 1958
oil on panel, 21 3/4 x 17 3/4 inches, framed
private collection
JOY, 1993
graphite on paper, 21 3/4 x 17 3/4 inches, framed
private collection
WOMAN IN BLACK, 1964
oil on panel, 26 3/4 x 20 1/2 inches, framed
private collection
GIRL WITH RED HAIR, 2010
oil on panel, 11 x 10 inches
private collection
BEAUTIFUL OLD WOMAN, 2011
pastel, 11 1/2 x 10 inches
private collection
NIGHTHAWKS, DELMONICO’S, 2010
oil on panel, 50 x 60 inches
private collection
OCEANSIDE, 2008
oil on panel, 30 x 30 inches
private collection
FULL SUN, RUSSIAN HILL, 2007
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
private collection
Above:
LA TOUR D’ARGENT, 2008
oil on panel, 24 x 24 inches
private collection

Right:
FIFTH AVENUE, LOOKING SOUTH, 2011
oil on panel, 24 x 12 inches
courtesy of Alpha Gallery, Boston
Above:
SELLING ON THE NEWS, 2010
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY

Left:
THE RUMOR, 2010
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY
Above:
CLOSING BELL, 2010
oil on panel, 11 x 14 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY

Right:
TALKING NUMBERS, 2010
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY
NIGHTHAWKS, 2006
oil on panel, 20 x 27 inches
private collection
LOW SUN, RISING SHADOW, 2007
oil on panel, 67 1/4 x 48 inches
private collection
ARTISTS’ BIOGRAPHIES

DAVID ARONSON
Born 1923

EDUCATION
School of The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Hebrew Teacher College

SELECTED AWARDS
1976 Purchase Prize, National Academy of Design
1976 Joseph Isidor Gold Medal, National Academy of Design
1976 Purchase Prize, Albrecht Art Museum
1975 Isaac N. Maynard Prize for Painting, National Academy of Design
1973 Samuel F. B. Morse Gold Medal, National Academy of Design
1967 Purchase Prize, National Academy of Fine Arts
1963 Gold Medal, Art Directors Club of Philadelphia
1961 Purchase Prize, American Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, also 1962, 1963
1960 John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship
1958 Grant in Art, American Institute of Arts and Letters, New York
1954 Grand Prize, Third Annual Boston Arts Festival
1946 Travelling Fellowship, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
1946 Purchase Prize, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
1944 First Popular Prize, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston
1944 First Judges Prize, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS & RETROSPECTIVES
2011 David Findlay, Jr. Gallery, New York
2005 Boston University Art Gallery, Boston (Retrospective)
2004 Galerie Yoram Gil, Beverly Hills, CA
1985 Mickelson Gallery, Washington DC, (Retrospective)
1979 The Jewish Museum and National Academy of Design, New York (Retrospective)
1979 Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA (Retrospective)
1979 American Museum of Jewish History, Philadelphia, PA (Retrospective)

SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS
1972 Bernard Danenberg Galleries, New York, 1969
1969 Boris Minski Gallery, Boston, 1959, 1951
1946 Museum of Modern Art, New York

Albrecht University Museum of Art, St. Joseph, MO
Art Institute of Chicago, IL
Atlanta Art Association, GA
Bezalel Art Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
Boston College, Chestnut Hill MA
Boston University, MA
Bryn Mawr College, PA
Chico State College Gallery, CA
Colby College, Waterville, ME
Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
Herbert Johnson Museum of Art, Ithaca, NY
Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA
DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA
Fine Arts Center, Cheekville, TN
Guilford College, Greensboro, NC
Hunter Art Gallery, Chattanooga, TN
The Jewish Museum, New York, NY
The Johnson Foundation, Racine, WI
Kraemer Art Museum, Champaign, IL
Milwaukee Art Institute, WI
Munson Williams Proctor Institute, Ithaca, NY
Museo Sefardi, Toledo, Spain
Museum of Art, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
National Academy Museum, New York, NY
Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA
Portland Art Museum, ME
Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA
David & Alfred Smart Museum, Chicago, IL
Skirball Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC
Syracuse University, NY
University of Judaism, Los Angeles, CA
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of NC, Greensboro, NC
Worcester Art Museum, MA
GEORGIANNA NYMAN ARONSON
Born 1930

EDUCATION
School of The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Longy School of Music, Cambridge, MA

AWARDS
2003  Rhode Island Medal of Achievement
1955  Kate Morse Fellow, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
1951  Boit Prize, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS
1999  Alter & Gil, Beverly Hills, CA
1990  Nancy Lincoln Gallery, MA
1980  Copley Society, Boston, MA
1963  Nordness Gallery, New York
1960  Shore Studio Gallery, Boston, MA also 1961

SELECTED COMMISSIONED PORTRAITS
2011  Dr. Douglas Schneider, Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital, Boston, MA
2008  Orit Gadiesh, Chairman, Bain & Co., Boston, MA
2008  Dr. Leah Lowenstein, Dean, Thomas Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA
2004  James Norell, California
2003  Governor Lincoln C. Almond, Governor, State of Rhode Island
1999  Chelsea Norell, California
1995  David Leissner, Composer and Classical Guitarist
1994  Honorable James R. Lawton, Chairman of the Board, New England School of Law, Boston
1994  Richard Conrad, Director Boston Academy of Music, Boston, MA
1994  Dr. Barry Minsky, Psychoanalytic Institute, Boston, MA
1994  Julie Harris, American Actor
1992  Mr. & Mrs. Pieh, Headmasters, Milton Academy
1982  Dr. Peter Safar, Head of The Safar Critical Care Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
1978  Dr. Louis Nason, Chief of Surgery, Brookline Hospital, MA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE PORTRAITS
2009  Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
2006  Justice Antonin G. Scalia
2005  Justice Anthony M. Kennedy
1996  Justice Clarence Thomas
1993  Justice Harry A. Blackmun
1991  Justice Sandra Day O’Connor

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS
Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA
New England School of Law, Boston, MA
Thomas Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, PA
The State of Rhode Island, Statehouse, Providence, RI
Milton Academy, Milton, MA
**EDUCATION**

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<th>Institution</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>Boston University</td>
<td>Boston, MA; MFA</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>Boston University</td>
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**SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

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<td>2010</td>
<td>Tibor de Nagy Gallery</td>
<td>New York; also 2008, 2005</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Alpha Gallery</td>
<td>Boston, MA; also 2006, 2002, 2000</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Jenkins Johnson Gallery</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA; also 2007, 2004</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>DFN Gallery</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Scott White Contemporary</td>
<td>La Jolla, CA</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Sydne Bernard Fine Art</td>
<td>Hollywood, CA</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>MB Modern</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Horwitch Newman Gallery</td>
<td>Scottsdale, AZ</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Jerry Solomon Gallery</td>
<td>Hollywood, CA</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Louis Newman Galleries</td>
<td>Beverly Hills, CA</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Nancy Lincoln Gallery</td>
<td>Chestnut Hill, MA; also 1983</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>Julie Saul Gallery</td>
<td>Sudbury, MA</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>Lane Gallery</td>
<td>Gordon College, Wenham, MA</td>
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**SELECTED AWARDS**

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Childe Hassam Purchase Prize</td>
<td>American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Benjamin Altman Landscape Prize</td>
<td>National Academy of Design, New York</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>Ogden M. Pleissner Painting Award</td>
<td>National Academy of Design, New York</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>Thomas Fisher Award</td>
<td>American Society of Architectural Prewriters, New York</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Rhode Island State Council for the Arts Grant</td>
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<td>Boston Public Library</td>
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<td>Butler Institute of American Art</td>
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<td>Cedar Rapids Museum of Art</td>
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<td>Contemporary Art Museum</td>
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<td>Denver Museum of Contemporary Art</td>
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<td>Flint Institute of Arts</td>
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<td>Santa Barbara Museum of Art</td>
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<td>Suzhou Museum</td>
<td>Jiangsu Province, China</td>
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<td>Colorado Springs, CO</td>
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<td>The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts</td>
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This exhibition and catalogue have been realized through the generosity of many individuals. We are especially grateful to Estelle and Martin Karlin; who have been steadfast in their significant support and patronage of the arts, which has extended to the entire Aronson family. The Karlins have collected art for over 50 years, during which time the relationship between them and the Aronson Family has grown into a lasting, multigenerational friendship.

Thanks are due to three generations of the Aronson family. Without their assistance and support in locating previously unexhibited works, this publication and exhibition would not have been possible. We are grateful for their many hours of tireless efforts photographing, shipping and fund raising.

Special thanks to Gayle and Sandy Reisenbach, Judy and Jerry Webb, and Douglas Schneider, who, at the time of this printing, have all generously contributed to the creation of this uniquely memorable exhibition publication.

Above:
GEORGIANNA NYMAN ARONSON
Annie Benson Muller (detail), 1958
oil on panel, 21 3/4 x 17 3/4 inches
private collection