Current Exhibit Brings Hawaii to Ukiah by Karen Holmes

Staff members at the Grace Hudson Museum often wear many hats, and this is true for the current exhibit, *Days of Grace: California Artist Grace Hudson in Hawaii*. Director Sherrie Smith-Ferri and Registrar Karen Holmes added to their usual roles by co-curating the exhibit, and co-authoring its companion catalog (available now in the Gift Shop).

The exhibit examines the life and work of Hudson during the 11 months she spent in Hawaii in 1901—mostly in Honolulu and Waikiki, on the island of Oahu, and in Hilo, on the island of Hawaii. As with all her professional oil portraits, Grace entered information in a painting diary about the 26 oils featuring Hawaiian women and children she completed there. She also took photos of the pieces before they left her possession. Beginning with these primary sources—in the collections of the Museum—Karen and Sherrie tracked down the whereabouts of as many of Grace's Hawaiian pieces as possible. Additional help came from Searles Boynton's notes on the owners of Hudson's paintings that he made in the 1970s while working on *The Painter Lady*, the most complete book on Hudson's career.

Grace recorded that three of her Hawaiian pieces were destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. Of the surviving 23 Hawaiian portraits, Karen and Sherrie were successful in locating 11 for display—thanks to many generous lenders—along with several of Hudson's Hawaiian landscapes, and preparatory sketches. The co-curators supplemented the exhibit with ethnographic artifacts collected by Hudson while in Hawaii, along with letters and other objects that help tell Hudson's Hawaiian story.

Grace viewed her Hawaiian year (undertaken as a rest cure following a period of overwork) as one of the most significant in her life. She used the time away from home to reflect on her career and her marriage, and to take a break from professional pressure. Rather than painting to support herself and her husband, John, as she had been, Grace gave away many of her Hawaiian pieces to new friends in the Islands. She returned home refreshed and re-committed to her marriage. We hope you visit this landmark exhibit to learn more about Grace's Hawaiian experiences, and to see her lovely portraits of the Hawaiian people. The show runs through December 28th in the main gallery.

GHM Around the World!

We are pleased to report that lately we have been receiving exposure around the globe. The *Days of Grace* exhibit and catalog were profiled by Sonoma County Historian Gaye LeBaron on September 14th in the *Santa Rosa Press Democrat*, and a new article about the show will be in the November-December issue of *American Art Review*, available nationwide. A modified version of the show heads to the Honolulu Museum of Art in Hawaii in November 2015.

In other news, china from our collections that belonged to Grace Hudson's grandmother, Clarina Nichols, will be on display February through October 2015 at the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum in Washington DC, in the exhibit, *How the Civil War Changed Washington*. On page 5, see Curator Marvin Schenck's comments about the Grace Hudson exhibit now at St. Mary’s College Art Museum in Moraga, California. And Director Sherrie Smith-Ferri is representing the Grace Hudson Museum at the Kunstkamera Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, where she is studying the early Pomo baskets they hold there.

Interested in converting your paper Sunletter subscription to an emailed version? Submit your request with your name by 1/31/15 to info@gracehudsonmuseum.org and be entered to win a $50 gift certificate in the Museum Gift Shop.
Dear Friends: As 2014 draws to a close we find much to celebrate here at the Grace Hudson Museum. Plans are well underway for gardens and educational facilities that will complete a new cycle in our evolution. In the past three decades our incredible journey has taken us far from our humble beginnings when the City of Ukiah purchased the Sun House and its grounds from the heirs of Grace and John Hudson; to the development and opening of the Grace Hudson Museum; and now to the creation of gardens and facilities that will allow us to share the Mendocino County that the Carpenters and Hudsons knew in their everyday interactions with the local Pomo people. Grace’s paintings have given us faces to go with John’s notes on how these remarkable people lived lightly in their lands, and how the wilderness paradise settlers first observed was in fact a carefully-cultivated land that provided food and shelter, and the raw materials for some of the finest, most powerful and intricately woven baskets in the world.

Our permanent collections, together with a panorama of changing exhibits, has given Ukiah a central gathering place that combines a great sense of fun, community, past and present history, and artistic inspiration.

Every day I meet someone on the street or in the Museum who tells me what the Grace Hudson means to them and how proud they are that we have a world-renowned museum right here in Ukiah. It’s in our DNA, a part of what we celebrate as people who have chosen a cultured country life.

Please do enjoy all that the Grace Hudson has to offer you as a visitor, a member, and a lover of art and culture. Plan to visit often in the year ahead, and bring your family and friends to share the fun.

Sincerely yours, Paige Marie Poulos, President, Sun House Guild

New Guild Members

Joyce Badenfort
Laura Clark
Torrey Douglass
Carole & Ted Hester
Paloma Patterson
Capriece & Jeffrey Weber
Amanda Hicks
Kathleen & Jerry Hicks
Tamar Kaye
Jeff Quigley
Iverina Rasmussen
Mary Jane Sheppard
Linda Filer Wiley
Laurie Howard
Monika Kondra
Jeannie Vierra
Lotus Jean Young

Sally Underwood
Pastor Martha & Frank Stump
Jessica & Ted Kimball
Cottie Morrison
Sharon Smith
Sharon Wright
Leslie Smyth
Elizabeth Ralee
Samia Whitmarsh
Deana & John Mullin
Kacey Raglan
Tanaka Sanford
M. Baumgratz
Marti Aikman
Susan Hamric
Deborah Mefferd
David Spriggs
Year-End Giving

In the Season of Sharing, please do consider a 100% tax-deductible gift in any amount to the Grace Hudson Museum & Sun House. Visit the Grace Hudson Museum website at www.GraceHudsonMuseum.org and hit the Donate button to make an online donation with a credit card, or use the envelope enclosed to send a gift to the Sun House Guild to help support Family Fun at the Museum and other community programs, acquisitions to our collections, and underwriting of exhibits and special events. Or choose the Endowment Fund, every dollar of which helps us build to a principal balance that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the Museum and its programs.

The choice is yours: invest in the short term or invest in the long term. Either way, you win! And so does your family for generations to come.

To discuss significant gifts, naming opportunities in the new gardens and galleries, challenge grants to inspire matching funds, charitable bequests or annuities, please contact the Museum at (707) 467-2836 to arrange an appointment for a private meeting.

Happy Holidays
And
Thank You
for
Giving Right Here at Home!

New Guild Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John McCowen</th>
<th>Peggy &amp; Tom Purcell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donna Christian</td>
<td>Anne Wenzel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dee Cope</td>
<td>Peter Kushner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Crook</td>
<td>Iliana Galvin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Davis</td>
<td>Steve Pasternak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Weiss</td>
<td>Katharine Elliott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Slater</td>
<td>Ann Maglinite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Johnson</td>
<td>Lois Comyford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen &amp; David Menasian</td>
<td>Lucy Macleitch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Raquier</td>
<td>Karen Feeney-Ferraiuolo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muhasibi Shalom Andrade</td>
<td>Norma Marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor Hamilton</td>
<td>Necia Liles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michele Quere</td>
<td>Mary Flannery-Kraut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Roberts</td>
<td>Linda Malone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Seaforth</td>
<td>Patricia Munger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Spaletta</td>
<td>Linda Webster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Tiemann</td>
<td>Christopher &amp; Joleen Logan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This year the Grace Hudson Museum’s annual fundraiser was a Hawaiian-themed luau to complement our current exhibit on Grace Hudson’s year in Hawaii. The roast pig dinner and auction were a success, with the Sun House Guild netting $45,000, of which $17,425 was allocated to the Museum Endowment Fund. For the first time, the annual event was held outside in the Carpenter-Hudson Park, where participants could better envision the gardens of our future outdoor education center. Though a nearby wildfire prevented some of our stalwart supporters from attending, the event was filled to capacity, with attendees dressed in their best Hawaiian attire. Fresh orchid leis, mai tais, tiki torches, and fire dancing gave the evening a festive air. As always, fantastic silent and live auction items were available for bidding, thanks to many generous donors.

The fundraiser would not have been possible without everyone who attended, bid on auction items, and donated wonderful things. In addition there were many volunteers working behind the scenes to get ready for the big night and keep it running smoothly. As you can see in the adjacent list, many people contributed to the evening’s success. To all of you who made an immeasurable contribution to our future: Mahalo—many thanks!

With Exhibit at St. Mary’s College, A Collection Milestone is Reached!

Due to the wonderful generosity of our donors and lenders to the Grace Hudson Museum collections, the Museum now has a sufficient number of paintings and other materials to produce—for the first time ever—three separate Grace Hudson exhibitions simultaneously. First is the landmark *Days of Grace: California Artist Grace Hudson in Hawaii*, curated by Karen Holmes and Sherrie Smith-Ferri currently on view in the Grace Hudson Museum’s main gallery through December 28th. Second, the ongoing Grace Carpenter Hudson permanent exhibit in the Ivan B. and Elvira Hart Gallery has lately undergone a re-hanging to feature recent gifts and loans. Finally, Curator Marvin Schenck has assembled a traveling exhibition surveying Grace Hudson’s career for the Saint Mary’s College Museum of Art in Moraga, California. The exhibit, *Grace Hudson: Painter of the Pomo People*, is on view through December 7, 2014. It is being shown with two other Native American exhibitions: *Pueblo to Pueblo: The Legacy of Southwest Pottery*, and *The Native American Collection of Roger Epperson*. For more information, go to www.stmarys-ca.edu/museum or call (925) 631-4379. We hope the show will introduce Grace’s talent to a new audience and entice Bay Area residents to come explore Ukiah and the Grace Hudson Museum.

**Our Thanks for Collection Gifts to:**

**Bob Brewer:** for several important historic publications and photos, including two A. O. Carpenter studio portraits.

**The Lauer Family Trust:** for a booklet on Indian uses of native plants once belonging to Mark and Melissa Carpenter, and a scrapbook of oil paintings by Grace Hudson.

**Robert Lee and family:** for photos, glass plate negatives, and film negatives from the Bob J. Lee Collection.

**Michael Rubenstein and Bob Brewer:** for photos by anthropologist and linguist, Samuel A. Barrett.

**E. Jane Boyce and James Boyce Jr.:** for the charming original Grace Hudson oil painting #189, *Chinese Child Sitting in Doorway*, from her Hawaiian year.

**John Marcucci:** for the adorable original Grace Hudson oil painting #197, *Punahele*, done during Hudson’s year in Hawaii.

**Norma Holland-Dunham:** for an interesting sculpted metal souvenir cup with Ukiah-area scenes, circa 1902-1905.

**E. Jack Liebau:** for the lovely original Grace Hudson oil painting #342, *Ellen—White Shirt—Poppies*.

---

**Guild & Endowment Paddle Pledges at the 2014 Fundraising Luau**

This year donors could allocate their pledges to either the Sun House Guild or Grace Hudson Museum Endowment Fund, or both. Thank you so much to all our generous donors.


**Totals:**

- $13,275 to the Sun House Guild
- $17,425 to the Endowment Fund

---

**Special Thanks to:**

Watters O. Martin, Jr. and Michael Horikawa, Board Members of the Honolulu Museum of Art: for coming all the way from Honolulu to attend the opening of our *Days of Grace* exhibit, and contributing to our fundraiser’s silent auction.

Nicholas and Valerie Brownrigg, Ruth Anderson, and Patricia Bowers: for recent donations to the Endowment Fund.

Grace Hudson's *Chinese Child Sitting in Doorway*, Painting #189, 1901, was recently donated to the Museum collections by members of the Boyce family.
Don’t Miss the Fun at Our Annual Holiday Open House!

Saturday, December 6, 2014
10 am–3 pm
15% off in Museum Shop

Pre-order your holiday wreaths using the enclosed form and be entered to win a Romantic Getaway at the Elk Cove Inn and Spa! See enclosed flyer for details.

Happy Holidays!

Grace Hudson Museum Calendar of Events

Saturday, September 6–Sunday, December 28, 2014
Days of Grace:
California Artist Grace Hudson in Hawaii
This exhibit tells the story of Hudson’s eleven months in Hawaii in 1901. Her rare portraits of the people of Hawaii are gathered together here for the first time for display. Developed by the Grace Hudson Museum.

Tuesday, November 18, 2014, Noon
Gallery Tour of Days of Grace Exhibit
Join co-curators Grace Hudson Museum Registrar Karen Holmes, and Director Sherrie Smith-Ferri, for a guided exhibit tour. Free with Museum admission.

Saturday, December 6, 2014, 10:00 am–3:00 pm
Annual Holiday Open House and Book Signing

Through Sunday, December 7, 2014
Grace Hudson: Painter of the Pomo People
At St. Mary’s College Museum of Art, Moraga, California. (At left: Hudson’s painting Matu, 1912, from our collections.)

Saturday, January 10–Sunday, March 8, 2015
Jules Tavernier: Artist & Adventurer–The Illustrations
Early California artist Jules Tavernier (1844-1889) adapted the Barbizon aesthetic of his native France to scenes of the American West. This exhibit features his early transcontinental illustrations for “Harper’s Weekly.” It was organized by the Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA.

Sunday, March 22–Sunday, May 17, 2015
Ignite! The Art of Sustainability
An exhibit of dynamic, multimedia works by thirteen of California’s foremost environmental artists. From Exhibit Envoy, funded by The James Irvine Foundation.