



All Hallows Herald

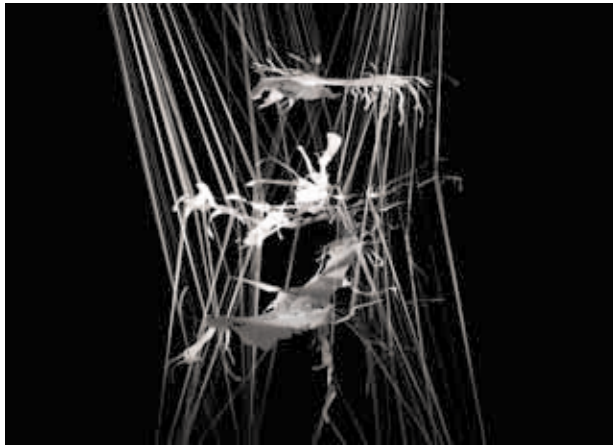
All Hallows Guild—Stewards to the Gardens and Grounds of
Washington National Cathedral

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www.allhallowsguild.org

Spring 2011

Austrian Theme Waltzes Into Flower Mart 2011



Julia von Eichel—work shown previously at Addison Ripley Gallery in 2008



David Schuman and Irina Ramniceanu will waltz into your hearts, as they demonstrate the glorious dance at the Preview

If flowers are your passion and wine tastings your favorite sport, stay tuned for some enticing **pre-Flower Mart** activities that will make 2011 the first year for a Flower Mart “season” of occasions. Not only will the Flower Mart festival on May 6 and 7 open with song and dance to honor Austria at Washington National Cathedral’s grand West Front, but in the weeks preceding, special events are boosting the anticipation.

The first Flower Mart benefit event takes place Friday, April 15, when Addison/Ripley Fine Arts Gallery in Georgetown, Washington’s foremost contemporary gallery, opens its doors for a special **Art & Wine Tasting** occasion showcasing prominent returning artist/sculptor Julia von Eichel. Samplings of her works will be available for guests to peruse, while wine experts discuss the excellent wines offered with light refreshments. Von Eichel has exhibited in New York and Washington since her studies at the New York School of Visual Arts and the Art Institute of Chicago. Her stunning creations play with lights and shadows on a two-dimensional surface that blends sculptural elements with her artistry. This not-to-be-missed innovative art, spirits and fun take place from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Gallery located at 1670 Wisconsin Avenue (at the corner of Wisconsin Ave. and Reservoir Road). To encourage all age groups, a range of ticket prices is available. For ages 21-30, tickets are \$30. Above age 30, tickets are \$50. The special sponsor tickets are \$100.



Allan Woods

On Saturday, April 30 from 10 A.M. to 12 P.M. noted local floral designer **Allan Woods** will make magic with flowers in the Washington National Cathedral seventh floor Perry Auditorium. Known for his artistry with dramatic arrangements of blossoms and diverse greenery, Woods entertains, educates and entralls his audiences. His popular lectures on the secrets of beautiful floral displays in homes and other venues have intrigued his many fans. Making the occasion even more enjoyable, tasty refreshments and coffee will be served to guests and there will be a question-and-answer session. Tickets are \$30 per person.

Crowning the pre-Flower Mart events will be the elegant **Preview Party Benefit** on Thursday, May 5, 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. to be held in Washington National Cathedral. Highlighting the after-hours reception will be a demonstration of the graceful Viennese waltz, performed in a salute to Austria, this year’s honored country at Flower Mart. Filling the cathedral with magnificent floral displays, more than a dozen Washington embassies will display their native flowers and talented designers with the *Flowers Around the World* exhibit. It promises to be an evening of beauty with music, delicious hors d’oeuvres, spirits, a silent auction and Washington dignitaries. So---let the season begin! Tickets for all events are available by calling 202 537-2937, emailing AHGuild@cathedral.org or you may reserve your tickets online at: http://www.allhallowsguild.org/fm-registration_form.php. Please view the All Hallows Guild website for more information about all the events surrounding this year’s exciting Flower Mart.

Two Leaders Make Flower Mart Double Delight



L to r: Christina Bordeaux and Boucie Addison
chat with Ambassador Prosl
Photo by Karl Schrammell

Co-chairs of the 2011 Flower Mart Christina Bordeaux and Boucie Addison have linked forces to produce another flowers-and-fun spring festival showcasing Austria, one of Europe's most beautiful countries. Sharing responsibilities for the event that draws 20,000 visitors to the gardens and grounds of Washington National Cathedral each May, the dynamic pair has proven that two can make the event a showstopper.

Both Christina and Boucie have experience, enthusiasm, a trunkload of ideas, imagination and the savvy required to accomplish their mission. Between them they have held leadership positions for Flower Mart, the Cathedral schools and various charities. Boucie is a fifth-generation Washingtonian. Christina was born and brought up in Washington. Both are members of the All Hallows Board. They are career women: Christina has her own business *Christina Bordeaux Photography* and writer for *Women's Wear Daily*. Boucie is a licensed real estate agent.

Whenever asked about flowers, spouses, hopes and challenges, each has a ready answer. Boucie swoons over lilies, "I even call my daughter 'Lilly', after all the lilies I love in the gardens and woods." Her getaway place is in Wyoming at Jackson Hole, where she has close ties. On the other hand, Christina's flower choice is the exquisite tulip which she uses in home and garden. Both flowers are found in abundance on the cathedral grounds. As for other activities, sports fan and tennis buff Boucie goes for ice hockey which is played by both sons and daughter, while Christina is a walker and yoga enthusiast. Both are busy women who always have time for family and friends.

Tea Room Chairs Meet Austrian Chef



L to R: Susan Gerber, Chef Jonach, Malini Jadeja, and Lucie Patton

Chef Willi Jonach (center) charmed our Flower Mart volunteers at the Wiener Kaffeehausjause held on Presidents Day at the Embassy of the Republic of Austria. The personable chef prepared a delicious buffet of Austrian pastries and tasty bites, recreating the atmosphere of a Viennese Café. Enthusiastic committee members were treated to Viennese coffee, tea, or a glass of delicious Austrian wine, traditional Belegte Brötchen (open sandwiches), as well as everyone's favorite Apfelstrudel mit Schlagobers (apple strudel with whipped cream).

This year's three chairs of the St. Albans Tea Room, held in Sayre House both days of the Mart, enjoyed talking with Chef Jonach, gaining pointers and recipes for their own Austrian Café that will delight our many Flower Mart guests.

Jackie still inspires ... By Els Smit



Jackie viewing a Flower Mart display titled “An Evening in Vienna” 1961.

Jacqueline Kennedy wearing a pillbox hat at Flower Mart, May 5, 1961—the first time that Austria was an honored country of the Mart. A photograph on our website of Mrs. Kennedy in a pillbox hat prompted Els Smit to contact All Hallows Guild. Mrs. Smit is a Dutch royalty journalist and author of best selling reference book *Dutch Royal Fashion*. Please visit her website: www.royalglitter.com. We knew she had some interesting things to say—her story begins now.

It was 50 years ago that Austria was the honored country of Flower Mart. It has also been 50 years since First Lady Jackie Kennedy cut the ribbon to open the event. For this occasion, on the 5th of May 1961, Jackie wore a kind of hat which was to become one of her trademarks: *the pillbox*. It had already caused a minor revolution in *hat-land* a few months earlier. On January 20 John Kennedy was inaugurated as the 35th president of the United States. In his speech he beseeched his fellow Americans: “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.” Jackie silently gave America then and there a fashion identity including a pillbox hat (worn at the inauguration). It wasn’t the choice of this particular hat that was groundbreaking.

Pillboxes had been around for quite a while. It was the way she wore it: at the back of her head.

For Jackie herself this probably wasn’t the result of great inner thought and deliberation. It is said she didn’t like hats. Still she was obliged to wear them, especially after she became the wife of Senator, later President John Kennedy. It seems that in an effort to compromise she put the unwanted hats at the back of her head; *all of them*. Berets, slouch hats, even her bridal veil and consequently: pillbox hats. Up until then there had only been one correct way of wearing these small boxlike hats: tilted on the forehead (as Greta Garbo did and as empress Michiko of Japan still does). It was not particularly a *Jackie Hat* yet.... but things were about to change.

In 1959 French haute couturiers like Cristóbal Balenciaga, Yves Saint Laurent and Hubert de Givenchy launched a new, bigger version of the pillbox—worn on the forehead as ever, of course. But Jackie, who was fond of European fashion, in particular Givenchy, must have been inspired.

In no time, women all over the world, especially royal ladies, were inspired by Jackie. Empress Farah Pahlavi of Iran, Queen Sirikit of Thailand, Princess Paola of Belgium all wore the new big pillboxes and they all wore them *à la Jackie*. Fifty years later, princesses still do. To name a few: Mette-Marit of Norway and the Princesses Máxima and Aimée of The Netherlands. And the Belgian Princess Astrid, who happens to be the wife of Archduke Lorenz, a grandson of Zita, the last empress of ... Austria.



Princess Astrid

Again, Flower Mart, during its 73 years, is entwined with history.

Medlar Tarts, Nibbling 'Round the Past by Jeff Sypeck



**On the Wall—Bishop's Garden
Harvesting the medlar in December
Insert—picked fruit**

The medlar in the Bishop's Garden spends the winter leafless and bleak. In summer, the tree hides behind bright perennials; people stroll past it in search of more glorious sights. Even so, the medlar is remarkable, not only because of its presence in poetry as far back as Chaucer, but also because it helps us understand how the past tasted.

According to medlar lore, the fruit cries out for plucking when its leaves begin to fall, but this medlar's leaves were still green in December, long after nearby trees were bare. Medlars, you see, are stubborn—as are their fruit. After picking, the fruit must be “bletted,” or ripened, in a cool, dry place. Weeks later, they shrivel into homeliness but become, finally, edible.



Just before Christmas, we harvested ten pounds of fruit, much of it lost weeks later to a fine white mold. If the tree itself is temperamental, its fruit is even fussier.

Left with plenty of edible medlars, my friend Diane Van Yuga and I found a recipe in the 1596 book *The Good Housewife's Jewell*:

To make a Tarte of Medlers. Take medlers that be rotten, and stamp them, and set them on a chafing dish and coales, and beate in two yolkes of egges boyling it till it be somewhat thick, then season them with suger, sinamon, and ginger, and lay it in a paste.

And so we began to peel. After losing its skin and seeds, the typical medlar provides, frustratingly, less than a teaspoon of orangey goo. After three tiring hours, we found ourselves staring at a mere 3/4 of a cup, which we simmered with one egg yolk, 1/8 cup of sugar, 1/8 tsp ginger, and 1/4 tsp cinnamon.

A veteran baker, Diane adapted an Elizabethan recipe to make a shell from whole wheat pastry flour, sugar, butter, eggs, baking powder, and salt, with egg whites for glazing. With their dull beige filling, our three tarts were hardly the prettiest pastries we've seen—but they tasted fine, like a mixture of apples and plums.

Few people living have tasted a medlar tart, but our predecessors rarely did either; recipes that call for peeled medlars suggest rare luxury. The fruit can be boiled into jelly, but medieval people probably just ate the fruit individually—still the best way to experience its unique, applesauce-like flavor.

This winter, I marveled at the wine-like aroma of a room full of bletting medlars, a strange, subtle scent from the past. We fumble with this fruit, but Europeans once knew how to blett it to mottled perfection. Now a novelty, the medlar also challenges the history-minded gardener: It reminds us how much we've forgotten.

Note: Jeff Sypeck, a 16-year Cleveland Park resident, teaches medieval literature at the University of Maryland University College and is the author of the 2006 book *Becoming Charlemagne*. Our thanks to the author.



A Tasty Medlar Tart



**You are Cordially Invited
To Attend and Bring Your Treasure
Flower Mart 2011's White Elephant Collection Coffee
Thursday, April 7, 2011; anytime 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.
At the home of Ruthanna Weber
For An Invitation: Mrs. Semans 301 320-4095 (daytime only, please)**

Guild Project Nominated for National Award

Woods Walks 2011

Thursday, April 28, 2011—10 A.M.

Rain date: May 5, 10 A.M.

The History and Folklore of Flowers.

Leader: Annette Lasley, wildflower specialist. How did wildflowers get their names? This Walk will focus on identifying wildflowers and their natural history, religious symbolism and folklore.

Wednesday, May 18, 2011—10 A.M.

Spring Color With Trees, Shrubs, and Wildflowers.

This Walk will feature native plants in the Olmsted Woods and All Hallows Amphitheater, such as: American Serviceberry, Spicebush, Dogwood, Azalea, Viburnum and spring ephemerals. Come stroll with Cathedral Horticultural Manager Deanne Eversmeyer and enjoy the greening of a native landscape.

Garden Tours

Group guided tours of the three-acre Bishop's Garden at Washington National Cathedral led by All Hallows Guild docents are being scheduled for **April 1 through October 31**. Self-guided tour brochures are available at the Herb Cottage, located on the South Road of the Cathedral Close, just off Wisconsin Avenue. Underground parking is available. Interested in joining the Docent Program or reserving a group tour? 202 537-2304.

Two guided Bishop's Garden tours have been added to the upcoming Tour & Tea Program schedule.

These tours on Tuesdays, **May 17 and May 24**, will precede a catered tea in the tower. Reservations are needed. For more information or to make a reservation, you may go online: www.tea.cathedral.org, or you may phone Melissa Isbister at: 202 537-8993.

Yes, that's right! The All Hallows Guild Olmsted Woods Restoration Project and All Hallows Amphitheater have been nominated for the 2011 National Preservation Awards of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Each year, the Trust solicits nominations for awards given to individuals, organizations, agencies or projects completed within the past three years.

As readers will recall, the Guild focused for a decade on this cutting edge project which restored the Olmsted Woods and realized a beautiful outdoor amphitheater in keeping with Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.'s, original plans. Now, thanks to the project, the woodland --which serves as an entrée to the Cathedral experience --is healthy. And the once steep and neglected hillside adjoining it has been transformed into a beautiful space of curved stone walls and grass walkways -- offering a welcome gathering spot for worship, contemplation and performance.

A little more than a decade ago, restoration specialist Biohabitats told the Guild that the woodlands was "in danger of extinction," prompting the Guild's hardy band of volunteers to undertake the longest and most ambitious fundraising and landscape project in its history.

Both during and after, the project has garnered an array of accolades. The American Horticultural Society gave project consultant, Andropogon Associates, the Design Award for "creating designs and programs that integrate ecology and horticulture." The American Society of Landscape Architects – Potomac Chapter presented the Merit Award to Michael Vergason Landscape Architects for the amphitheater design. The National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs awarded the project its "Superior Community Project" three times. *The Washington Post* heralded the project as "Washington's natural cathedral," noting its eco-engineering has been "studied and emulated by urban woodland restorers from around the

Continued next page



Michael Vergason , Designer of the Amphitheatre, talks about the project
Photo by Peggy Stewart

Guild Project Nominated for National Award (continued)

country.” And *The Northwest Current* lauded the project for “saving the woods” and highlighting a “refuge that ... many Northwest residents did not even know existed.”

We’re most pleased to report that some very special friends have offered letters of recommendation in support of the awards nomination. Davis Kennedy, editor and publisher of *The Northwest Current*, wrote, as did renowned garden designer Sally Boasberg and Stephen P. Gill, grandson of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. In his eloquent letter to the Awards Committee, Mr. Gill wrote: “This beautiful and amazing project... is a miracle of restoration of the vision and plan of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., my grandfather. ... [My wife’s and my] initial tour of the property was discouraging, however, since we have worked on so many public and personal restoration projects, we could envision a radical improvement. We decided to make a grant. After doing so, we visited a number of times, each time finding the work excellent and each improvement significantly better than the last. Along with many other individuals and organizations, we made additional grants and were rewarded, upon completion of the amphitheater, with an exceptionally important and magnificent contribution to the life of the community and tribute to the vision of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.”

Award winners will be announced in October at the 2011 National Trust annual conference in Buffalo, NY—a city graced with an extensive system of Olmsted-designed parks and parkways. We know the competition is tough. But we’re honored indeed to receive this important nomination.

‘A Rose By Any Other Name Would Smell as Sweet’



William Shakespeare had it right. There are many different names for roses, but my, how sweet they smell on a June evening. Some of the Bishop’s Garden’s rose names: ‘Chinatown’, ‘Margaret Merrill’, ‘Queen Elizabeth’, ‘Chicago Peace’, ‘Double Delight’, ‘King’s Ransom’, ‘Peace’ (given by Haile Selassie, Ethiopia’s Regent—1930-1974) and ‘Mr. Lincoln’. The roses at left are called Graham Thomas (named after a famous rosarian); their class is David Austin Rose. These blooms are an exceptionally beautiful pure yellow with a pleasant *tea fragrance*.

Thousands of visitors each year come to the Bishop’s Garden and are delighted with the medieval artifacts, the beauty of the plantings and roses, and the sense of tranquility that only a “garden for the ages” can inspire.

Please come and experience for yourself. Group tours are available by reservation, call: 202 537-2304 or online: www.allhallowsguild.org

Bishop’s Garden, Spring 2010

For Creative Volunteers, It is *Child’s Play*



Mother–Daughter Puppeteers, Cathie Jones (center); daughter, Mary Catherine Thompson and ‘William Tell’ performing.

The All Hallows Puppeteers

Betty Gordon’s Puppet Company has been delighting young and old at Flower Mart for more than 35 years. Betty tells us that when they first started, a sock with eyes and pipe cleaners for arms, were their figures. The puppets have developed into wonderful characters, elaborately dressed and individually unique. Each one was created by Betty and her friends. The first shows were held outside Bethlehem Chapel; after they performed in many different locations in the Cathedral.

This year’s show at Flower Mart will feature “Rumpy” in the favorite Austrian fable *Rumpelstiltskin*. They will be performing with two morning shows at 10 and 11 and three afternoon shows at 1, 2, and 3. (Their little clientele need to be home for naptime).

Continued on pg. 8

“Forecourt” and “Memory Garden” Part of the Bishop’s Garden Revitalization and Renewal 2011

Though the Bishop’s Garden was completed in 1926, there have since been many additions, changes and renewals of existing garden areas. Following the devastating storms of Winter 2010, the Garden Committee together with Joe Luebke, Director of Horticulture, assessed the damage and appraised what work would be needed to restore the garden to health and beauty. In addition, years of growth had blurred the shape of the planted areas and obscured the designs of some parts of the garden. Many old boxwoods had to be cut down and replacements were planted. Michael Vergason and his associate, Brooke Cash, of Michael Vergason Landscape Architects were asked to give us a proposal to restore the garden’s design. Along with extra pruning and replanting to retain or enhance garden lines and vistas, two areas were identified for more extensive renovation. On March 9, the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the P.E.C.F. gave concept approval to the preliminary design for the “Memory Garden” area and Garden Committee continues to review and refine the plans. Do check www.allhallowsguild.org through the coming summer and fall months to see the plans unfold and then watch the progress. Though plans will continue to be altered and improved, we have an exciting concept for revitalization to enhance the glory of the medieval Bishop’s Garden.



Two Areas Identified in the Proposal:

Area #1—called “the forecourt” (for lack of another word) borders Pilgrim Road. This largely lawn area needs to have its own distinction and proposed plantings would soften while partially blocking the view of cars. A natural, not sheared, hedge of suggested plants, like: Podocarpus, Taxus, Amsonia and Ilex glabra are contained in the plan.

← **Area #2**—once called the “Memory Garden,” is a tucked-away small area in the upper, northeast corner of the garden. Surrounded by storm-damaged boxwood, it had been hidden from view but is now exposed and bare. Walls framing the space on two sides are of mixed, somewhat patched stone and are uninviting. Our hope is to create a welcoming area available for rest and quiet contemplation with rustic stonework softened by natural, shade-loving plants.



ALL HALLOWS HERALD

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Meet Rumpy at Flower Mart

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To

For Creative Volunteers—It is *Child's Play* (continued from page 6)

Come meet this delightful character (see above), Betty and friends at Flower Mart. They will be in Bethlehem Chapel both days of the Mart and there is a “meet the puppets” time after the shows.



Kathy's Bags (KV Designs)—For Sale now in the Herb Cottage

Kathy Vetter—Dedicated Cathedral Volunteer

Kathy Vetter's nimble fingers have created another of her KV Design products that tickle the senses and make customers smile. This time it is a bright handmade bag boasting all-cotton materials decorated with beguiling animal/bird figures and a small identical bag tied to the corner strap. It is the sort of bag that moms would love and little girls adore. Each bag has a different original design. The price for this 2-for-1 small tote is \$14.95. Kathy has volunteered both her time and materials for the bags.

A Tea-and-Tour veteran volunteer, Kathy is also a member of the Cathedral's Washington Committee and assists with Herb Cottage activities. Her carefully crafted products have been a sellout item every time she has offered them at the Herb Cottage.