

## Zweygardt's, Boyajian's art featured in Sculpture Barn Outdoor/Indoor Invitational Exhibition

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What happens in life that informs an artist when he sculpts or paints? What does the artist see, touch, notice and feel? How do his palette, patina, and/or principles evolve in ever changing times? Sculpture Barn's presents a three-dimensional statement of just what today's global community needs. "Life: Celebrating Renewal in Changing Times," an invitational exhibition, of world-class sculptures, both outdoors in the four-acre Sculpture Field and in the Barn's 3,000-square-foot Gallery. The show is open through Sunday, Sept. 27, Wednesdays - Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. with an opening reception on Sunday, July 12 from 3-6 p.m., free to the public, rain or shine. This summer's invitational exhibition is the largest collection of sculptures ever spread throughout Sculpture Barn's rural landscape. "Life" features two-dozen, garden-sized to monumental abstract works that vary in medium and method: from Glenn Zweygardt's stone and cast glass totems, J. Pindyke Miller's abstract aluminum sculptures, John Ferguson's painted steel pieces to the massive steel and stainless steel pieces by David Gelfman, Jim Felice and Master Sculptor David Boyajian, AU class of 1980, who founded the Western Connecticut fine art centers six years ago with his partner Carter. Sharon Wandel continues to be represented by her award-winning bronze bird forms. Boyajian chose these artists based on their shared beliefs in community, place and the aesthetics of changing times. Spanning decades, the exhibition provides a unique overview of a "school" of artistic thought that remains relevant today. Ever expanding the Sculpture Barn's hands on approach to bringing artists, collectors and the public together, the Boyajian's build their portfolio, by representing this select group of artists whose work complements today's palettes, patinas, and views of "Life." Featured on the walls in the Gallery, Manhattan artist Richard Pitts' exuberant oils-on-canvas, and woodcuts assembled on wood, will complement this collaboration of renewal: re-think, re-visit, re-emerge. Pitts, based in Manhattan, explores abstract expressionism, the shaped canvases of Stella, Third World art, and Japanese woodcuts and caricatures with fervent passion. Richard Pitts dramatic work sets the stage for small sculptures by the outdoor exhibiting artists in the spacious sculpture gallery. Boyajian puts it succinctly in his self-manifesto about creative energy tempered by change. "Creative energy," he says, "is about growth, about acceptance of self, and about transformation. The idea is to be open to the concept of the journey and to be able to travel an unfamiliar path without resisting the opportunities that lie ahead. Though perceived as difficult, change holds the promise of renewal". Sculpture Barn, a self-supporting Art Center located at 3 Milltown Road (at Rt. 39) in New Fairfield, CT on the Danbury town line, is dedicated to fostering dialog between contemporary artists, collectors, and the public through exhibitions, classes, and events. For more information, call 203.746.6101 or visit [www.sculpturebarn.com](http://www.sculpturebarn.com) <<http://www.sculpturebarn.com>> Zweygardt, a resident of Alfred Station, NY, is professor emeritus of Alfred University works with bronze, glass, stone and steel to accomplish extraordinary, symbiotic "constructs." His "Liminal Gateway," a major highlight of Sculpture Barn's outdoor spread, entices one to enter, to move forward with strength, but with a succinct lightness. He taught sculpture at Alfred University from 1969 to 2007, being promoted to full professor in 1985. His work can be seen in permanent collections throughout the United States and abroad: at Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, New Jersey; Polk Museum of Art in Lakeland, Florida; the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana; and the Heubey Fine Arts Academy in Wuhan, China. J. Pindyck Miller, a resident of Brewster, NY, is a self-billed constructionist, a sensation-sculptor who seeks to create a "presence that shares a space." His aluminum wind sculpture, a central element of Sculpture Barn's unique outdoor retrospective, enjoys the sense of movement that recalls the spirit of the Wright Brothers or Robert Fulton or Eli Whitney. Movement is ever timely, by its nature. His work has been seen at Storm King Art Center, the Katonah Museum, and is included in the PepsiCo Collection in Purchase, NY. He loves machines, the people who made them, and the romanticism of their practical visions. John Ferguson, a resident of Baltimore, MD, believes in, seeks, and portrays balance. What a concept in these changing times. Wouldn't it be the perfect artistic statement to see his bright red, acrylic lacquered steel sculptures on the White House lawns? David Gelfman is a lifelong resident of Ridgefield, CT and believes that living next to a gravel quarry had much to do with establishing his ongoing infatuation with machinery. His star series' portals, flame cut out of plate steel and bolted, reflect our need for an iconic heritage as we move ever faster into the 21st century. His works have appeared at the Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, the Katonah Museum, and at the Wooster School; his one of a kind furniture pieces at Archetype and Syncromesh, both galleries in New York. Gelfman's work underscores our sense of time, "being in the now," and knowing there is that mysterious universe, a machine we have yet to fathom. From Ridgefield, CT, Jim Felice's steel "Smokestacks," purposefully created as "urban rust" add a gladiator presence

to Sculpture Barn's field. His aim to attack the surface exemplifies industry under siege. Felice well known for using auto body skills to create his own sculptures also restores works by such artists as Alexander Calder, Roy Lichtenstein, Alexander Liberman, Henry Moore, Louise Nevelson, Claes Oldenburg, and Joel Shapiro. He has exhibited at the Stamford Museum and Nature Center, Silvermine Guild Galleries, and the Northern Westchester Center for the Arts (where he received the "Award of Excellence in Sculpture in 2000). David Boyajian, Co-Founder of Sculpture Barn has the advantage of his studios being located at his venue. His large-scale steel sculptures of graceful sweeping curves amid complex seed forms seem to grow out of the landscape they were designed at and for. The former Director of Sculpture Studies at Silvermine School of Art in New Canaan, CT has built an unusual legacy by representing the work of his contemporaries within his own milieu. An award-winning sculptor Boyajian has been won dozens of commission projects both public and corporate and has exhibited extensively at museums and sculpture parks such as Fordham University at Lincoln Center in NYC. Albright Knox Museum, Buffalo, NY., The National Academy, NYC., and at Chesterwood, Stockbridge, MA., to name a few. Sharon Wandel, based in Croton-on-Hudson, NY, is a longtime Sculptors Guild member who joins poetry and nature with the metaphorical and realistic in her bold, but delicate bronze sculptures. Her work often embodies the universal symbolism of freedom - the bird. Elected to the National Academy of Design, she has always enjoyed creative adventure that inspires her work; for example, a unique opportunity to show in Japan, study the language, study the culture, and interpret the experience in her art and expression.