

Other GRACE News

The GRACE Gallery at the Old Firehouse
GRACE Selections

January 20 – March 20

Gayleen Aiken - Paintings and Drawings

March 20- May 20

GRACE Selections

May 20 – July 20

Dot Kibbee and Merrill Densmore

July 20 - September 20

GRACE Selections and Neil Marshon

September 20 - November 20

Annual Holiday Show (and sale)

November 20 - January 20, 2003

*GRACE artists are currently represented by Berenberg
Gallery, Boston and The Viewing Room, NYC*



*"Untitled"
acrylic on board
24" x 16"*

Release of new publication

States of GRACE

This 32-page publication presents the scope of the GRACE program and is filled with black & white images of artists, art work, exhibitions, workshops and features a "gallery" of sixteen full color reproductions of GRACE artists' work.

"States of GRACE" Publication

Price: \$10.00 + \$3.00 Shipping

Moonlight and Music:

The Enchanted World of Gayleen Aiken

The 1997 Abrams release, co-authored by Rachel Klein and Gayleen Aiken, with an introduction by Don Sunseri, is available through GRACE. The book explores the many faceted world of Gayleen Aiken through her art work and writing—32 pages 8 1/2 x 9 1/4 inches, 24 illustrations in full color.

Price: \$14.95

Shipping and Handling Charges:

1-4 Copies \$4.00 for 1st copy

\$2.00 for each additional copy, 5 or more copies 6% of order total

GRACE Art Work, Books, Postcards, Videotapes and Catalogs Available. Please call us or check our website (www.graceart.org) for a complete listing of items for sale. We accept visa, mastercard, American Express or check.

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GRACE

Grass Roots Art & Community Effort

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GRACE News

Grass Roots Art & Community Efforts


Spring 2002

GRACE is a non-profit organization dedicated to cultivating the artistic voices in the region.

Artist Spotlight

Merrill Densmore was born in the mid-40's and raised in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. Merrill started to paint by using "paint by numbers" and drawing with crayons. He has been using acrylic paint and working with the GRACE program since 1994. Merrill works independently at home and travels to GRACE once a month for a one-on-one critique. He occasionally attends the GRACE workshop at "Our Drop-in Center" in Newport.

Merrill's work has been exhibited in numerous shows in Vermont as well as outside the region.

One of his favorite subjects is the Vermont landscape. Merrill uses bold color patterns to fill his paintings with clouds, mountains, moose, cows and familiar buildings. Merrill is a prolific painter who continues to express his highly personal vision in a truly individual manner. 



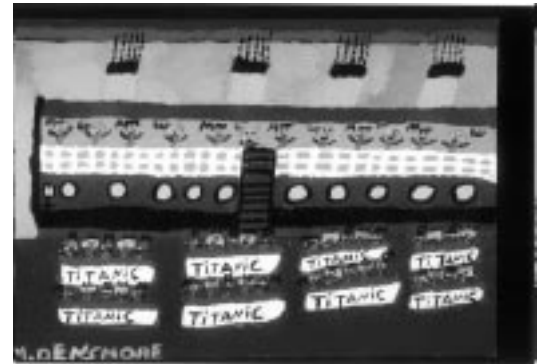
Merrill Densmore



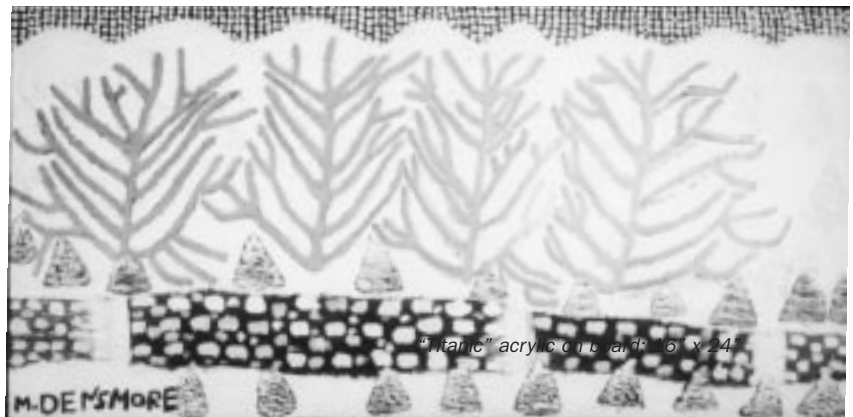
"Bear" acrylic on board; 16" x 24"



"untitled" acrylic on board; 24" x 16"



"Titanic" acrylic on board; 24" x 16"



"Trees in Winter" acrylic on board; 24" x 48"

Look for more of Merrill's artwork on the back page.



GRACE's Program Travels to Ireland

In May, Michael and I had the pleasure of traveling to Dublin, Ireland to conduct a week-long training program at Tallaght Community Arts Centre (TCAC). The Art Centre hosted a Disability Arts Week in conjunction with The South Dublin County Council and the Irish Arts Council. The week-long program included GRACE training (master classes) for artists/facilitators and a series of five art making workshops for individuals with disabilities. Twelve pre-selected artists participated in the morning sessions, and the afternoon workshops included up to thirty individuals from various residential and day centers. An exhibition - Six Artists from GRACE - was on view at TCAC's gallery from May 13-24 and will travel to three additional sites in Ireland. The following week we traveled to the west coast of Ireland and presented a GRACE slide lecture at Castlebar Art Centre.

Tom Meskeil - an artist from Dublin Ireland - introduced the GRACE program to his colleagues at TCAC who proposed a collaborative project. Tom spent three months in residence with us in 1998 becoming familiar with GRACE as a model for community based arts programming. His residency included visiting our workshop sites, working with individual artists, and assisting with community exhibitions. Upon returning to Ireland he undertook a project working with individuals with special needs in sheltered housing settings. Tom assisted us during our week's residency and he and his family served as our gracious hosts while we were in Dublin.

"Community arts" in Ireland is gaining more recognition and is becoming an important part of the country's social fabric. We were extremely impressed with the artist/facilitators we worked with during Disability Week and inspired by their great work in the community! To date, very few sustainable long-term art programs have been initiated with people with disabilities in Ireland. Most community art projects are short-term, and are based on specific goals and/or the resulting "product". We were asked to conduct this training because of the unique GRACE working method, which is a non-teaching approach and focuses on the process of long-term artistic development. We look forward to furthering the partnerships we made during our residency, and following the progress of community art projects throughout Ireland. For more information on this project, visit our website (www.graceart.org) or go to (<http://communities.msn.com/artfacilitatorsireland>).

— Carol Putnam



The above photos were taken at Tallaght Community Arts Centre, Dublin, Ireland, May 2002

TOP: Exhibition Opening

MIDDLE: Artist Participants/Workshop

BOTTOM: Art Facilitators and Participants

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR MISSION BY
SENDING YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!



Fundraising Update

We would like to thank all those who have made a contribution to GRACE during the past year. Contributed income (grants and donations) comprises more than 55% of our annual operating budget each year and directly impacts our programming - community workshops, exhibitions and special projects. Thank you for your ongoing support!

\$5,000 and more

The Preservation Trust of Vermont
Northfield Savings Bank Foundation
The Vermont Arts Council

\$2,500 to \$5,000

The Vermont Community Foundation
OP and WE Edwards Foundation
The National Endowment for the Humanities
The State of Vermont Cultural Facilities Fund
Individual Donor (1)

\$1,000 to \$2,500

The Crevoshay Family
Downs Rachlin and Martin Fund
Flek, Inc.*
Cindy Gagnon, CPA*
Marshall Frankel Foundation
Individual Donors (4)

\$500 to \$1,000

Anonymous Family Foundation
Anne Slade Frey Charitable Trust
The Lyman Orton Fund
Individual Donors (8)

\$500 and less

Individual Donors (150)
Very Special Arts of Vermont
Greensboro Nursing Home
Howard Community Services
Concept II Fund
Bourne's Inc
Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance
Town of Greensboro Recreation Committee

* *in-kind donation*



Recent and Upcoming GRACE Exhibitions...

Vermont Granite Museum, Barre, VT ~ Works by Gayleen Aiken (The Granite Industry) ~ **June 2001-March 2002**

Springfield College, St. Johnsbury, VT ~ GRACE Selections ~ **October 2001**

Union Station, Burlington, VT ~ Artists of Howard Community Services ~ **October 2001**

Cooper Union, New York, NY (NARSAD) ~ Works by Merrill Densmore and Gayleen Aiken ~ **January 2002**

The Outsider Art Show, New York, NY ~ GRACE Selections ~ **January 2002**

Northeast Kingdom Human Service, St. Johnsbury, VT ~ Densmore and Kibbee ~ **February 2002**

St. John's Community Center, Washington, DC ~ GRACE Selections ~ **March 2002**

Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital, Schenectady, NY ~ Densmore & Aiken ~ **May 2002**

Tallaght Art Centre, Dublin, Ireland ~ Six GRACE Artists ~ **May 11 - 24, 2002**

South Dublin County Council ~ Six GRACE Artists **May 27 - June 15, 2002**

Tamarack Gallery, Craftsbury, VT ~ GRACE Selections ~ **May 24 ~ June 20, 2002**

Studio Place Arts, Barre, VT ~ Signals & Messages ~ **September 2002**

In Remembrance Don Sunseri, GRACE Founder

May 8, 1939 - July 19, 2001

"The arts are fragile and difficult to sustain, especially in the rocky soil of northern New England. We can help to ensure the longevity of the legacy that Don and others leave us, through our renewed commitment to all that they represent".

— Jay Craven, film director, founder Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury, Vermont

