

PECONIC LAND TRUST



For Immediate Release

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PECONIC LAND TRUST TO HOST PLEIN AIR PECONIC ARTIST EXHIBITION AT THE ART GALLERY AT QUOGUE LIBRARY DURING MONTH OF MAY

*A collaboration between Artists and the **Peconic Land Trust**, an opening reception on May 3 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm will feature a presentation by Trust President John v.H. Halsey and painter Gordon Matheson on the Trust/Artist Connection*

April 18, 2008. Southampton, NY. The Peconic Land Trust is proud to announce the opening of its latest traveling exhibition of Plein Air Peconic on Friday, May 2, 2008 at The Art Gallery at Quogue Library in the Village of Quogue. The opening reception, set for Saturday, May 3 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, will include many of the artists participating in the exhibition, along with a presentation by Trust President John v.H. Halsey and painter Gordon Matheson on the Trust/Artist Connection. A reception will accompany the presentation. The exhibit will run through May 29, 2008.

“The artists participating in Plein Air Peconic events donate a portion of the sale from their work on display to the Peconic Land Trust, which is extremely generous. Of even more value to the Trust, is the attention this collaboration brings to our conservation work – the artists are in essence volunteer field ambassadors for land conservation. We

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look forward to continuing our association with these dedicated artists in order to help keep the East End the beautiful place it is today,” said Halsey.

Since 1983, the Peconic Land Trust has worked to conserve Long Island’s working farms, natural lands, and heritage. To date, the Peconic Land Trust’s work with landowners, communities and municipalities has resulted in the conservation of nearly 9,000 acres of land, including more than 5,000 acres of farmland, miles of hiking trails, and over 3,000 acres of preserves and natural land that provide protection and sustainability for watersheds, ocean fronts, wildlife habitats, and scenic vistas.

The Trust, a nonprofit organization, raises funds for operating and conservation projects primarily through donations from the public. The work presented by Plein Air Peconic was created through the seasons of 2006, 2007 and early 2008. The artists secured access through the Trust to many conserved landscapes, including: Reel Point, Quail Hill Farm, Quogue Preserve, East Point Preserve, Dam Pond, Berglund marshes, Scallop Pond, and Reeve Farm to mention just a few.

Artists participating in the Quogue exhibition are: Casey Chalem Anderson, Susan D’Alessio, Terry Elkins, Aubrey Grainger, Gail Kern, Michele Margit, Gordon Matheson, Joanne Rosko, Eileen Dawn Skretch, Tom Steele, Kathryn Szoka, and Ellen Watson.

About Plein Air Peconic

The twelve artists in this exhibition share a passion for the landscape. Working throughout the year, the painters and photographers of Plein Air Peconic produce dramatic representations of the beautiful landscapes conserved by landowners with the assistance of the Peconic Land Trust.

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The first Plein Air Peconic exhibition was held in October 2006 at Ashawagh Hall in East Hampton—with over 100 paintings and photographs on display. Beginning in 2007, the Trust and the artists agreed to create a “traveling” version—taking the work on the road and bringing it into communities throughout the East End (and hopefully beyond). In 2007, the show was in Southampton, Greenport, Riverhead, East Hampton, and Hampton Bays. In 2008, exhibitions are scheduled for Quogue, Sag Harbor, Springs, and Shelter Island.

The sites represented in Plein Air Peconic feature properties in all five of the East End Towns and include working farms, oceanfront properties, woodlands, bayfronts, meadows, and dunes. In recognition of the work the Trust does to protect these beautiful East End vistas, the artists of Plein Air Peconic donate a portion of all sales to the Peconic Land Trust for land protection and stewardship programs.

About the Peconic Land Trust

The Peconic Land Trust was established in 1983 to conserve Long Island's working farms and natural lands. Since its inception, the nonprofit Trust has worked conscientiously with farmers, donors, municipalities, and other landowners to conserve nearly 9,000 acres of land on Long Island. The Trust's professional staff carries out the necessary research and planning to identify and implement alternatives to outright development. While working to conserve the productive farms, watersheds, woodlands, and beachfront of Long Island, the Trust is also protecting the unique rural heritage and natural resources of the region.

During 2008, the Peconic Land Trust will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary of

conserving Long Island's working farms, natural lands, and heritage for our communities now and in the future. The Trust has Stewardship Centers in Cutchogue and Amagansett and its Main Office is in Southampton. *A common misperception, however, is that the Peconic Land Trust is the recipient of the monies raised through the Peconic Bay Region Community Preservation Fund (also referred to as the 2% land transfer tax or the Peconic Land Tax). This is NOT the case. The CPF tax is collected by Suffolk County and then redistributed to the five East End towns, the distribution of which is based on the location of the property from which the tax is acquired.* For more information about the Peconic Land Trust visit www.peconiclandtrust.org or call 631.283.3195.

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