

PECONIC LAND TRUST



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For Immediate Release

Plein Air Peconic
presents
“Open Spaces”

At Ashawagh Hall in Springs East Hampton

April 11, 2008. Southampton, NY. Plein Air Peconic, the twelve member artist group dedicated to helping the **Peconic Land Trust** conserve the natural beauty of the East End presents **“Open Spaces”**; an exhibition and sale of landscape paintings and photographs at Ashawagh Hall, Fireplace Road and Old Stone Highway, in Springs/ East Hampton April 25-27, 2008. The public is invited to a wine and cheese reception on Saturday April 26 5:00-8:00pm. Ashawagh Hall is open Friday 4:30-6:30 pm, Saturday 10-8pm and Sunday 10-5pm.

By painting and photographing images of conserved land and other open spaces of the East End, the artists call attention to what has already been accomplished by land conservation and the continuing need to protect these vital resources from unchecked development. All the work is for sale and a percentage of all sales will be donated to the **Peconic Land Trust**.

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The participating artists of **Plein Air Peconic** are: Casey Chalem Anderson, Susan D’Alessio, Terry Elkins, Aubrey Grainger, Gail Kern, Michel 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.

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.

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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 over 8,600 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. 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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