

PECONIC LAND TRUST



For Immediate Release

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PLEIN AIR PECONIC FINDS A 2010 SUMMER HOME AT THE SOUTHAMPTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM

*A collaboration between Artists and the **Peconic Land Trust**,
the fourth season of the **Plein Air Peconic** summer exhibitions – titled **Saving our
Landscape Heritage: Painting and Photographs of the East End** -- will have an
extended program at SHHM all summer long.*

March 4, 2010. Southampton, NY. The Peconic Land Trust is proud to announce the 2010 schedule for the summer exhibition of Plein Air Peconic. An off-shoot of the popular Columbus weekend art show, the summer exhibition offers the public extended opportunities to see the work of the artists and their representations of the important natural landscapes and working farms that makes the East End a wonderful place to live and visit. This summer, the exhibition titled "*Saving our Landscape Heritage: Paintings and Photographs of the East End,*" will be proudly displayed at the Southampton

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Historical Museum, Rogers Mansion, located in the heart of Southampton Village on Meeting House Lane.

The exhibit, which will run from Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend, will include special programs that will provide the public with opportunities to meet the artists, learn about the conservation of many of the properties depicted in the show, as well as see first hand the process of plein air painting.

- **May 29: Opening Weekend Reception.** A special public reception with the artists and representatives from the Peconic Land Trust will be at the museum from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Free admission.
- **July 17: Paint Out!!** Back by popular demand, the artists of Plein Air Peconic will be painting *en plein air* on the grounds of the Southampton Historical Museum. A special display of small works by the artists will also be included. The **Paint Out** will be from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. Free admission.
- **August 12: The Intersection of Land Conservation and Art: A Special Roundtable Discussion.** A moderated roundtable led by artist Kathryn Szoka will include Trust President John v.H. Halsey, Alicia Longwell, the Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Chief Curator for the Parrish Art Museum, and fellow Plein Air Peconic artists Eileen Dawn Skretch and Gail Kern. The roundtable will be from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the Rogers Mansion and will be followed by a reception. Free admission.

The artists of Plein Air Peconic are photographers Tom Steele, Kathryn Szoka, and Ellen

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Watson; and painters Casey Chalem Anderson, Susan D'Alessio, Aubrey Grainger, Gail Kern, Gordon Matheson, Michele Margit, Joanne Rosko, and Eileen Dawn Skretch.

"Now in its fifth year, the collaboration between the artists of Plein Air Peconic and the Peconic Land Trust provides the public with a unique perspective of the natural landscapes and working farms that define the heritage and character of the East End. And this year, having a special venue for the entire summer season thanks to

Southampton Historical Museum, we have an unparalleled opportunity to illustrate the importance of land conservation in a historic context," said John v.H. Halsey, President of the Peconic Land Trust. "We are looking forward to a great summer season and remain tremendously grateful to the artists of Plein Air Peconic for their continued support of our mission."

"The hard working artists who participate in Peconic Plein Air are a regional treasure. Their fundraising efforts for the Peconic Land Trust are as remarkable as their beautiful paintings. It is the duty of everyone in our community, and our friends at large, to support their efforts to save our rapidly disappearing natural heritage," said Tom Edmunds, Executive Director, Southampton Historical Museum.

"My paintings are of places I see disappearing in my own life time due to development. They are depictions of subjects worthy of artistic, social, and environmental preservation. Participation in a show that is a collaboration with Peconic Land Trust

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and Southampton Historical Museum is just logical," said Susan D'Alessio, Plein Air Peconic artist.

Plein Air Peconic will be on display and open to the public during the museum's visiting hours: Tuesdays through Saturdays from noon to 4:00 pm. Admission during normal visiting hours is free to members of the Southampton Historical Museums and Children under 17 years of age, or \$4.00 for adults. The exhibition will be at the Rogers Mansion, located at 17 Meeting House Lane, Southampton. For more information on the Southampton Historical Museums, call 631.283.2494 or visit them online at www.southamptonhistoricalmuseum.org.

The artists of Plein Air Peconic generously donate a portion of the sales from their work to the Trust for conservation efforts. The work presented by Plein Air Peconic was created through the seasons of 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and early 2010, with the artists securing 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.

About the Southampton Historical Museum

The Southampton Historical Museum was organized in 1898 as a private, non-profit education center with the mission to "preserve and promote the history and culture of Southampton." The Museum manages five separate properties with fifteen historic structures including the Rogers Mansion, Halsey House and Pelletreau Silver Shop.

About Plein Air Peconic

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The 11 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). Since 2007, the traveling exhibition has made stops in Southampton, Greenport, Riverhead, East Hampton, Hampton Bays, Quogue, Sag Harbor, and the Springs.

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. To learn more about the artists of Plein Air Peconic, visit their website at www.pleinairpeconic.com.

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 landowners, communities, partner organizations and local government to conserve approximately 10,000 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.

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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