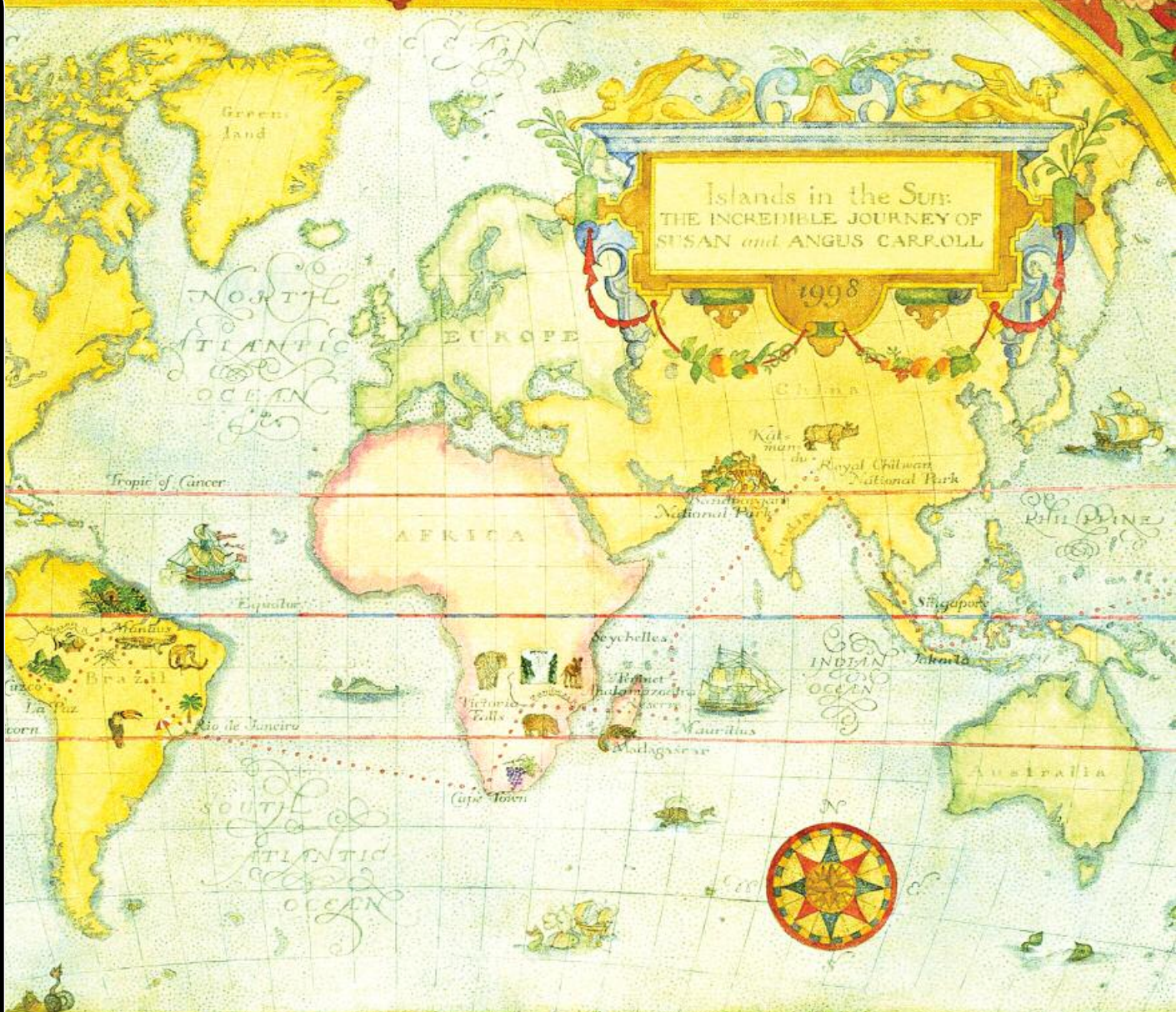


**ink**  
publications

A guide to finer living in  
Connecticut & abroad.

September 2009  
Complimentary



A WILD LIFE  
ADVENTURE

Vol 4 Issue 9  
2009

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September 1, 2009



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We encourage the public to submit stories, poems, photography, essays, and all things creative. If you know of a person or place of interest, please submit your ideas to: [submissions@ink-pub.com](mailto:submissions@ink-pub.com)  
 We will do our best to put your ideas in INK.

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**Publishers Note**

Summer is a time for adventures. Getting out and doing things you may not have ever thought you would do. Putting yourself in the moment and then finding out a little more about your own potential. We would like to encourage everyone to try something new this summer. Order that strange new dish on the menu, visit that place that you've always been "meaning to visit." Go on, live a little...

Our first feature is on an Old Saybrook institution. In it's 33 years of serving hungry shoreline residents and also first time visitors, The Cuckoo's Nest has become everything from a great place to eat, a nice relaxed environment to meet up with friends, and even a geographical reference i.e. "It's right down by the Cuckoo's Nest." A jewel on the Boston Post Road for sure.

Next, we feature another OS business in the form of SWAG. Michael Hoinsky has brought a fine little shop to Main Street. A discriminating eye fills the store with visual treasures. Take a walk in, you will indeed find that which you never knew you needed but definitely couldn't have lived without.

Then, as featured in the striking cover photo by Mary Lee Blackwell, it's Up Up and Away with Eastern Connecticut Ballon Services. We couldn't think of a better way to spend a summer afternoon then drifting past a world now foreign with the addition of say, 3,600 feet of altitude. After that we spent a day chasing after wildlife photographer Mark Lender. His Salt Marsh Diaries have been a local favorite as well one to NPR listeners. His photos and essays tell the tale of his passion for our natural friends.

East Haddams, Ray of Light Farm is our next stop. There are big hearts at work there. They have an impressive facility that really does put the animals first. If you have a young child or just enjoy being around animals, this place is for you. We end this issue in New London at the Thames Shipyard and the Wronowski Family. An intergenerational family of watermen with a rich history of moving precious cargo, both people and things, safely to their destinations.

Still and always, INK is dedicated to the enrichment of life through the arts. We aspire to bring to light the art of living. We celebrate with each month, life's journey and it's destination...  
*from all of us at Ink*

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# EO Art Lab

## *Nutrition for the Creative Mind*

By Lisa Mikulski

Art lovers who are seeking a more profound experience than the traditional New England landscape painting may find solace in the works represented at EO Art Lab in Chester, Connecticut.

Connecticut, often viewed as the seat of American Impressionism, is seeing a change in the direction of its puritanical artistic leanings. While many still enjoy the traditional landscape and still life works displayed at a milieu of galleries around the state, there are those who seek to initiate a more challenging dialogue between themselves and the art they are buying. "We opened EO [Art Lab] because we had to," explains gallerist John Schroeder, "As an architect, as well as a gallery owner, I know there is a great demand for traditional artworks in Connecticut, but we believe that there are people out there who want their brains scratched a bit more. There are people who want to be challenged a bit more by what they see."

Previously art buyers and collectors would need to venture to New York City, Boston or Providence to find abstract or modern works. EO Art Lab provides these buyers with a central location in which to find the work which speaks to their soul. Welcoming not only the seasoned collector but newcomers to the market as well, EO represents over twenty local and international artists. Works range from paintings on canvas to sculpture and photography and EO's installations change monthly. Clientele includes not only corporate clients but many from New York, Hartford and Fairfield County areas. "Our reach stretches beyond the northeast as we take the gallery on the road to important art fairs where collectors from all over the world descend to conduct their one-stop-shopping for art," says Schroeder.

EO Art Lab (meaning the source, beginning or inception) has participated in art fairs in New York City, the Hamptons, and Miami. In the near future, they plan to attend fairs in



photo by Stephanie Sittnick

Chicago and Los Angeles and are considering participating in Basel, Switzerland and London, England. John Schroeder's biggest wish, however, is to work locally with individuals and companies helping and

in contemporary art and it's definitely having a positive effect." Additionally people who have moved to Connecticut from the city demand the type of culture found in places such as New York, Boston or LA.



Philadelphia artist Heather Mae Erickson, *Dessert Compotes*, porcelain, slip cast from carved plaster models, 3.5" x 7" x 7.75", 2007.

educating them in building exciting contemporary collections. "The interest in contemporary art is growing in Connecticut as people begin to understand and appreciate how invigorating and satisfying it can be. Real Art Ways in Hartford and the Aldrich Museum in Ridgefield along with many other museums and art collectives are going to great lengths to peak the public's interest

Is it a matter of Connecticut locals not being exposed to abstract art or is there just a stubborn resistance to the "new"? This writer believes it is the former. Once exposed to the line and vibrant color of an outstanding piece of abstract work, many are forever profoundly changed. As a state with so many highly educated and sophisticated inhabitants, it is natural that a leaning toward nutrition for the creative mind is desirable. While our Connecticut homes and architecture speak to the established and traditional cozy New England scene, there is something delightful about walking into a country home and being surprised by a fabulous contemporary work of art hanging in the dining room.

We can learn from EO Art Lab's website, that John Schroeder comes from a family of art collectors and artists which influenced and



Pamela Marks, *Video Composite #6*, acrylic on canvas, 40" x 30", 2009.



photo by Jody Dole



New Hampshire artist Charlie Goodwin, Aztec, mixed media on panel, 60" x 48", 2007.



photo by Stephanie Sittnick



Connecticut photographer George Fellner, Cliff Dwellers No. 2, digital pigmented ink archival print, 12" x 18", 2008.



photo by Stephanie Sittnick



Connecticut photographer George Fellner, Fragments, digital pigmented ink archival print, 11" x 24", 2008.



photo by Stephanie Sittnick

John, like his gallery assistant Sherri Coleman, work very hard at trying to get the word out about their gallery and stable of artists. Intensive marketing and the hand selection of their extraordinary artists has resulted in a name and reputation of established excellence for EO Art Lab. John has visited hundreds of art museums and galleries throughout the United States and Europe cultivating new visions and experiences. Both John and Sherri are generally happy to share their knowledge with visitors to the gallery. Offering you a refreshment and a warm greeting, they hope that your visit will be a spiritually renewing and memorable experience.

You can visit EO Art Lab online at: [www.eoartlab.com](http://www.eoartlab.com) or befriend them on Facebook. Of course, seeing the art up close and personal is always a pleasure. You can find the gallery at:

Email: [chester@eoartlab.com](mailto:chester@eoartlab.com)  
Gallery hours:  
tue - sat 10 - 6  
sun noon - 6  
mon by chance  
other times by appointment

South Korean artist Jaehyo Lee, 0121-1110=108088, 2008, stainless steel bolts, nails, & wood, 18 x 14 x 15 inches. photo by Stephanie Sittnick



South Korean artist Jaehyo Lee, 0121-1110=108088, 2008, stainless steel bolts, nails, & wood, 18 x 14 x 15 inches. photo by Stephanie Sittnick



Minnesota artist Kelly Jean Ohl, Domestic Markings, ceramic wall sculpture, 2009