

ARTSplash 2009 Winners Announced

The Rockaway Artists Alliance celebrated the opening of ARTSplash 2009, its largest exhibition of the year, with a lively opening reception on Sunday, September 13. Judging the exhibition was Charlotte Kotik, Curator Emerita of the Department of Contemporary Art at the Brooklyn Museum. Kotik, who has organized over 100 exhibitions, was on hand to personally present the awards.

Winning ribbons were presented to Arthur Skowron for Best Oil Painting, "Untitled"; Raina Dziuk and "Self Portrait" as Best Mixed Media; and Adam McLoughlin's "Prototype" for Best Sculpture. Painter Matthew Petagna won the Merit Award for his "Crazy Cat Lady." Also awarded for Best Watercolor was Madeline Braisted and "Sunlit Visions," and Best Acrylic Painting to Penelope Atheras with "Till Next Fall." "Hide Behind Your Music" by Tommy Burke was judged Best Conceptual piece, while Best Photo went to Stephanie Schmidt with "Ocean 1," and Best Graphic Arts was awarded to Daniela Sessa and "Reflections."

Artist Yuri Yurov took top honors and Best in Show for his work "Turtles." But, according to the RAA, one final award remains to be given and that is to be decided by every visitor to ARTSplash 2009! Each gallery-goer can pick her or his favorite work and "mark your Viewer's Choice in the visitors' book," says Exhibitions spokesperson Janet Dever. The results and the winner will be announced on the final Sunday of the exhibition, October 11. Combining sculpture, photography, painting, poetry, quilt, draw-



RAA President Geoff Rawling and Exhibition Judge Charlotte Kotik with winners

ing, watercolor, mixed media and also several performance events, ARTSplash, currently showing in RAA's sTudio 7 located at Fort Tilden in the Rockaways, showcases the work of some forty-two artists.

Also, showing in sTudio 6 as a very special preview, is InkSplash, which highlights the work of eleven highly talented, international printmaking artists. InkSplash presents "the tradition of printmaking in a changing time," says artist and curator Christian Le Gars. "This will be a preview show for a larger showcase next year. InkSplash coincides with Print Week and the Print Show hosted by the International Fine Print Dealers Association."

InkSplash and ARTSplash will run from Saturday September 12 to Sunday, October 11. Admission to shows, as well as all events and parking, is free.

Gallery hours are Saturday 12-4p.m., Sunday 1-4 p.m. and by appointment. Gallery admission and all events are free, as is parking.