

September 2006

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Denmark

Finland

Iceland

Norway

Sweden



transition

Kati Casida, the Founder and Coordinator of Nordic 5 Arts, who relinquished her duties in June, and **Helene Sobol**, the new Coordinator.

Photo by John Casida

membership meeting june 11, 2006

The meeting, held at the home of Helene Sobol in San Francisco, was attended by Kati Casida, Olivia Eielson, Norma Andersen Fox, Russell Herrman, Maj-Britt Hilstrom, Dorothy McCall, Margaretha Miglo, and Helene Sobol.

Transition of Leadership Kati Casida, the Founder and Coordinator of Nordic 5 Arts, relinquished her duties after the successful completion of the latest Nordic 5 Arts sponsored exhibition, *Sensuality & Survival - New Nordic Designs 2006*, at the Atrium Gallery, 600 Townsend St., San Francisco, March 9 - April 19, 2006. Helene Sobol was the only candidate proposed as the new Coordinator and she was voted in by the members in attendance.

Thank you to Kati Casida Maj-Britt Hilstrom presented a framed certificate to Kati and thanked her for her many years of dedication to Nordic 5 Arts. On behalf of the members, Helene also thanked Kati for her vision and devotion to the organization that she founded and presented her with a paperweight in pewter by the Norwegian artist Helgi Joensen.

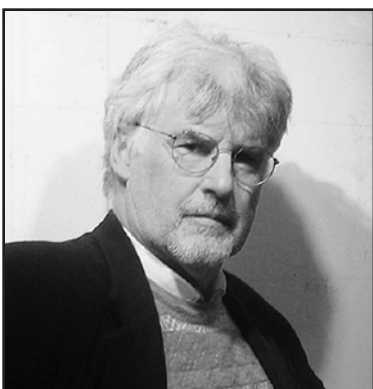
Future Plans The members present had an open discussion about future plans and there was a predominant interest in exhibitions. Maj-Britt Hillstrom offered to research an exhibition possibility in Portland, OR, and Marie-Louise Ullmark, who was not able to attend the meeting, has been in contact with Marianne Forsberg, Director of the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle, regarding the possibility of an exhibition in 2009.

Membership Meetings The members in attendance agreed to continue with semi-annual meetings as in the past and suggested that the venues of the meetings should rotate between the members.

Fall Meeting Olivia Eielson offered to host the Fall Meeting, October 22, 2-4 PM at her home in Oakland. Invitations will be sent out and all members are invited.

artists' profiles... two storytellers...

loren s. rehbock



A native San Franciscan, Loren Rehbock has resided in Berkeley for over 30 years. He descended through his father's mother from Danish ancestors who migrated from Arhus to Salt Lake City, Utah, and later to Mexico where his grandmother was born. Rehbock created Rock and Roll posters for concerts in Berkeley in the 60's and is well known for the "Peace" poster which he created in 1967 and which was included in a show of poster artists from California at the Gavle Museum in Sweden. In 1970, after completing Alternative Service, Rehbock returned to Berkeley for graduate work in art. He left Berkeley in 1975 for a year to teach Art and Art History at Hartnell College in Salinas. He worked in a live-work studio which he designed and built in West Berkeley until his move in 1993 to North Berkeley where he built a new studio behind his house. A recent body of work, the Storyteller Series, is a collection of paintings in which he expresses a literary dialogue between Canonical, Danish storytellers and himself. Rehbock reveals that he is "currently working in watercolor on a series about rivers, water and flow, as well as continuing to work from the figure, a life long interest".

elizabeth stokkebye

Stokkebye, born in North Carolina, grew up in Odense, Denmark, the city of Hans Christian Andersen. She came to Los Angeles in 1979 and moved north to Calistoga a few years ago. "I started studying art seriously in 1997... and got an A.A. in studio art and then transferred to UC Berkeley in art, but went into the Scandinavian Department instead". She later received an M.A. in Scandinavian Languages and Literature from the University of Washington in Seattle. Her show *Storytelling*, which included oil painting and stories, was shown at the Napa/Sonoma Film & Music Institute in Calistoga in 2005. "The power of stories is universal and crosses language. We can sometimes learn better by stories than by cold facts. Stories are how I learned about my culture. This is the exploration that I'm doing."

Excerpted from interview with Kathleen Dressen, NVP Services, March 10, 2005.

"I paint storytelling. I may use literary figures, fairytale figures or figures from my own family. Stories – whether fairytales, fables, legends, or parables – concern themselves with just that, and this is what I put on my canvases. Sometimes my figures are crowded by their canvases; sometimes they are stuck on a wall like the storytelling murals in the old medieval churches".

