

## Signs Of The Season

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10/10/2007

Though the weather belied it, signs of fall are everywhere on the East End and beyond! Harvest festivals, sidewalk sales, and pumpkin and apple picking abound in our villages and hamlets. No surer sign of fall are the many fabulous fetes that kicked off the season.

Here's a little sampling of the wonderful happenings we peeked in on around the area this week.

Friday evening art lovers were given a special treat with the Preview Party for the Artists Alliance of East Hampton's annual fall Studio Tour at East Hampton's wonderful Walk Tall Gallery. Both events were a resounding success with an enthusiastic attendance of tour-goers and artists alike. Walk Tall Gallery owner Wendy Wachtel told us, "This show and the studio tour reinforce the area's reputation as an artistic wealth of talent."

Packing the gallery were many of the artists on the tour and major figures on the East End art scene including Frank Sofo, Frances Alenikoff, Walter Us, Gordon Matheson, Ellen Dooley, Tom Steele, George Lombardi, Aldo Perotto, Phyllis Hammond, Gideon Stein, June Rosner, Heide Banks, Howard Lazar, Esperanza Leon, Dan Welden, Blanca Leon, Jifat Windmiller, Susan Rockford, Barbara Jarvis, Daniel Starr-Tambor, Lounah Starr, and Ted Asnis.



Kathy Kennedy, Gordon Matheson, Terry Wallace, Alec Baldwin and Casey Chalem Anderson at Plein Air Peconic II. Photo by John Wegorzewski

Saturday, just across the passage, **The Wallace Gallery presented Plein Air Peconic II, the recent paintings and photographs of the artists working with the Peconic Land Trust** to capture the natural beauty of the landscapes preserved by the Trust. Kudos to gallery owner Terry Wallace, who organized this first class display of some of our area's finest talents.



Gallery owner Terry Wallace with Alec Baldwin at Plein Air Peconic II. Photo by John Wegorzewski

The show was beautifully curated and lit to perfection, allowing even the tiniest details to be seen. The Peconic Land Trust's Rich Byers, Kathy Kennedy, and Dawn Liubenov were thrilled with the turnout that spilled out to the sidewalk and packed Park Place Passage. A portion of the sales, as is traditional with the Plein Air artists, was earmarked for the Trust and sales were plentiful with several artists selling multiple pieces! Gallery regular Alec Baldwin was on hand and graciously accepted congratulations from friends on his recent Emmy Award for his role in "30 Rock".

Wandering through the gallery's spacious rooms were Canio's Books and Plein Air artist Kathryn Szoka, Lindsay Kane and Ed Schenk, Orlando and Jane Sacasa, Carrie Clark, Peter Strugatz, Eva Saleh, Amy Gerdnic in from LA to support her pals Ellen Dooley and Tom Steele, Delia Marshall, Andrew Wargo – taking a break from his music stand at Tweed's, famed illustrator Don Duga capturing little moments he would later immortalize in watercolors, and of course the Plein Air artists Casey Chalem Anderson, Susan D'Alessio, Terry Elkins, Aubrey Grainger, Gail Kern, Scott Hewett, Michele Margit, Gordon Matheson, Joanne Rosko, Eileen Dawn Skretch, Tom Steele, Kathryn Szoka, and Ellen Watson.

According to Wallace, "This is only the second time in Long Island art history that there's been an organized group of outdoor painters – the first being Caroline Bell and the Peconic Bay Impressionists. In the tradition of William Merritt Chase and Caroline Bell, the Plein Air Peconic artists bring recognition and appreciation to these ordinary local subjects and views by painting them."