

START WITH ART

Quick Culture's Newsletter

Articles

- Editorial ...pg 1
- Costume Tour .. pg 1
- Museum Manners ... pg 1
 - Puzzle...pg 3
- Artist Studio Tour...pg 4
 - Cool Stuff...pg 4

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the premier edition of Quick Culture's Newsletter, "Start with Art". Why that moniker? Well, it's a lot shorter than "Charlotte and Ellen Take on Art" and succinctly states our credo: that art be a fundamental part of everyone's life. It is a universal language that provides and encourages a pathway of communication and expression. More importantly, we believe that art can be provocative, emotional, informative, entertaining, and fun. And, *most importantly*, accessible without an elitist attitude .

Our OpArt section this quarter was inspired by the recently closed Dali exhibit at LACMA. Aptly titled Dali: Painting and Film, this captivating exhibit explored Dali's love affair with the medium of film and gave us an animated view of his surrealism. Sadly, Dali's full body of work, which is exemplified in his museum in Figueres, Spain, never gets the same attention as this one oeuvre of his very varied creative genius. *(continued on page 2)*

ANNUAL ART OF THE MOTION PICTURE COSTUME EXHIBIT

(SPECIAL GROUP TOUR ON SAT FEB 23RD AT 2PM)



As a movie fan, you won't want to miss the costume exhibit at the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising (FIDM) Museum & Galleries. This exhibit will include costumes from the Oscar nominated films as well as other notable films from 2007. On the tour we will share with you amusing and fun facts about the movies, the stars and their costumes.

Since you are a Quick Culture friend, we are pleased to offer you a 20% discount off of regular prices. Contact us to sign up for one of the following tours;

- Join the scheduled group tour on **Saturday February 23rd at 2PM**. The fee is \$20 per person for all Quick Culture friends. (The regular price is \$25 per person)
- Pick a date and time for your own private tour. The price of a private tour for all Quick Culture friends is \$120 (the regular price is \$150). For that price you can bring along 1 to 9 of your friends.

The exhibit runs from January 28 through April 12, 2008. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 AM until 4PM .

"MUSEUM MANNERS" CLASS FOR KIDS

(CLASS ON SAT MARCH 1 FROM 11AM—2PM)

"Museum Manners" is a class for children 7 to 12 that combines museum etiquette with a one hour art appreciation tour presented by Quick Culture and a complete review of table and dining manners given by Beverly Hills Manners followed by a 5-course dining tutorial prepared by Patina Catering.

Children are prepared for their museum experience through an introduction to museum manners including: appropriate attire, voice level, pacing, self-guided tours, tours with docents (tour guides), and the no touch policy. Once they have mastered their manners, they are ready to begin the specialized art appreciation tour.

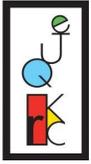


The next class is on **Saturday March 3 from 11AM - 2PM** and costs \$150 per child. The fee includes museum and meal etiquette, tour, and lunch. The class is limited to 20 children.

"Museum Manners" is presented by Quick Culture & Beverly Hills Manners. (sign up flyer) Contact us for more information.

Lisa of Beverly Hills Manners
(310) 276-9078
Beverlyhillsmanners.com

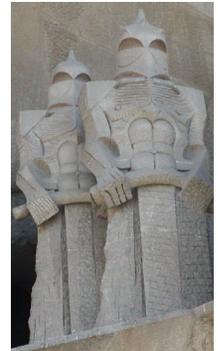
Charlotte or Ellen of Quick Culture
(310) 800-6710
Quickculture.com



EDITORIAL *continued from page 1*

In any case, Dali and his film collaborators (directors, producers, writers) did not corner the notion of creative minds being influential and being influenced by the symbiotic nature of film and art. It is such a vast subject to cover that we wish to address sci-fi genre only at this time.

This alliance is startlingly apparent when you see Gaudi's Sagrada Familia church in Barcelona, Spain. Gazing at this majestic architectural masterpiece, gives one a déjà vu feeling. Why do those sculptures at the entrance look so familiar? All of a sudden the answer is clear. Star Wars! Yes, those statues surrounding Jesus look like Darth Vader's imperial soldiers. After doing some investigative surfing on the internet, we found some interesting information. The soldiers at the entrance (Road to Crucifixion) were sculpted by Josep Subirachs in 1987.



Sagrada Familia ↑

Subirachs states that the chimneys of the architectural wonder, La Pedrera, designed by Gaudi in 1905 were the inspiration for the soldiers' design. As a tribute to Gaudi's work on Sagrada Familia, Subirachs fashioned the soldiers' likenesses on Gaudi's chimney design. (Gaudi died in 1926, long before Sagrada Familia was completed.) Upon digging further, we found that George Lucas had visited Gaudi's La Pedrera before starting the Star Wars (1977) saga, and claimed that he was inspired by the chimneys there for the design of Darth Vader and his troops. Could it be possible that both men, inspired by the same architectural detail, had the same vision...albeit one being a decade before the other?



← La Pedrera

Remember, Star Wars soldiers were designed at least ten years prior to Subirachs' completion of the entrance. we'll let you decide...Art imitating life imitating art imitating life--We're getting a headache.

What other filmmakers of Sci-fi films have used renowned artists as the genesis for their creative process?

In Figueres, Spain, we went to the Dali Museum and we were intrigued by his fluid sculpture, *Homage to Newton*, reminiscent of the shape-shifting liquid metal cyborg in Terminator 2 (1991).



Homage to Newton →



← House by the Railroad by E.Hopper

Does anyone remember the foreboding gothic Bates house from Psycho (1960)? A dead (forgive the pun) ringer of Edward Hopper's *House by the Railroad*. Taking a shower would never be the same after seeing that film.



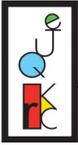
← Hygeia by G. Klimt

In costuming, there is a definite connection to art in Bram Stoker's Dracula (1992). The costume designer, Eiko, based the cloak in the end scene worn by Gary Oldman's Dracula on the works of Gustav Klimt.



Portrait of Dracula from Stoker's film →

(continued on page 3)



EDITORIAL (continued from page 2)

Other costumes and some sets were also based not only on research into Klimt's works but also the paintings of Caspar David Friedrich, Gustave Moreau and Ferdinand Khnopff. One of my personal favorites is Magritte -- and his influence is profoundly seen in *Dark City* (1998) in the black-hatted anonymous protagonists called "The Strangers" and in the entire city, suspended in the heavens, leaving one to conclude that the director is posing the question of what is illusion versus what is reality.



↑ *Golconda by Magritte*



↑ *Still from Dark City*



↑ *Ennis Brown House*

In deference to Los Angeles architecture, Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner* (1982) makes rather interesting use of George Wyman's Bradbury Building and Frank Lloyd Wright's Ennis Brown House.

Wright's 1924 Mayan-inspired concrete block house serves (in a futuristically modified form) as the home of the character Rick Deckard. Even though we are well aware that locations are constantly used in filming, what makes this notable is that Wright's Mayan ornaments are one of the clues to Deckard's discovery that he himself is a replicant since they link

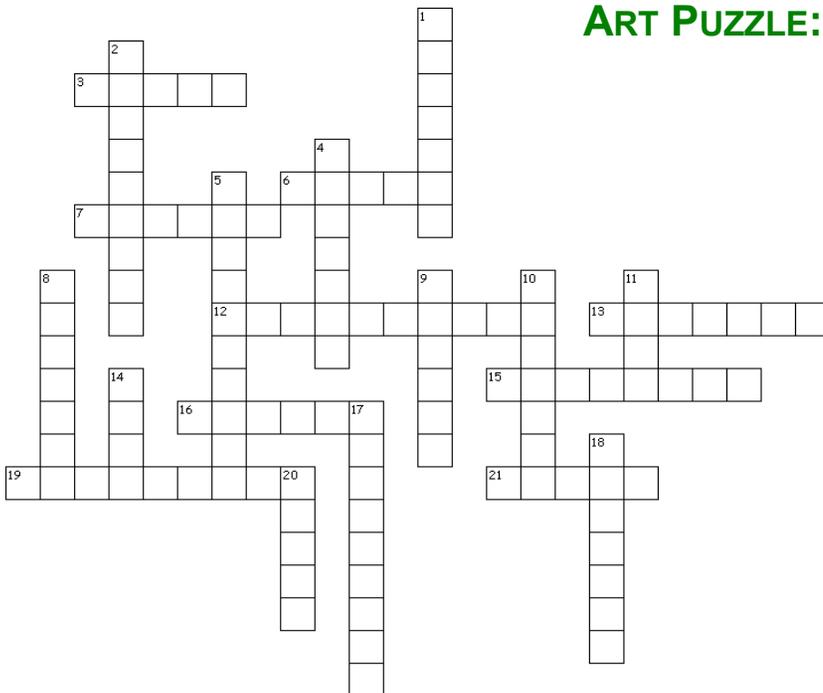


↑ *Still from Blade Runner*

his home to the Mayan-style pyramids downtown, headquarters to the company producing the replicants. The set cleverly evokes notions of pre-Columbian art as being timelessly powerful, dark, magical and mysterious.

There are many more films that deserve mention, so we will revisit this topic in future newsletters. If you have an interesting observation that you have made, please let us know!

ART PUZZLE: THEME: ARTISTS



PUZZLE CLUES

Across

- 3. Tutu
- 6. Hole-y
- 7. The Factory
- 12. Brother made molds
- 13. Starry Night
- 15. Bowler Hat
- 16. Mobiles
- 19. Action painter
- 21. Giverny

Down

- 1. Mulholland Drive
- 2. Dutch Master
- 4. Drip
- 5. Wan Women
- 8. Cut Paper
- 9. Arthritic fingers
- 10. Most prolific
- 11. Savior in Espanol
- 14. Whimsy
- 17. Bronco
- 18. Plump women
- 20. Gaudy

ANSWERS: Send an email to info@quickculture.com and we will send you the answers.



COOL STUFF

ARTISTS:

In every Start with Art Newsletter, we will feature an artist(s) whose work we deem notable and visionary. In this newsletter we ask the question... But is it art?

Tim Nobel and Sue Webster take piles of trash and make art but sometimes the art isn't apparent until you see it in a different light

www.acrstudio.com/projects/word/nobel_tim_webster_sue/index.htm

VIDEOS:

Take a look at this wonderful video of Women in Art...and turn up your speakers, too!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUDIoN-Hxs

ARCHITECTURE:

If you're into architecture, click below and look at these inspiring buildings!

www.thecoolhunter.co.nz/architecture/

CREATE YOUR OWN PICASSO!:

Have fun with this site! Create your own masterpiece, print it out and voila!

www.mrpicassohead.com/create.html

UNIQUE GIFT IDEA:

www.dna11.com/gallery_portraits.asp

IN AND AROUND THE LOS ANGELES ART SCENE

Our selections are varied. See what's new at galleries we like:

www.forumgallery.com/index.html

www.dcafineart.com/

www.lesliesacks.com/

dangerouscurve.org/calendar.html

www.lacda.com/exhibits/exhibitshome.html

NEW! ARTIST STUDIO TOURS



"La Vida" by
Robin Thayer
Flannigan

The human form has always been the subject of great artists. This tour takes you inside the studio of a diverse group of artists. Focusing on sculpture, we will introduce you to the artists personally and see some of their finished works, as well as works in progress.

Another feature of this tour is experiencing how sculptures of different materials and varied processes are made. You'll be able to see, firsthand, armatures, different types of clay and stone, patinas, stone carving made with hand and power tools and various molds of rubber, silicone and plaster.

This is truly a unique opportunity to see creative minds at work! (Available 7 days per week)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TOURS:

AT THE FASHION INSTITUTE OF DESIGN & MERCHANDISING:

- Aesthetes, Bohemians & Craftsmen: Artistic Dress, 1880s - 1920s.
Runs May 19 - July 3, 2008
- 3rd Annual Outstanding Art of Television Costume Design.
Runs July 29 - Sept 27, 2008

CLASSES:

MUSEUM MANNERS

Singles Class: Date TBD.