



# prairie arts

24 Park Ave East, Princeton IL 61356

<http://PrairieArts.org>

(815) 875-2787



## PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

# CARNIVALE FESTIVAL!

Our first event of the 2019 season will be a photography exhibit by John Iocca, our newest Prairie Arts Council Board Member!

John describes one of his many travels, "While traveling throughout Europe I was in Maastricht, The Netherlands, just in time for the Carnivale Festival. There are three festivals that are very similar. In The Netherlands it is called 'Carnivale', in South America it's 'Carnival', and here in the US we have 'Mardi Gras'. You can trace the origins of these festivals to the Catholic faith, which begins the season of Lent forty days before Easter Sunday.

Carnivale has several purposes. It celebrates the passing of the winter months into the summer and the upcoming harvest. On Sunday morning they raise a Moosfwief or (Housewife) in the Verijtof or (Townsquare.) Most of the town closes down and they choose The Princess of the Ball.



Parades begin with floats, and contests are held. Elaborate costumes are worn. Many are hand made by the wearers, who plan throughout the year in secret.

Carnivale is an event that must be seen to be believed. Everyone is welcomed, costume or not. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Carnivale and can't wait to return in 2020".

Come join us for John's  
**OPENING RECEPTION:**  
**Friday, February 1, 6:00-8:00**  
**at The PAC Gallery**  
**24 East Park Ave. Princeton, IL**

John's exhibit will be open on weekends from 1:00-4:00pm through February 24th.

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# RECENT MEMORIES



This year's Christmas Musical, "The Santa Fraud" was written for the PAC's young actors by local playwright Rachel E. Gorenz-Johnson, and was directed by Dr. Stuart VandeVenter.



Brett Hall's "Prairie Tales" story-telling performance had to be cancelled, but we really appreciate all the work that he put into setting up this wonderful wood-working exhibit



Our annual Christmas Mini-Tree Festival auctioned off 34 trees, wreaths and table arrangements that were created and donated by members of our community. Thank You SO MUCH to All!!!  
(shown above is Jeanne O'Melia, Greg and Marilyn Anthony)



# PAC THEATRE



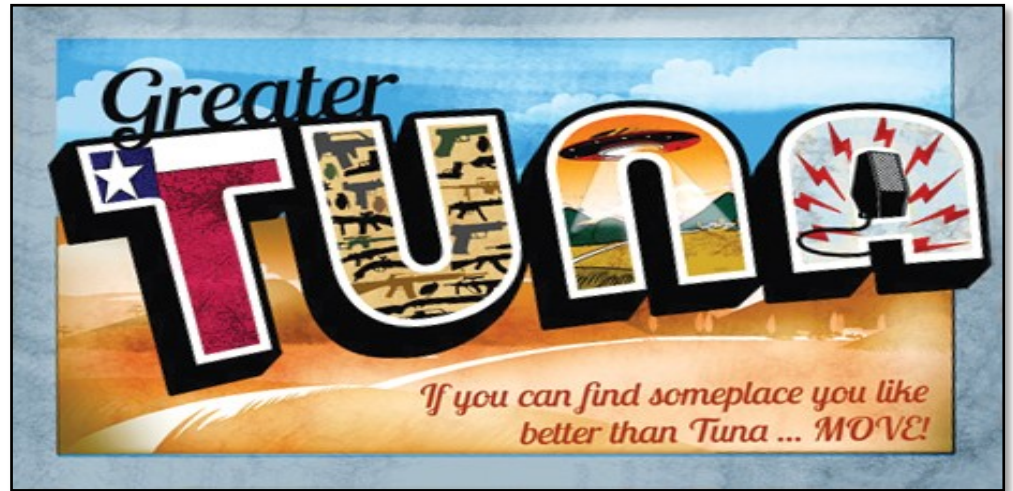
“Plaza Suite,” one of Neil Simon’s most beloved comedies, tells the story in three acts of three different couples, each occupying the same suite in New York City’s famed Plaza Hotel.

Director Ken Schroeder is looking for three females and three different males for lead roles, ages 35 and up. Supporting roles to be cast include one female, age 25 to 40, and four other roles, which can be male or female, ages 18 or older.

Auditions at the PAC on Saturday, February 2 at 6 PM and Sunday, February 3 at 2:30 PM. For questions about the auditions, please contact Ken Schroeder at [thammorn@gmail.com](mailto:thammorn@gmail.com)



Thanks to Jim Gassen for taking so many beautiful photographs of Prairie Arts Center events!



The Prairie Arts Council proudly announces “Greater Tuna”, the first show of their 2019 season. The show will run February 22 – 24. Curtain time is 7:30 PM on Friday and Saturday, with a 2:00 PM matinee on Sunday. All performances are at the Prairie Arts Center, 24 Park Avenue East in Princeton.

“Greater Tuna” is a comedy about the fictional town of Tuna, Texas, third smallest town in the state. The wacky residents of Tuna -- men, women, children and animals -- are all played by two skillful actors who must quickly change parts using creative voice work. “Greater Tuna” is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Theater veteran Gary Talsky of Spring Valley and newcomer David Gray of Princeton each bring to life 10 different characters. Both Talsky and Gray recreate characters that are universal to all small towns.

Tickets are \$15 per person. Online ticket sales begin on January 13 at [www.prairiearts.org](http://www.prairiearts.org). For phone sales, call 815-875-2787 and leave a message. Walk-in tickets will also be available at the door.

Director Dixie Schroeder is excited about presenting this unique show. “I think that folks will recognize a lot of the small town characters in their neighbors and friends. Both Gary (Talsky) and David (Gray) are doing a tremendous job with characterization and very quick costume changes.”

“Another unique aspect of the production is that the Logan Junior High School art club is assisting us,” Schroeder said. “Under the direction of Sara Scott and Christie Lucas, the club will be designing and painting the set and some set pieces. We are excited to have them joining us.”

Additional production staff includes: production manager Ken Schroeder, costumer Jill Marti, lighting designer Matt Boehm, student assistant Lauren Frost, sound operator Maddie Devert, and light operators Riley Lucas and Matthew Lucas.

Anyone interested in participating in the theater program is encouraged to watch the PAC website, <http://PrairieArts.org>, for audition dates and information on each show.

**Volunteers are always welcome for all parts of our productions.**

# PAC GALLERY

**YOU ARE INVITED**  
to the  
**OPENING**  
**RECEPTIONS**  
celebrating these artists  
and their work  
on the first Friday  
of every month  
**6:00-8:00**

The gallery is  
**OPEN**  
on weekends  
**1:00-4:00**

## MARCH EXHIBIT **Christine Duray**



### **John Iocca Joins PAC Board**

The Prairie Arts Council has welcomed long-time Princeton resident John Iocca to the Board as the PAC's new Gallery Director.

He has visited many museums and galleries around the world, and will bring these experiences to the PAC. His goals include working with both established and younger artists, and giving them a place to showcase their work.

Membership and Community Involvement will be among his top priorities in 2019.

Christine Duray is an amazing talent. She creates lifelike pieces of art using ink, pencil or paint. Focusing primarily on musicians, her art has crossed over onto T-shirts, calendars and most recently phone cases.

People began noticing Christine's art at an early age. She won first prize in kindergarten for drawing the best portrait of her teacher. At the age of seventeen, she won a scholarship to the Art Institute of Chicago, where she studied figure drawing extensively. She then trained herself for working in the world of graphic design, and has worked for various companies creating logos, brochures, and newsletters.

Fast-forward twenty years, and Christine began to realize that something was missing from her life. She then found herself picking up a pencil again (no more computer generated art from this girl!) and went back to what she found to be the most fascinating subject: the human being. Faces and expressions became something that she loved to capture on her canvas, and performers are her main subjects.

Christine's adventures take her down roads wherever her art leads her; from painting signs for concert venues to drawing puppy portraits and everything else in between.

Christine says it best, "Art is endless".



## APRIL EXHIBIT

# Carlotta Dodels



Carlotta Ruklick-Dodels began her career at Southern Illinois University as an art major studying drawing, painting and silver jewelry design. Moving to Chicago to continue her studies at the University of Chicago and the Art Institute, she was able to mentor under Mr. Sam Koukios where she worked on animated cartoons and advertising.

Moving to New York, she used her knowledge and experience to create the Art Department at New York Inter American Life Insurance Company. In the mid 1980's she moved to Vienna, Austria to attend the University of Vienna, Gotthe Institute, where she studied language (German) and art. Upon returning to the United States, Carlotta divided her time between her studios in Palm Beach and Del Rey Beach, Florida.

Carlotta describes her art as decorative, commercial in the style of Art Deco, but she has a wealth of experience in painting many different types of Art. Carlotta feels inspired by other artists who show off their creativity and boldness and effort.

She will continue painting as long as she can, and would like to explore starting an artist workshop.

Carlotta's paintings will be on display in our gallery through-out the month of April.

Check our website for more about this event, and all of our future events, too! <http://PrairieArts.org>

## MAY EXHIBIT

# Jacqueline Hughes



Jacqueline Hughes is a self-taught textile artist. She has always loved sewing. Her mother painted and sewed and her grandmother quilted. Jacqueline has two daughters and four grandchildren who encourage her daily, and she loves to teach all types of sewing and fabric art. She has been called a “non-traditional” quilter, but prefers “textile artist”.

Jacqueline started in fashion design and clothing construction, but enjoys the freedom of fabric art. “It can be any size and doesn’t have to fit anyone.”

Inspired by color and nature, Jacqueline says, “I love mixing textures. I’ve taken a few classes in quilting, silk ribbon, and embroidery, but mostly I just like to explore.”

Her motto is, “It’s only fabric, and I can make it do what I want it to do—I’m the boss!”

She gets excited over old-time trims, laces, beads and buttons, and often hides little details in a piece. She says, “I want my pieces to evoke emotion and playfulness. I want my art to be touched.” Look for her artwork under the name “JacquelineJoAnn”

We are excited to see what she is bringing to show in our gallery during the month of May. Join us for her Opening Reception on Friday, May 3rd from 6:00-8:00



for  
painting  
our gallery,  
it's beautiful!

**John Iocca  
Kevin Shyne  
Dick Uttenhove**

The Prairie Arts Council would like to express it's appreciation for all of this year's participants in our Annual Christmas Mini-Tree Festival. To those who dedicated their time and efforts to their displays, well done! For all those who bid on the trees, we thank you and hope that your bid won. And lastly, thank you to all of you who turned out and supported the PAC. We look forward to providing new and exciting programming in 2019



### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

has awarded the Prairie Arts Center a grant of **\$1000** to use for arts-related programming in the coming year. Tammy Tieman and Kevin Shyne were present at the award ceremony. (The Closet can always use more volunteers—hint, hint!)

## WELCOME

To our newest PAC Members!

Pam Byrne  
Marshall & Georgeanne Cusic  
Deanna Foran  
Doug Kirkpatrick  
Karen Kloepping  
Rianna Pelscynski

Your annual memberships **REALLY** help us keep going from year to year.

Please consider renewing, and **THANK YOU** for your continued support in 2019!!!



Thanks to Cannon Cleaners for donating the Children's Costume cleaning!

**OmniArts**  
In Starved Rock Country



**THANK YOU**  
to  
OmniArts,  
The Illinois Arts Council,  
and  
The National Endowment for the Arts  
for  
supporting  
The Prairie Arts Center



**National Endowment for the Arts**  
arts.gov

Thank You to...

Jean Carlisle & the Oster Regent Theatre for donating a box of men's dress pants to our costume shop

Maryhelen Bidasio for her recent donation of women's clothing to our costume shop

### THANK YOU to everyone who brought appetizers to our recent events:

Marilyn Anthony, Kathy Ballard, Tracy Boylan, Pam Byrne, Sarah Brooks, Sue Cimaroli, Sue Cox, Jan Esme, Sue Garvin, Charlie Gebeck, Mary Sue Goldsmith, Pam Hanson, June Harmon, Jeanne Hutchinson, Laura Kann, Ron McCutchan, Julie McCutchan, Linda McCabe, Patti Moynihan, Jan Lohaus, Jack Olson, Anna Roadhouse, Barb Schiff, Dianne Van Drew, Lisa Vincent, True Wahlgren, Lynne Weber, and Ramona Wedding

### THANK YOU to the ushers and hosts of our recent events:

Mary Damon, Gayle Grace, John Iocca, Matt Kauffman, Karen May, Barry Mayworm, Mary Michael, Jon McCutchan, Jack Olson, Anna Roadhouse, Barb Schiff, Roger Swanson, Kay Telfer, Stephanie Van Ordstrand, Dianne Van Drew, Lisa Vincent and Ramona Wedding





# Prairie Arts Council MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Welcome to the Prairie Arts Council**

**Thank You for supporting arts programming in our community!**

Name

(or) Business Name

Street address

Street address line 2

City

State

Zip Code

Phone number

E-mail

**We will deliver the newsletter to your email address**

print & mail ☐

If you are interested in Exhibiting, Performing or Teaching, please specify:

## Membership Level

- ☐ \$15 Student  
☐ \$25 Individual  
☐ \$35 Family  
☐ \$60 Associate  
☐ \$100 Sponsor  
☐ \$150 Patron  
☐ \$300 Ambassador  
☐ \$500 Corporate  
☐ \$1000 Benefactor

Donation of \$

On Behalf of

Memorial gift of \$

In Memory of

## Willing to Volunteer?

- ☐ Gallery: Host  
☐ Theater: Painting or Sets  
☐ Theater: Sewing  
☐ Mailing and Clerical  
☐ Appetizers or Baking  
☐ Graphic Arts  
☐ Gardening or Maintenance  
☐ Programming & Publicity  
☐ Other

**Make checks payable to "Prairie Arts Council", and return with this form to :  
Membership Chairman, 24 Park Ave. East, Princeton, IL 61356**



PRAIRIE  
ARTS  
CENTER

815.875.2787  
PrairieArts.org  
24 Park Avenue East

## P A C E V E N T C A L E N D A R

February 1	6:00-8:00pm	Opening Reception for John Iocca
February 2-24	1:00-4:00pm (weekends)	Gallery Exhibit: Carnivale Festival!
February 22-23	7:30pm	Theater: "Greater Tuna"
February 24	2:00pm	Theater: "Greater Tuna" Matinee
March 1	6:00-8:00pm	Opening Reception for Christine Duray
March 2-31	1:00-4:00pm (weekends)	Gallery Exhibit: Christine Duray
April 5	6:00-8:00pm	Opening Reception for Carlotta Dodels
April 6-28	1:00-4:00pm (weekends)	Gallery Exhibit: Carlotta Dodels
April 26-27	7:30pm	Theater: "Plaza Suite"
April 28	2:00pm	Theater: "Plaza Suite" Matinee
May 3	6:00-8:00pm	Opening Reception: Jacqueline Hughes
May 4-26	1:00-4:00pm (weekends)	Gallery Exhibit: Jacqueline Hughes

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24 PARK AVE. EAST  
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