



Leo Divendal

**Paleontological Pinholes, Archaeology,
and Nauticalia Highlight Divendal Works**

art6 in **September 2005** sees an exhibition of photography by **Leo Divendal**. Sept. 1-30, opening reception Friday, Sept. 1, 7-10pm.

NYU PRESS RELEASES

“Dutch Photographer Leo Divendal to Be Exhibited at NYU Tisch School of the Arts”

“Leo Divendal’s photographs of people and places attempt to convey simultaneously the connectedness and ephemerality of our lives in this world. Each photograph is an index of time, filled with poetic eroticism as well as the fatality of death. He himself comes from a Roman Catholic background, but his mother was half Jewish. Four great-aunts were killed in the Czech concentration camp, Terezin. This madness, in which lives were destroyed, has shocked Divendal, and his photographs are a testimony to the recurrent grieving he feels. Indeed, his images invite us into a contemplative mood, a melancholic attempt to fathom the depths of things.

A book, *Divendal/photography*, has just been published in Amsterdam; it contains 63 of his photographs followed by an essay by Jan de Goede entitled, “Looking Outward With One Eye and Inward With the Other.” It has been translated into Dutch, French and English and listed as ISBN 90-75574-06-1

Sea, travel and coasts are important themes in the work of Leo Divendal (Netherlands, 1947). They are visually rich subjects, but for him they are also metaphors for the uncertain and transient character of human existence. Divendal refers to work in serial form, and concentrates on making series of photographs in which the pictures tell a story in their mutual coherence with one another. He tries to touch the core of the

matter through working laterally around it - a manner of working in which prose and poetry touch one another.

He has produced various books, including the monograph 'Divendal' (1997), 'The Broken Bridge' (1996, about a small village in Anatolia, Turkey), and 'Sea of Marmara' (2000), for which he photographed ships anchored in the roadstead of Istanbul. In addition to being a photographer, Divendal is also a freelance curator, writer, poet and photography instructor at the Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam.” [source: www.nyu.edu].



For more about this and other upcoming *art6* events, visit www.art6.org or phone 804.343.1406. To contact the editor of *art6* and **BroadStrokes**, phone **Thomas M. Humphrey** at 804.794.7579. *art6* is located at 6 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. Gallery hours are Wed.-Sun. 12-4pm.—We invite you to attend.

The September 2005 issue of BroadStrokes is sponsored by Chiaroscuro Art Services in memory of Nancy David.



La Seine, 2001 by Leo Divendal

Photos courtesy www.photography.com

In Memoriam

art6 was saddened to hear of the passing of longtime Richmond artist, printmaker, and **ONE/OFF** member **Nancy David** on July 7, 2005. Many at *art6* (including **Mitzi Humphrey**, **Henrietta Near**, and **Harvey McWilliams**) were colleagues and friends of David and knew her from as far back as the '70's and '80's through **Marilyn Bevilaqua**'s classes at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and other educational, social, and artistic circles. In the words of **Mary Holland** in an e-mail note to **ONE/OFF** Printmakers: "Our friend Nancy David passed away last Thursday. She died peacefully in her sleep. The previous week she spent making art and laughing with her friends and family at Nimrod Hall, a summer arts program in Bath County, Virginia, which she attended for the past six years."

Ms. David, along with artist and former Richmond gallery owner **Gail McKennis**, founded the RPW (Richmond Printmaking Workshop) in 1978. A first of its kind in Richmond, the workshop provided a space dedicated exclusively to processes of art concerned only with paper. The RPW functioned in two ways: "to support the making of contemporary art through mediums of printmaking and papermaking, and to provide the public with the opportunity to learn about and contribute to that art." **Mary Holland**, a former manager of RPW, noted that the independent and non-profit RPW "[was] the only organization of its kind in Virginia. . . ." A website for Anderson Gallery at Virginia Commonwealth University relates how for the 13 years that it operated, the RPW offered one of the few non-university spaces in the city where artists could make prints

for a nominal fee. The opportunity catalyzed a surge of activity and a rich array of new works. Not only did RPW energize and expand individual bodies of work, but it also prompted artist-members to exhibit joint portfolios, such as *One/Off Portfolio*, 1987; *Murders in the Rue Morgue*, 1990; and *Ceremony*, 1989.” In the words of **Amy Moorefield**, Assistant Director and Curator of Collections at Anderson Gallery in June 2000: “The workshop published quarterly newsletters, sponsored well-known artists for visiting residences, and cultivated numerous local patrons. They received many grants from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and from the NEA. The RPW roster of participating artists read like a “Who’s Who” of renowned local and national artists.”

An NEA residency by prominent book artist **Bruce Schnabel** at the RPW stimulated intense interest among Richmond artists and resulted in book art shows by Richmond printmakers at Richmond Public Library, Williamsburg Public Library, The Center for Book Art in New York, and in an international book art show, ‘Art ex Libris,’ curated by **Mitzi Humphrey** at Richmond’s Artspace Gallery, when that gallery was at the Broad Street location now occupied by art6. Printmaker **Steve Fishman** said late this summer, “This news still saddens me deeply. Nancy David was a truly delightful artist and friend who I loved knowing, listening to, laughing with, and working along side of! I feel blessed to have been privy to the productive times we shared while working together at The Richmond Printmaking Workshop. Those were inspiring times for many of us that without the drive and vision of Nancy and John might not have happened. As the reality of this huge loss sinks in I hope [we can make] a fitting dedication. And gosh could she whistle!”

Nancy David, along with **Laura Pharis** and **Mary Holland** (each former managers of RPW) co-authored a historical commentary about the operation of the RPW. Through glimpses of the RPW in its heyday and statements by RPW artists, the piece documents the history of a passionately dedicated circle whose works continue to inspire and influence Richmond’s art community today. In her recent letter to ONE/OFF members, Mary Holland outlined the printmakers’ next editioned portfolio, which will be dedicated to Nancy David. “I have heard back from nearly everyone in the group regarding the ONE/OFF Miniature Portfolio. We have twenty-five artists participating plus Holly David who will help with the title page to honor her mother Nancy. Here is a list of the participating artists: **Peter Calvert, Ann Chenoweth, Warren Corrado, Nicholas Cossitt, Holly David, Janet DeCover, Steven Fishman, Suzanne Fortin, Walter Garde, Joan Gaustad, Janet Gilmore, Jack Glover, Mary Holland, Mitzi Humphrey, Kris Iden, Dawn Latane, Kelly Nelson, Melissa Paca, Chris Palmer, Laura Pharis, Carolyn Sharp, Tanja Softic, Ed Steinberg, Randy Toy, Philip Wetton, and Dennis Winston.**” **Mitzi Humphrey** says, “Nancy’s sparkling wit, good will, creative presence, and helpfulness to others have made printmaking alongside her one of our most cherished memories of good times together making art. . . . She will be greatly missed.” TMH / MH



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