

From Director Suny Monk The Auvillar Workshops

Spring has come to Virginia as we return to Auvillar! As I look up the hill to the studio barn at the VCCA, I think about what the VCCA in Virginia and the Moulin à Nef have in common.



They are both situated in beautiful natural settings and housed in historic buildings. Both the VCCA and the Moulin à Nef house artists and writers working hard at their craft. In both places, the VCCA staff strives to create the ideal working conditions for these creative people. We offer a studio space, a bedroom, and the promise that they will not be interrupted. This sanctuary and quiet allow artists and writers to create some of their best work. There is, of course, a profound difference in the two sites. The Moulin à Nef is situated in an active community of involved citizens. Nothing is asked of our artists in residence in Virginia, but while our artists are in Auvillar, we ask them to consider a way to interact with the people of the village.

I am returning to Auvillar in mid-June for an annual community dinner. Meanwhile, I send thanks to the Mayor and his staff, the Municipal Council, the Office of Tourism and all who have helped us in our work at the Moulin à Nef.

2008 Fellows in Residence

May 22, 2008 to June 4, 2008: Sara Crisp, painter, Cumberland, ME; Cathryn Hankla, writer, Roanoke, VA; LuAnn Keener-Mikenas, poet, Madison Heights, VA; Meredith Turshen, artist & writer, Hoboken, NJ

June 27, 2008 to July 17, 2008: Amanda Fields, writer, Cairo, Egypt; Brian Silberman, playwright, Maritta, PA; Alison Chandler, painter, Brooklyn, NY; Susan Schmidt, writer, Beaufort, NC

August 5, 2008 to September 2, 2008: Margaret MacInnis, writer, Iowa City, IA; Deirdra McAfee, writer, Richmond, VA; Paula Roland, visual artist, Santa Fe, NM

Building on a successful 2007 workshop season, the VCCA offers three workshops this year, led by VCCA Fellows and staff, and open to artists of all levels. Visit www.vcca.com for more information.

En Plein Air: Writing & Painting in SW France, July 22-28

Led by painter Mary Page Evans and poet Elizabeth Seydel Morgan, this combination workshop gives participants the opportunity to work with a palette of words and colors.

Plein Air Painting Workshop, September 5-16

One of the greatest joys for an artist is to plant an easel in an exotic place and gradually tune into the unique beauty as it reveals itself. Led by Bronx painter Daniel Hauben, this workshop offers just such an experience for its participants.

Sculpture and Architecture Tour, September 29-October 4

Experience the sculpture and architecture of the region through the eyes of an artist and an art historian. Led by VCCA Program Director and award-winning sculptor Craig Pleasants and Sweet Briar College Professor of Medieval Art Tracy Hamilton, participants will visit many historic and significant structures in the region.

Salut Les Auvillalais

We have flung open our blue shutters and welcomed everyone back to Moulin à Nef. We promise to arouse your interests with another season of creative talent.



I recall how 2007 brought a wave of remarkable Fellows, including a dancer, a maker of films about volcanos, poets and hundreds of butterflies. I was enchanted with the festivities and proudly claimed my place among the group in "Paint Auvillar!" I am eager to reunite with old friends, neighbors and artists and our growing patronage. Please come celebrate the new year with us at 18 Esplanade du Port and bring your friends.

—Jeannette MacDougall

2007 and 2008 VCCA France Members

Christine Brennan
Melanie Christian
Ted Craddock
Cal de Coligny
Alain Delsol
Donna Eastman

Julien Eric
Elizabeth Fennell
Lynne Friedman
Richard Grayson
Hannah Hanford
Pinkney Herbert

Helen Hilliard
Elizabeth Hulick
Marilyn Kallet
Anne Karlsen
Patricia P. Kermes
Malcom Lewis

Rosalie Lewis
Pam Loeb
Frances MacLean
Carter Mascotte
Robert Matheson
Carter McNeely
Suny & Joe Monk

Susan Newbold
M et Mme Picard
Sheila & Craig Pleasants
Robert O. Satterfield
Kia Silverman
French Slaughter
Francis Sohier

Shepperd Strudwick
Massa Sylvie
Donald T. Ubben
David van Roijen
Linda Wachtmeister
Sarah Wolf

Email vcca@vcca.com to join this organization that supports VCCA programs in France.