Articles You May Have Missed

**Susanne Friend, column editor**

**“Frieze Falls Foul of the Smoking Ban as it Lights up for the Art World,” The Guardian, 08/20/2008**

The recent Art Market Fair in New York was intended to be a commentary on the smoking ban in the city. However, the fair was not well attended, due to the ban on smoking. The fair organizers were disappointed with the low attendance, and some critics suggested that the ban was to blame. The fair was held indoors, but the organizers had not planned for smoking ban issues.

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**“From the Art World to the Underworld,” The Wall Street Journal, 08/22/2008**

Shortly after 9 a.m. on June 4, three men drove to a seaside promenade near Naples, their van carrying Long Island fugitives Brueghel, Sisley, and Monet. The art had been stolen at gunpoint from the Musée de Fine Arts in Nice last August. Now a Frenchman working for an American art dealer was supposed to show up and buy four works for $4.6 million in cash. Instead, nearly a dozen French police cars pulled up, led by a colonel for the gendarmerie who quickly took a call from Pennsylvania. “We got two of our men down there,” Col. Pierre Tabel said. “Four are still on the ground.”

The colonel was Robert Wittman, an agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation who had acted as the American “dealer” and orchestrated the sting. Mr. Wittman is one of the world’s top art-crime investigators. His specialty is going undercover. The 52-year-old has been tracking down $225 million in missing objects, including a Rembrandt self-portrait and an original copy of the Bill of Rights.

The US is the biggest buyer within the $8 billion black market on the books, FBI says. Last year, 16,117 artworks in the US were listed by the London-based Art Loss Register as missing or stolen, up from 14,981 the year before.

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**“To Save and Not Forget,” Tribune, 09/12/2008**

Auschwitz, Poland — Poland, which is titled, was commissioned by Frieze, a group of active citizens and organized in coordination with the city of Baden-Baden, as part of the European project “Art and the City.” The piece is expected to be unveiled on the day of the Frieze Art Week, as a symbol of the city’s commitment to art and culture. The piece will include a series of sculptures, each representing a different aspect of the city’s history and culture.

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**“Empire State Building Rediscovers its Deco Roots,” Urban NY, 10/10/2008**

There was a time when the Empire State Building offered a view of the city from its observation decks. But with the World’s Fair in 1933, a sculptural panorama was painted in gold leaf on the ceiling of the lobby.

In the 1960s, during renovation, the mural was covered by a drop ceiling. Soon a re-creation of the mural was in the works.

The estimated $600 million renovation of the 102-story Art Deco structure is being headed by Beyer Bender Belle. When it is complete, everything down to the lighting fixtures in the lobby will evoke the spirit of the 1930s. The mural has been revealed by white paint from renovations in past generations and will cost too much to restore.

EverGreene Painting Studios, a national restoration company, will recreate the scene on the ceiling of the lobby.

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**“ArtLand: Here Today, Gone Tomorrow?” The Art Newspaper, 10/23/2008**

We are writing to mark the beginning of the Morgan’s restoration voyage. The Morgan’s “voyage” will continue October 19 when the whaling ship is moved to the site of the 1841-built “Empire State Building Rediscovers its Deco Roots.”

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**“Michangelo’s David ‘At Risk of Collapse’ Because of Traffic and Visitors,” The Times (London), 09/19/2008**

Antonio Borri, professor of construction engineering at Perugia University and part of the team monitoring the David’s movement, said the statue of David was commissioned by the Florence guild of wool merchants in 1501 and spent centuries in Piazza della Signoria inside the town hall — formerly the palace of the ruling Medici family — open to the public.

The event will mark the beginning of the restoration project which will renew articulation of the decks. The event will conclude with the ceremonial lowering of a yard from high above the deck.

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**““Myopic Seaport Announces Charles W. Morgan Restoration,” The Day (CT), 08/27/2008**

Mystic Seaport will officially begin the restoration of the Charles W. Morgan, the world’s last wooden whaler, in a special celebration September 27.

The event will mark the kick-off to the Morgan’s three-year, $5 million restoration project which will renew articulation of the vessel from the waterline down to the deck allowing, including parts that haven’t been seen since she was built in 1841.

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**“Land Art: Here Today, Gone Tomorrow?” The Art Newspaper, 10/23/2008**

A number of iconic works of Land Art are being destroyed by real estate developers. The Art Newspaper seeks to create works that could not be contained by a museum or placed in a gallery. The piece is titled “The Art of Land.”

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**“As repairing cracks. This drew criticism from art lovers who feared that the statue could be damaged during cleaning. Much of the damage to the statue, which weighs six tons and is 161 high, was showing signs of stress around the ankles. The statue of David was commissioned by the Florence guild of wool merchants in 1501 and spent centuries in Piazza della Signoria inside the town hall — formerly the palace of the ruling Medici family — open to the public.

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This initial phase of down-
earth which juts into the Great Salt Lake in Utah from its northeastern shore.

This summer, conservators won a reprieve from the Canadian oil company Pearl Montana Exploration, Enbridge, which had been drilling into the lake bed. In co-operation with Smithson’s Wendy Holt, the artist, and the group Friends of the Great Salt Lake, the Dia Art Foundation, which owns and has maintained Spiral Jetty since 1999, started a petition against the drilling.

Other works remain at risk. On the opposite side of the Great Salt Lake from Spiral Jetty is Nancy Holt’s Sun Tunnels, near Myrtleford, more than 3000 years old. In co-operation with the Dhuldhuroa Native Title Group has primacy over country in north-east Victoria, and Aboriginal Affairs Victoria regulates the use of the land, the minister for the restoration project or for inviting other groups onto Dhudhura terri- tory. The Dhudhura say that with its hundreds of motifs, the Mina Anga region is considered the second richest rock art site in Victoria. The paintings are of ochre and pipeclay on rock with red and white staining.

“Graffiti Study Bolsters ‘Broken Win- dow’s Theory,’” Los Angeles Times, 11/21/2008

In a series of real-world experiments, people exposed to graffiti, litter and other cues of lawlessness were more likely to commit small crimes, according to a study published today that bolsters the controversial “broken windows” theory of policing.

“Slaying Goliath Gets Makeover,” The Age, 11/30/2008

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