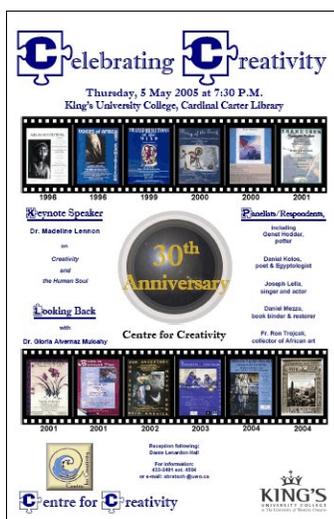


**Year End Report to College Council
Centre for Creativity
April 19, 2006**

The Centre for Creativity had a busy and successful 2005-2006, celebrating its thirtieth anniversary in May 2005 as well as sponsoring an exhibition, various displays and performances during the two academic terms.

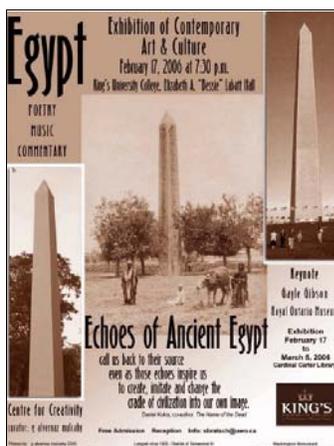
**Celebrating Creativity
(May 5, 2005)**



On Thursday evening, May 5, 2005 the Centre celebrated its 30th anniversary with “Celebrating Creativity”. This event featured a keynote address entitled “Creativity and the Human Soul”, by art historian, and former Board member, Dr. Madeline Lennan, with a look back over the past 30 years by Dr. Gloria Alvernaz Mulcahy. Brief responses followed by several participants in previous events, including Genet Hodder (potter), Daniel Kolos (poet and Egyptologist), Joseph Lella (King’s professor, singer and actor), Daniel Mezza (master book binder and restorer), and Fr. Ronald Trojcek (collector of African art).

A programme was distributed at the event and included a brief History of the Centre (1974/1975 - 2004/2005) by Dr. Gloria Alvernaz Mulcahy who was on the founding Board of Directors and Coordinator from 1988-1992; 1996-1999; as well as a Chronology of the Centre from its inception on March 19, 1974 to July 2005 when Dr. Allan Irving became Coordinator following upon the retirement of Dr. Clouston.

**Echoes of Ancient Egypt
(February 17- March 5, 2006)**



This event was an exhibition of Contemporary Art and Culture opening on February 17, 2006 at King’s University College in Elizabeth “A” Bessie Labatt Hall. The Centre for Creativity offered this unique presentation featuring photography by Langaki (circa 1880) whose work is in the archives of the Royal Geographical Society. London visual artists Ron Benner and Jamelie Hassan exhibited their art along with selected work from the collections of Daniel Kolos, Patrick Carstens, Sharlene McLearn and Penn Kemp. Keynote speaker Gayle Gibson, Educational Director, Royal Ontario Museum and President of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities explored the influences of Egypt on contemporary art and culture. The programme included Meira Tribal Dancers, original poetry and commentary by art collector and Egyptologist Daniel Kolos, and *Suite Ancient Egypt* written by sound poet Penn Kemp and performed with Toronto keyboard artist Bill Gilliam. Curator of the exhibition was Dr. Gloria Alvernaz Mulcahy. Approximately 125 people attended the opening and enjoyed a reception of Middle Eastern sweets.

Noon Hour Performance Series

This year the Centre reinstated a series of new noon hour performance concerts featuring accomplished King's students. Various promotional material was distributed including community-wide e-invitations, lunch bag advertisements, and other handouts encouraging everyone to attend and enjoy their lunch while listening to the delightful performances by gifted young vocalists and musicians. An honorarium was given to the following concert participants:

1. *Jessie Ross*

The first noon hour performance of 2005-2006 was held on October 26, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. in the Students' Lounge Extension and featured King's student and London's own Jazz vocal sensation Jessie Ross. She has been influenced by singers Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, and Carmen McRae and by contemporary artists such as Joni Mitchell, Diana Krall and Sade. Jessie's repertoire included some songs from the 1930, 1940 and 1950's jazz era. The audience of approximately sixty was captivated by her exceptional voice and by her distinctive blending of jazz with folk and gospel roots.

2. *King's Players Christmas Choir*

Thames Market/cafeteria in Wemple Hall was the venue on Dec 1, 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. for the King's Players Christmas Choir featuring fifteen King's students. This joyful arrangement of traditional and modern choral music included some of their own soloists and was a preview for their full December 4th concert in Labatt Hall at 2 & 7 p.m. Administrators, staff and students alike were treated to this enjoyable, albeit too brief concert while they lunched in amicable surroundings.

3. *Three Divas*

Once again on Tuesday, February 21, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., the pleasant atmosphere of the Thames Market/cafeteria provided the setting for talented King's students and songsters Dana Raffa (accompanied by guitarist Chris Buccella), Jessie Ross and Stephanie Kaus performing acoustic rock, jazz melodies, and soft rock. Their performance thoroughly entertained a receptive crowd of peers and King's staff and included renditions of popular songs such as *Knockin' on Heaven's Door*, *Pieces*, *After the Gold Rush*, *Simple*, *Imagine* and *Losing My Religion*.

4. *The Zigano Duo in Recital*

On Friday, February 24, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. in the Students' Lounge, gifted classical musicians Mary-Beth Brown, violinist and Sarah Steeves, cellist performed selections from J.S. Bach, Reinhold Gliere, Zoltan Kodaly, and Johann Halvorsen. A program was distributed to concert attendees. In closing, S. Camiletti thanked these bright young performers and praised their considerable accomplishments and exceptional talent. (Mary-Beth Brown is the daughter of King's professors Hunter and Susan Brown.)

The Centre for Creativity's Board of Directors was pleased to bring to the King's community such high calibre performances during the academic terms in 2005-2006.

On Display

This academic year the Centre took on a new venture entitled "On Display" where continuous new exhibits in the glass display case on the 2nd floor of the Library involving King's Students, Faculty and Staff, were featured as follows:

1. **Opening “On Display”**
September 2005
An attractive array of material from past Creativity events was mounted to show Creativity's presence at King's as the new term commenced.
2. ***Arts Informed Research: Images and Fieldnotes from an Apple Orchard***
November 10, 2005 through to February 12, 2006 (stairwell and 2nd floor)
This display accentuated the artwork of Professor Pamela Cushing's 4th year Honours Students from her class on *Social Justice & Peace: Senior Research Theory & Methods*. It entailed various fieldnotes and artists' representations for expanding the whole research approach. At the November 10 Board meeting of the Centre for Creativity Prof. Cushing and students Lindsay Toner-Calmusky and Dan Grace enlightened Board Members on the purpose, experiences and the dynamic and creative aspects of research resulting in phase 4 or this particular “On Display”.
3. ***Echoes of Ancient Egypt***
February 17 - March 5, 2006
This attractive exhibit was mounted personally by Londoner Jamelie Hassan, an internationally known installation artist. The material exhibited was presented by Jamelie Hassan from the collection of the artist except where noted on the detailed listing of the case's contents which accompanied the exhibit and included such items as: glass perfume bottle with Nefertiti stopper; metal ashtray with pharonic motif; Hallmark gift wrapping paper; children's shoes, bought in Cairo market, 2002 (JH); Egypt art tattoos; alabaster urn. The material enhanced and expanded the exhibition on the main floor.
4. ***Samuel Beckett*** — commemorating the 100th anniversary of his birth
March 13 →
Much of the material in this “On Display” is from the personal collection of the Centre's Coordinator, Professor A. Irving including the poster mount in the Library stairwell from the Soulepepper Theatre's “Waiting for Godot”. Many places all over the world will celebrate the life of one of Ireland's greatest writers and Nobel Prize-winning author as the 100th anniversary of his birth approaches. It is, therefore, a timely and relevant display, not to mention the Coordinator's favourite author.

All of the “On Display” exhibits have met with positive feedback from the King's community and from visitors to the Library and campus.

The Centre for Creativity sponsored one external “On Display”

1. ***“we have art lest we perish from the truth” - Social Work thinks about community***
Studio Gallery, The Arts Project (203 Dundas Street)
April 4-13, 2006, 12-5 p.m.
Forty three King's University College Social Work students exhibited their photographs and installations on different ways to represent community at the Studio Gallery, The Arts Project. An e-message was distributed to the King's community promoting the exhibition of students' artwork including the opening reception on April 4, 4-7 p.m.

Acknowledgments

A successful year such as this one does not happen without the contributions, encouragement, commitment and support of many individuals. Thanks is required for the Centre's Board of Directors namely:

- G. Killan (Principal)
- S. Camiletti (Associate Academic Dean)
- G. Alvernaz Mulcahy (Founding Board Member, Honorary)
- C. Callaghan, J.D. Han, J. Heng, B. Patton (College Council Representatives)
- C. Gladkowski, M. Haggerty, S. Suchak (Community Representatives)
- K. Cotten, E. Heuts, N. Luney (Student Representatives)
- C. Turner (volunteer)
- S. Bratscher (Secretary)

who supported this year's exhibition as well as the two new ventures, "On Display" and the "Noon Hour Performance Series". A special note of thanks to the Office of the Academic Dean and to Claire Callaghan who made available a glass display case for Creativity's ongoing use which resulted in "On Display" and who also endorsed continuing the gallery of framed Creativity posters on the walls by the second floor Internet stations.

The following individuals/groups are also vital in assisting the Centre and bringing "Echoes of Ancient Egypt" to fruition: Library staff (both regular and casual staff), in particular R. Braley, S. Evans, M. Forster, M. Gordon, & L. Whidden; artists J. Hassan, R. Benner, S. McLearn and contributors D. Kolos, P. Carstens, C. Turner, R. Van Every, M.C. Watters, M. Gordon, M. Williamson; David from the Market Gardner; poet P. Kemp; musician B. Gilliam; *Meira* Tribal Dancers; keynote speaker Gayle Gibson; staff of KUC Physical Plant Department; media specialist Corey Cooke; dedicated assistant and "friend" to the Centre Gail McInnis; former Creativity Board Member L. Clapton; Lois Mansfield and the dedicated volunteers who sat with the exhibition during its hours of opening.

A sincere thank you is extended to Gloria Alvernaz Mulcahy for her vision, dedication, boundless energy and outstanding curatorial skills in making "Echoes of Ancient Egypt" a reality. From the early planning stages, close collaboration with Egyptologist Daniel Kolos, comprehensive periodic reports, personal selection and transportation of numerous art pieces, and her concentrated promotional efforts to assembling and mounting the diverse collection, her inexhaustible passion and pleasing aesthetic sense has garnered another success for the Centre for Creativity at King's.

A deep and very special thanks to Shirley Bratscher who is the heart of the Centre. In twenty-seven years of university teaching I have never encountered anyone who is such a pleasure to work with. Her enthusiasm, patience, insights and skills made my job as Coordinator possible this year.

Again, my great thanks to everyone involved for making my first year as Coordinator of the Centre for Creativity so enriching.

Budget

Final budget figures for the 2005-2006 year will be determined at month end on April 30, 2006. Some invoices are still pending for the February 17 exhibition "Echoes of Ancient Egypt" and are expected within the next couple of weeks. At this time a slight surplus in the budget is anticipated. Donations in the amount of \$132 were collected at the opening of "Echoes of Ancient Egypt" and another \$20 was received during the exhibition.

Plans for 2006/07

Noon Hour Performance Series

Due to the success of the Noon Hour Performance Series the Centre expects to present three performances per term for a total of six in 2006/2007, specifically three classical concerts and three other varied musical features which will be held in the cafeteria as these most aptly lend themselves to the casual environment there.

“On Display”

The following “On Display” exhibits will be featured in the upcoming year:

- i) *Mathematics: Abstract Art in a Concrete World*
Part I, May 2006; Part II commencing Sept. 2006
(by S. Camiletti and D. Meredith);
- ii) Islamic display (by J. Lella) including an evening lecture relating to the display.

“Evening Lectures”

The “Evening Lectures” below present a change in format for the Centre with confirmed dates expected before the beginning of academic 2006/2007:

- i) As noted above in 2 ii) - - by J. Lella;
- ii) Both a lecture relating to dance and a professional Indian dance performance by Professor Vidya Natarajan.

Possible Exhibition

- i) Recommending a joint project/exhibition with the Arts Project
-exhibition

Banner Competition

Creativity Board Members embraced the idea of a competition for the creation of a banner for the Centre for Creativity which will hang on a pillar located adjacent to Creativity’s glass display case on the second floor of the Library. Although specific details are yet to be determined, it was established that:

- ◇ the competition will be open to both the King’s community and the broader community;
- ◇ call for submissions of this ready-to-hang banner will include all necessary details such as size, time line, placement, etc.;
- ◇ a ceremony will be held at a future Creativity event to announce the winner of the selected artwork.

Respectfully submitted by



Dr. Allan Irving
Coordinator, Centre for Creativity