

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 20, 2007

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The Greenwich Arts Council presents  
**JUST FOLKS - International Folk Art Exhibit & Sale**  
at  
**The Bendheim Gallery**

September 8 through October 13

299 Greenwich Avenue  
Greenwich, CT 06830

The Greenwich Arts Council will launch the new gallery season with whimsy and color in JUST FOLKS, a folk art exhibit and sale at The Bendheim Gallery. Curated by Cos Cob resident Cynthia Ross and GAC curator Tatiana Mori, JUST FOLKS will feature a wide range of folk art from around the world. Participating artists and galleries include the Gloria Frank Gallery (NYC); Elayne Goodman (Columbus, MS); Axelle Liautaud (Petion Ville, Haiti); Woody Long (Columbus, OH); Angela Usrey Gallery (Chattanooga, TN); Penny Weinstein (Stony Creek, CT); Ginger Young Gallery (Chapel Hill, NC); and Clifford & Nancy Wallach, Tramp Art (Greenwich, CT) among others.

In 1931 Holger Cahill, an author and organizer of an early folk art exhibition, described folk art as "an expression of the common people and not the expression of a small cultured class...it comes out of craft traditions, plus that *personal* something of the rare craftsman who is an artist by nature if not by training."

Folk art reflects time-honored art forms of diverse community groups and encompasses a range of utilitarian and decorative media including cloth, wood, paper, newspaper, clay, metal, and scrap materials. If traditional materials are inaccessible, new materials are often substituted, resulting in contemporary expressions of traditional folk art forms.

JUST FOLKS opens with an invitational preview champagne reception (compliments of LeWine Shop and JL to Go Event Planning & Catering by JEAN-LOUIS) and lecture by international folk art specialist Laurie Carmody Ahner (owner of Galerie Bonheur in St. Louis) on Friday, September 7, from 6 to 8 pm, followed by a special weekend "buy \* take" sale when any gallery purchase can be taken home that day. So start your holiday shopping early at The Bendheim Gallery during JUST FOLKS. *Paid reservations for the preview reception must be made by August 31. Call the GAC office for information, 203-622-3998.*

JUST FOLKS is made possible in part through the support of JL to Go Event Planning & Catering by JEAN-LOUIS, LeWine Shop, & Sempra Energy Trading.

The Greenwich Arts Council promotes the arts by nurturing artists and building audiences, bringing the arts to the community and the community to the arts. [www.greenwicharts.org](http://www.greenwicharts.org).