



"Montres Molles" by Salvador Dali

ARTIST OF THE WEEK
Salvador Dali
(1904-1989)

Blending fantasy and reality is what best describes the artistry of Spanish surrealist Salvador Dali.

Born near Barcelona in 1904, he was fully encouraged by his parents and younger sister to pursue his love of art. In fact, a room in his house was utilized as his first studio.

Dali was known for his assertiveness and different mode of dress. He was heavily influenced by Freud's Theory of the Unconscious and French surrealist writers and artists.

Juxtaposing lonely landscapes and backdrops with unrealistic and odd objects, Dali was inspired by dreams, hallucinations and other experiences. He described his creative process as "paranoiac-critical activity."

An outpouring of paintings, graphic design, jewelry design, clothing, costumes, stage settings and book illustrations flourished during World War II. He also wrote poetry, fiction and his autobiography, "The Secret Life of Salvador Dali."

Dali was also known as a film producer, turning out "An Andalusian Dog" in 1928 and "The Golden Age" in 1930. However, the artist is mostly noted for "The Persistence of Memory," a surrealist painting that sticks in the minds of artlovers world-wide.



Kid's Corner

I Want My Mummy! To Be Performed

At The Forum Theatre
METUCHEN - The musical presentation, I Want My Mummy, will be performed on Saturdays, October 2, to October 30, at 11 a.m. at The Forum Theatre Company in Metuchen.

The production is geared for children ages 3 and up and features an interesting Halloween theme.

Cast members will meet with the audience after the performances. All seats are reserved. Tickets are \$9 with discounts for groups. For ticket information, please call (732) 548-0582.

Arts & Entertainment

"Art is either plagiarism or revolution."
-Paul Gauguin, Artist

Pen and Ink

By MICHELLE H. LePOIDEVIN

Donny and Marie Try to Boost Their Careers; Pageant's Ratings Take Plunge

I admit it. When I was a little girl I had the most massive crush on Donny Osmond. I was surgically attached to the television during the "Donny and Marie Show" in the mid-70s and I even had the Donny doll. Scary. Even scarier was watching Donny almost throwing his hip out of joint during a drawn-out mini-concert he offered during the 79th Annual Miss America Pageant, which he co-hosted with his sis, Marie. While the Miss America Organization asked the siblings to host the program because they are considered "role models who share the Miss America Program's focus on family values, integrity, discipline and talent," the ratings for the program were the lowest ever.

Maybe Marie pointing out that her brother's zipper or "fly" was down fits into that "integrity" and "discipline" category. Or is it "talent" they were aiming to project?

This "dynamic duo" of Donny and Marie has attempted to resurrect itself through their daytime talk show, which has been a flop from the start. So, when the Q&A portion of the pageant was staged as a talk show with Marie pretending to be the host, asking deep and intimate questions of her guests or contestants, it became quickly apparent to me that the choice of Donny and Marie had more to do with bolstering the Fox talk show rating. What a snow job.

Just tune into the "Behind the Music" or "E! True Hollywood Story" tell-alls depicting the plunging career of once-teen-heartthrob, Donny Osmond, and it also becomes crystal clear that the mini-concert was meant to revive the career of the co-host. Can anyone name any other time when a host or co-host has performed for a quarter of an hour? For a while there, I forgot I was watching a pageant. It seemed like a low-grade version of a music video produced by someone with bad taste and a big heart.

The spoof on *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me* was far from shagadelic, baby. Donning go-go boots and 60s duds, pageant contestants chased down a disguised Donny who tried to portray Austin Powers up and down the boardwalks in Atlantic City. Couldn't we have filled the this time with some more substantial programming?

One of the most disturbing moments came when Donny and Marie were about to announce Miss Kentucky, Heather Renee French, as Miss America 2000. While the five finalists had floods of butterflies running through their stomachs, Donny boasted that he would let Marie read the name of the pageant winner, making her the first woman to ever announce the winner's name.

Oh! What a very gracious, politically-correct way to end the millennium by letting a woman have the pleasure of announcing the name. It's only taken 79 years to accomplish this feat! Maybe in another 79 years, the Organization will get viewers to stomach watching the women parade across the stage completely naked instead of in "modest" bathing suits. Meanwhile, we'll tell ourselves that the women aren't compromising their values or morals anymore than they do now - all pasted up with makeup and plastic smiles to win scholarship money.



Joanna B. Marsh for The Westfield Leader and The Times
GETTING IN THAT HALLOWEEN SPIRIT...Michael Caracappa enjoyed his Spiderman Hat which was crafted from balloons during the Fall Mum Fest sponsored by Parker Greenhouses Farm and Garden Center in Scotch Plains on September 25 and 26. The weekend's festivities included hay rides, visits by favorite cartoon characters, pumpkin coloring, face painting, a petting zoo and contests.

SENATOR DONALD T. DI FRANCESCO, ASSEMBLYMAN RICHARD H. BAGGER ENDORSE ARTS CELEBRATION

Arts & Humanities Month To Be Observed Statewide

By MICHELLE H. LePOIDEVIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

TRENTON - October is not just a time for carving pumpkins, sewing costumes or building haunted houses. Although these are all creative ventures, some of the most flavorful events will be on tap solely because October is the 7th Annual National Arts & Humanities Month in New Jersey.

When President Clinton first declared National Arts & Humanities Month in 1993, he said, "The arts have long been an integral part of America's cultural heritage, encouraging us to gain a deeper understanding of ourselves and of our society. The arts and humanities empower us to celebrate our individual identities, while reminding us of the values and commitments that unite us as a country."

The month will kick-off with a "Free Weekend" which promises a bevy of free cultural activities from Friday, October 1, to Sunday, October 3.

Ann Marie Miller of ArtPride NJ, an organization which advocates and informs the public about arts activities throughout the state, told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times* that the purpose of "Free Weekend" is to provide cultural activities for families who might not normally be able to afford tickets or entry to the events.

"It's a way of saying we're here, we're opening up our doors to you," said Ms. Miller.

"Arts and humanities are part of our everyday lives," explained Ms. Miller. She added that it enables organizations to "throw open their doors" and "invites the public to see something interesting to them and fun."

The Patricia M. Kuran Cultural Arts Center in Fanwood is one particular organization which will sponsor an event during "Free Weekend" - a writing workshop on Saturday, October 2, from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Other local venues such as George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, Count Basie Theatre

in Red Bank, Cornelius Low House/Middlesex County Museum in Piscataway and the Somerset County Cultural Heritage Gallery in Somerville will sponsor events during "Free Weekend."

However, the celebration does not end with "Free Weekend," it's just the beginning! Here is just a quick sampling of some local activities that will be taking place:

"Discover Westfield from Thursday, October 7, to Monday, October 11 - music, entertainment and food.

"Four Centuries in a Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, October 23 and 24, - featuring a flavor of historical tours and demonstrations at the Miller-Cory House Museum in Westfield.

"Annual Fall Festival at Miller-Cory Museum on Sunday, October 17.

"Evergreen Cemetery in Hillside will run a free, eerie tour on Sunday, October 31, at 1 p.m. The burial place of several authors, this would be an interesting place to escape the trick or treaters and learn a little history.

Just in time for Halloween's ghouls and goblins, the Evergreen Cemetery celebration is part of the "Buried in New Jersey" portion of Arts & Humanities Month, featuring historical tours of area cemeteries where local celebrities are buried.

"This is an opportunity to celebrate the historical folk that are here in New Jersey," noted Ms. Miller. "There's history in your cemetery too!"

Ms. Miller revealed that Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco of Scotch Plains and Assemblyman Richard H. Bagger of Westfield have both been "incredible supporters of the arts" and have been instrumental in getting out the word that arts and humanities will be celebrated throughout October.

For a full roster of events commemorating October as Arts & Humanities Month, please visit www.jerseyarts.com. Activities are separated by artistic genre such as theater; music; dance; visual arts; folk arts and crafts; film, media and literature; history and arts and humanities education.



National Arts and Humanities Month October

SCOTCH PLAINS Business & Professional Association
www.visitscotchplains.com

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Running Race - 9 Am, Civic Ceremonies - 10 Am
Health Fair & Pet Clinic 8Am - 12Pm
Lions Club Flea Market - 8Am - 4Pm
Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, DJ 11Am-3Pm
Sidewalk Sales All Day Long

Paper Mill Schedules Flood Relief Fundraiser

MILBURN - Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn will hold a one night only benefit to aid Hurricane Floyd victims in downtown Millburn.

Entitled "The Floyd Follies Flood Relief Fundraiser," the program will be held on Monday, October 4, at 7:30 p.m.

"We at the Paper Mill want to show our concern for our Millburn friends and associates following the devastating losses from last week's storm," said Executive Producer Angelo Del Rossi. "The entire community is invited to show their support by joining us for an evening's entertainment. All monies raised will be presented to the Downtown Millburn Development Alliance."

Eddie Bracken, James Brennan, Judy McLane, Jim Walton, cast members of *Mame* and other Paper Mill performers will attend.

VIP seating is available for a minimum contribution of \$100 or more, while general admission is a contribution of \$25 to \$99. For ticket information, please call (973) 376-4343.

Jean Bernard Gazarian
United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Tales from the United Nations
Thursday October 7 • 7:30pm

Parish House at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield
140 Mountain Avenue

Tickets \$5 • Seniors \$3 • at the door or the Westfield Y Refreshments Served
For More Information Contact Dave Mueller (908) 233-2700, Ext 233

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