

---

# Espy Foundation

March 2008 Newsletter

---

## Espy Auction on the Half Shell

On March 2, 2008 the Espy Foundation teamed up with auctioneer John Curley to present a lively and fun-filled afternoon at the Ruins for all. Collectors and supporters were moved to buy art, books and events. The Espy Foundation thanks the patrons and contributors for their generosity with special applause to Rosa Ayer who contributed this painting by Morris Graves.



Untitled, 1974

Morris Graves

---

## Alumni Gregory Grenon



• Grenon contributed a hand colored lithograph to the auction. His tribute to Espy was read when *Dahlias* was auctioned.

*... As I contemplated wrapping up and sending a framed lithograph for the Espy Auction this week, I thought how beautiful my month's stay at Oysterville was in March of 2006.*

*While at Espy I drew and painted every single day. It was glorious. I only visited the beach once briefly. The weather in March of 2006 was terrific, stormy, rainy, and mixed with ice storms and a full bright moon. The frogs in the pond nearby chirped all night long. I was so inspired that I worked until 2 or 3 in the morning every night. I visited the hardware store and antique shops and bookstores for resource material and inspiration. A special trip or two to Seaview for fried clams and oysters. Writing every day in my journal and letters to friends. People were friendly and knew enough to let you alone. I will never forget my stay at Espy and hope to visit and be a resident again soon. Sincerely with love and respect,*

*Gregory Grenon*

---

## March Residents

The March residents have arrived from around the country to work on a diverse range of projects:

**James Bertolino** plans to spend his time at Espy arranging 140 pages of poetry that he is selecting from his published work. In addition, he also intends to write a new group of nature poems. His way of nature-writing is not centered only on human experience, but seeks to discover nature universally.

**E. Eastman**, who won the 2005 Espy Foundation award for creative non-fiction with *Modigliani and Me* is currently working toward finishing his book, *In Utero*, a collection of personal linked essays.

**Sharon McGauley** has been looking forward to exploring our shore and collecting the organisms from which to work. She will spend her time in Oysterville connecting science with the fine arts: Creating paintings that are interpretive, informed, and influential, but not photographic, illustrative or precise, as science tends to be.

**Jun'ichiro Ishida** is working on a mandala installation incorporating his "Lotus" series of paintings.



Soul Reflector

Jun'ichiro Ishida

"...My installation is an interactive assemblage piece in which audiences participate by walking in meditation on the piece to gain the sense of focusing in the moment."

---

## Marita Dingus In Oysterville

For Marita Dingus, art is the very essence of life. In the Oysterville Schoolhouse recently, before an enthusiastic audience, Marita showed on screen and in person the remarkable products of a life dedicated to art and teaching. She arrived at graduate school with a large truckload of roadside debris gathered during a job working on

California highways and she's been creating striking works of art and elaborate installations from found objects ever since. Her slides and talk revealed the many ways her career has been shaped by the wide travels it has led her on. Whether it be studying indigenous art and the slave trade in Morocco, Nigeria, and Ghana; participating in a women's conference in Beijing; traveling through the ancient kingdom of Egypt; or living and working in Texas and throughout the American South on a Guggenheim fellowship, she gathers insights and ideas wherever she goes. Metal coat hangers and tabs from soft drink cans, electrical wiring and face plates, glass objects and wine corks, these are among the wealth of everyday materials she weaves into her art, which is widely displayed in the Northwest and around the country.



*Oysterville resident & Espy supporter Peter Janke*

Dingus was brought to the Peninsula in part, by a grant from the Washington States Arts Commission and the Espy Foundation.

---