

artini • 2012

CORCORAN
GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART+DESIGN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTONIAN

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CORCORAN AND THE 1869 SOCIETY PRESENT ARTINI 2012

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This spring, the Corcoran Gallery of Art’s 1869 Society presents the fifth annual ARTINI, the month-long special event to celebrate the Corcoran collection and benefit ArtReach, the Corcoran’s signature community outreach program celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2012.



Throughout the month of March, 11 of the city’s most creative mixologists will compete to create the most artistic martini inspired by works from the

Corcoran collection. The public is invited to sample the artinis at the participating Washington venues throughout the month of March and to vote for their favorite on the website of ARTINI press partner *Washingtonian* at www.washingtonian.com/artini. On **Saturday, March 31, 2012**, the winning artini will be announced at the **culminating fundraiser from 8:30 p.m. to midnight**.

“ARTINI is a unique opportunity for Washingtonians to experience and explore the intersection of art and craft cocktail,” said Lindley Thornburg, ARTINI 2012 chair. “Guests can literally get a taste of the Corcoran’s vast collection while mingling with fellow art-lovers and supporting one of the institution’s cornerstone educational programs, ArtReach.”

Throughout March, venues will host special **Feature Nights**, allowing Washingtonians to sample the exclusive artinis while raising funds for the Corcoran and ArtReach; each venue will donate 20 percent of their Feature Night sales to the Corcoran. Participating venues include: Ardeo + Bardeo, Art and Soul, El Centro D.F., Founding Farmers, The Gibson, Jack Rose Dining Saloon, Oyamel Cocina Mexicana, P.O.V. at the W Hotel, The Passenger, Smith Commons, and Tabard Inn Restaurant.

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Taking inspiration from across the Corcoran collection, last year's Critic's Choice winner and Fan Favorite **Ronald Flores from Art and Soul** will create "Zeitgeist," an artini inspired by Aaron Douglas's 1936 painting *Into Bondage* featuring Mount Gay Silver Rum infused with Rooibos herbal tea; **Rachel Sergi of Jack Rose Dining Saloon** will present "The Threshold," a mix of Herradura Tequila and fresh pressed fruit juices, topped with a Jack Daniels Honey air inspired by Frederic Edwin Church's *Niagara*; and **Joe Ambrose from P.O.V. at the W Hotel** will look to Terry Winters' *Theophrastus Garden 2* to create "Theo's Flower," featuring 42 Below Vodka with more orange juice and brown simple syrup, and topped with a lemon foam and candied flowers.

On Saturday, March 31, 2012 the Corcoran will host ARTINI 2012 **from 8:30 p.m. until midnight**. The event will offer each artini hand-poured by the guest mixologists, a beer and wine bar, hors d'oeuvres and desserts, music by Chris Nitti and Matthew Hemerlein, and the opportunity to view the Corcoran collection, including the artistic inspiration for each artini. **Tickets for ARTINI 2012** cost \$95 for 1869 Society members and \$115 for non-1869 Society members. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.corcoran.org/artini.

All proceeds support ArtReach, the Corcoran's award-winning arts education program celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2012. ARTINI is generously sponsored by Main Event Caterers, *Washingtonian*, 42 Below Vodka, Cointreau, Herradura Tequila, Jack Daniel's Tennessee Honey, Mount Gay Rum, and Remy Martin VSOP.

THE ART OF CRAFT COCKTAILS



For the second year, ARTINI will celebrate a "**Critics' Choice**" selection, in addition to the winner of the popular vote. A panel of esteemed judges—including notable chefs, mixologists, food and spirits writers, and Corcoran curators—will enjoy a **private tasting from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on March 31** in order to select the Critics' Choice winner.

Purchase a VIP ticket and spend an intimate hour sampling artinis with the judges while learning craft cocktail tips from the mixologists. Each VIP guest will also have access to a private bar beginning at 10 p.m. and will take home a special gift bag. **VIP tickets** for the event cost \$130 for 1869 Society members and \$150 for non-1869 Society members. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.corcoran.org/artini.

ARTINI FEATURE NIGHTS

March 6–29, 2012

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays; 6:30–8:30 p.m.

In anticipation of ARTINI, join the 1869 Society Steering Committee and ARTINI Host Committee for our 12 Feature Nights. Each of the participating venues will host a happy hour and donate 20% of their bar sales to support Corcoran ArtReach. Mingle with fellow 1869 Society members and be one of the first to sample the featured artini for a great cause!

Tuesday, March 6

Joe Cleveland, Oyamel Cocina Mexicana

Wednesday, March 7

Sam Haltiwanger, Ardeo + Bardeo

Thursday, March 8

Rachel Sergi, Jack Rose Dining Saloon

Tuesday, March 13

Jon Arroyo, Founding Farmers

Wednesday, March 14

Ronald Flores, Art and Soul

Thursday, March 15

Frank Jones, The Gibson

Tuesday, March 20

Chantal Tseng, Tabard Inn Restaurant

Wednesday, March 21

Michael Audi, El Centro D.F.

Thursday, March 22

Phil Peters, Smith Commons

Tuesday, March 27

Alexandra Bookless, The Passenger

Thursday, March 29

Joe Ambrose, P.O.V. at the W Hotel

GET INSPIRED ON AN ARTINI TOUR

Learn more about the art behind the artinis! Stop by the Gallery for a docent-led tour and get an up-close look at the 12 works that inspired ARTINI's participating mixologists. Tours are available every Saturday in March starting on March 10 at 3 p.m. Please visit www.corcoran.org/artini to pre-register for an ARTINI tour.

ABOUT THE 1869 SOCIETY

The 1869 Society is a dynamic young professionals group in Washington, D.C. The group provides exclusive networking and socializing opportunities with other up-and-coming art patrons ages 25 to 42. Members of the 1869 Society have access to private exhibition previews and receptions at the museum, invitations to and discounts on 1869 Society events, unlimited free admission to temporary and permanent exhibitions, guest passes, discounts at Todd Gray's



Muse at the Corcoran and the Corcoran Shop, and reduced fees for Continuing Education classes at the Corcoran College of Art + Design. To learn more about special interest societies at the Corcoran, visit www.corcoran.org/membership.

ABOUT ARTREACH

ArtReach, the Corcoran's educational art outreach program, in 2012 celebrates its 20th year of high-quality visual arts education for local youth. Established in 1992, the program extends the resources of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the College of Art + Design to the diverse neighborhoods of Washington, D.C. Through innovative partnerships with community organizations around the city, ArtReach provides after-school programs, summer classes, workshops and more to underserved youth and their families, and helps to fill the gap between the D.C. Public School System and arts instruction. ArtReach students and their families benefit from a safe, supportive and creative environment designed to foster and celebrate artistic talent and curiosity. The program serves more than 300 students a year. For more information on ArtReach, please visit www.corcoran.org/artreach.

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, a privately funded institution, was founded in 1869. It was America's first dedicated art museum and today is Washington's largest nonfederal museum of art. It is known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. In addition, a dynamic schedule of special exhibitions is complemented and enhanced by a range of educational programming, which together seek to enrich perspectives, support the local arts community, and encourage interpretation. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded in 1890 and stands as Washington's only four-year college of art and design, offering BFA degrees in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Fine Art Photography, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Photojournalism; a BA in Art Studies; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts/Master of Arts in Teaching (BFA/MAT); an AFA in Digital Media Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Photography; and MA degrees in Art and the Book, Art Education, Exhibition Design, Interior Design, Master of Arts in Teaching, and New Media Photojournalism. The College's Continuing Education program offers part-time credit and non-credit classes for children and adults and draws more than 2,500 participants each year. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit www.corcoran.org.



Photos by Ben Droz.

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