

From the Editor's Desk:

Design Competitions, About This Issue, Something Unusual

Design Competitions

The Stained Glass Association of America's Design Competitions at the Syracuse 2011 Annual Summer Conference represents a new and novel approach to competitions designed to highlight stained, decorative, and architectural art glass. These competitions — essentially, there are two of them, as both theme categories can be entered and both will be judged separately — will be judged based on 11" x 22" proposed designs on the theme of either *Creation* (religious) or *Harmony* (residential).

This is a great opportunity to show off some designs on these themes and also maybe win a prize for your efforts. The entry fee is only \$35, and there will be cash prizes for first, second, and third place. There will also be product prizes, including gift certificates from Artisan Glass Works, S.A. Bendheim, Blenko Glass Company, Denver Glass Machinery, DHD Metals, Kokomo Opalescent Glass Company, Mayco Industries, Reusché & Co., and Uroboros Studios.

Also, winning entries will be published in *The Stained Glass Quarterly* and on the SGAA websites. For more information, see *Syracuse 2011 Design Competition* on pages 20-21.

About This Issue

The Spring issue is always the hardest one to produce each year. As I write this, with this issue approaching a full month behind in its production schedule, this year was no exception.

Between the Winter magazine and the Spring magazine comes a publication called *Sourcebook*. Available online now at SGAAOnline.com, *Sourcebook* is designed to promote stained, decorative, and architectural art glass and the membership of the Stained Glass Association of America to architects, designers, and end users. It is a very worthwhile publica-



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tion, and certainly it is one that takes quite a bit of work to make a reality each year.

The downside is that producing *Sourcebook* means that the Spring issue of the magazine always runs late.

Fortunately, this is a quarterly and not a weekly, and I hope you will agree that this issue was well worth the wait. Look for a report on the state of the SGAA Stained Glass School beginning on page 14; an article on two of Elizabeth Devereaux's beautiful contemporary installations beginning on page 30; the third and final part of Donald Samick's series on a possible business model for modern studios, which is continued from the Fall 2010 issue; the conclusion of Roger Nincheri's in-depth series on the windows of Saint-Pierre de Shawinigan beginning on page 39; a look at some very interesting windows by French artist Gerard Lardeur, written by David Wilde beginning on page 42; an overview of prominent installations to see in Rochester, New York, written by Nancy Gong and Valerie O'Hara, beginning on page 46; an article by Arthur Femenella on his and Kathy Jordan's work on the "In Company with Angels" Tiffany windows beginning on page 50; and, finally, a look at 11 of Sylvia Lak's autonomous panels

that were featured in an exhibition at the Sophia Wanamaker Art Gallery, one of Costa Rica's most popular art venues, beginning on page 58.

In addition, of course, you'll find the usual departments, news, and information you expect from *The Stained Glass Quarterly*.

Something Unusual

In the grand scheme of things, this is, frankly, not that big of a deal. In fact, if I hadn't mentioned it here, no one would probably even have suspected, and it would have been a matter soon forgotten and unrecorded. Ten years from now, it — or something very similar to it — will simply be the way magazine business is conducted.

This magazine contains a first: the article "Remarkable Architectural Art Glass: A Rochester Tour" by Nancy Gong and Valerie O'Hara is the first article in the history of this magazine for which the initial query was received through Facebook.

Nancy Gong and I are friends on Facebook, and she sent a message asking if I would be interested in an article on Rochester stained glass, especially since the SGAA Annual Summer Conference in Syracuse will be so close and people travelling to Syracuse might well visit Rochester, also.

I thought it was a great idea and asked her to please proceed with it. Now, I don't remember what the first article to include digital photography was, nor do I remember what the first article to be sent entirely through e-mail was; however, I can tell you which one is the first article to have its beginnings in social networking... you'll see it in this issue.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard H. Gross".

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