

OUTER LIMITS

WIDE OPEN 5

April 26 – June 1

Look out the window of the beautifully-restored Civil War-era waterfront building in Red Hook and you will see the dazzling New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty and the skyscrapers of Manhattan. Turn around and you'll find another dazzling display - this one of artists' work hanging on white-paneled walls or strategically placed on the hard wood floors of the two-story gallery. The Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition (BWAC) is holding its spring art show from April 26 through June 1 and this year's enthusiastic response from artists across the country guarantees a unique and diversified exercise of the imagination.



Photo by Bob Criso

The first floor features Wide Open 5, a national juried show with cash prizes judged by Pauline Poboča, an assistant curator at MoMA. Only one hundred pieces were chosen by the curator from the 1456 submitted. All mediums were considered and the artists were asked to explore the concept of "Wide Open" with all that might imply with regard to medium, expression, composition, experience, dreams, reality or however the artist wanted to interpret it. Says Poboča, "...the show celebrates the richness and diversity of work being made in the boroughs of New York and beyond. The preponderance of styles and broad range of mediums evident in this year's submissions reflect the vast talent and probing curiosity of the many artists involved with this organization. It was an honor and a pleasure to view their art and I intend for my selections reflect the vibrancy and vitality of this community." One of the most spectacular works (and the largest at 26' wide), is Betsy Bannan's *Fly Over* - comprised of dozens of oil panels, each one a masterwork.

The second floor, *Outer Limits* is an open show with the work of over two hundred artists on display, also in various media. It explores beyond the boundaries into fantasy, science fiction or the artist's psyche itself. There is so much to take in. Check out the magical sculpture of last year's *Wide Open* Curator's Choice winner, Joyce Utting Schutter. You might see some visitors circulating in themed costumes and there have even been whispers that a giant robot will be in attendance on opening day.

Also at the opening will be award-winning American artist, Donato Giancola, a special guest exhibitor in *Outer Limits*. Donato, who specializes in science fiction and fantasy illustration, is one of the most popular and successful artists working today in this genre. He has clients from around the world including such renowned science fiction writers as Sandra McDonald, William H. Paterson, and Mike Resnick.

BWAC offers visitors the unique opportunity to meet and talk with individual artists about the very work they will be viewing. The goals of the group are to encourage and support the work of a broad range of artists active in the metropolitan area. Located at 499 Van Brunt Street in now-hip Red Hook, Brooklyn, the show is steps away from edgy new bars, restaurants and shops and only a short walk from the Ikea and Fairway megastores.

The show opens on Saturday, April 26, 2-6 PM with live musical entertainment provided by the Wayne Tucker Quartet, a jazz and contemporary musical group that has appeared at the famous Village club Smalls in Manhattan.

See BWAC.org for further information.

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BWAC is the largest non-profit artists group in Brooklyn and one of the oldest. This year is its 35th birthday.
The space for the BWAC gallery is donated by The O'Connell organization.
For more information www.bwac.org or 718 596-2506/7

499 Van Brunt St, Red Hook BKLYN