

For Immediate Release

September 29, 2010

Santa Fe Art Institute Board of Trustees Elects New Co-Presidents

Effective August 25, 2010, The Santa Fe Art Institute Board of Trustees elected board co-presidents, Alicia Metcalf Miller & Kathy E. Bartlett, to replace outgoing president, Gay Block.

Block, who has been on the SFAI Board since June of 2002, was elected president in March 2006, and served in that role until August 2010. The SFAI is grateful and honored to have had such an accomplished artist on the board for so long, both as a member and as president. Block will remain on the Board as a trustee.

As a portrait photographer, Gay Block began in 1973 with portraits of her own affluent Jewish community in Houston and later expanded this study to include South Miami Beach and girls at summer camp. Her landmark work with writer Malka Drucker, *RESCUERS: Portraits of Moral Courage in the Holocaust*, both a book and traveling exhibit, has been seen in over fifty venues in the US and abroad, including The Museum of Modern Art, NY, in 1992. In 2003 Block's 30-year portrait of her mother in photographs, video, and words, *Bertha Alyce: Mother exPosed*, was published by UNM Press and began as a traveling exhibit. Also published in 2003 by Skylight Paths is another collaboration with Drucker, *White Fire: A Portrait of Women Spiritual Leaders in America*. In 2006, Block re-photographed women who were girls in her 1981 series from Camp Pinecliffe, twenty-five years before. Block's photographs are included in museums and private collections including MoMA New York, San Francisco MoMA, and The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

Replacing Block, as co-presidents of the SFAI Board of Trustees are Alicia Metcalf Miller and Kathy E. Bartlett.

Alicia Metcalf Miller has been a committed member of the SFAI Board of Trustees since August of 1998. She attended Stanford University and graduated from Pomona College with honors; she holds an MA in English Literature from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. For many years, she worked as a book critic for *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, as well as other newspapers and periodicals. Her first novel, *Home Bodies*, was published by *The Atlantic Monthly Press*; her second, *My Life on Mars*, by *Penguin/Plume*. She is at work on a third novel.

Miller and her husband Bill have lived in Santa Fe for 22 years, during which time, she has been on the boards of Santa Fe Cares, a fund-raising organization for HIV/AIDS, and

Michelle Laflamme-Childs

Residency Director &
Marketing/PR Director

1600 St. Michaels Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Mail to: PO Box 24044
Santa Fe, NM 87502

t 505.424.5050
f 505.424.5051
info@sfai.org
www.sfai.org

The Santa Fe Art Institute, an independent educational non-profit organization founded in 1985, is committed to programs that nurture artists and enhance and promote the arts as an essential element of American culture and society.

SFAI funding provided in part by The Burnett Foundation, The McCune Charitable Foundation, The Lannan Foundation, The Warhol Foundation, The Joan Mitchell Foundation, The Brindle Foundation, the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the 1% Lodgers' Tax and by New Mexico Arts, a Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

Southwest CARE Center, a full-service HIV/AIDS provider, serving the northeast quadrant of New Mexico. She has chaired the boards of both of those organizations. Before that, she sat on the board of Kent State University in Ohio for nine years, where she served as chair for two of those.

Miller and her husband, who has been involved in SITE Santa Fe for years, are enthusiastic art collectors, and their interest in both art and architecture are abiding themes in their lives that have led them to travel widely. They have three grown children.

Kathy E. Bartlett has been a passionate and dedicated SFAI Board member since February of 2010. She holds an MFA from the University of South Florida and a JD from Fordham University School of Law. She came to Santa Fe just two years ago from New York City where she lived for over 20 years with her husband and daughter. Prior to becoming interested in the law, she lived and worked as an artist, showing at a number of galleries in New York. She also managed international traveling exhibitions for The Museum of Modern Art. In 2003, Bartlett received her law degree and served as an editor on Fordham's Intellectual Property Law Journal. She currently works as Senior Attorney for the American Heart Association, a national science and health related charitable organization. Her practice focuses on trademark and not-for-profit corporation law. She is also a member of the board of the New Mexico Lawyers for the Arts.

We thank Gay for her devoted tenure as president and welcome Alicia and Kathy into their new positions.

For more information, please contact Michelle Laflamme-Childs at mchilds@sfaio.org or call (505) 424-5050.

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