



NEW YORK: DA DOMANI MOSTRA ALL'ITALIAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

Italian American Museum Presents Constance DelVecchio/Maltese's (November 29th - January 12th)

The Italian American Museum is pleased to announce that on November 29, from 6 to 8 pm there will be an exhibition of original paintings by artist Constance DelVecchio/Maltese. The Journey Continues explores the depth of this artist's repertoire best known for her more popular series *Age of Discovery Navigators*, created for the Columbus Countdown '92 of which she was awarded a *Special Recognition in the Arts and Humanities* amongst many other recognitions received for this work.

In the current exhibition on view at the Italian American Museum through January 12th, the works selected illustrate the evolution of Constance DelVecchio/Maltese by providing a sampling through the many series of paintings that help to define the artist. In addition to the Navigators (a series of 13 paintings of such dignitaries as Marco Polo and Christopher Columbus) - both included in this show, are examples from her Women in History series, as well as her most recent works. Consistent within the twelve original oil paintings, pastels and drawings is her intention to remain steadfast in her commitment to the integrity of her continued exploration to decipher meaning as an artist. A majority of the works on view are portraits. A portrait of the artist's granddaughter Sondra beautifully depicts The Journey Continues motif. Here the viewer is invited into the artist's world with a sense of delight and wonder as is paralleled in a young girl's thought as seen in a quiet moment, alone. Constance DelVecchio/Maltese is interested in painting her reality thereby many of the subjects in her works are intimately known by her. From the Women in History series, the curator, Maria Cocchiarelli has selected seven portraits of influential woman - Senator Olga Mendes, Dr. Anne Paolucci, Councilwoman Melinda Katz, Yvonne Plummer - all known for contributions in their respective professions. There are also drawings, and pastels, which exemplify the artist's process, as she explores the world around her - landscapes, still-lives and animal portraits.

In her most recent work, DelVecchio/Maltese extends her virtuosity through the use of a formalist flattened picture plane, and a combination of imagery suggestive of many contemporary artists such as Larry Rivers and Pat Steir. Pat and Her Strays, a work in five sections cunningly expresses the range of her talent as well as her deep conceptual understanding for a humanist concern. Similarly, a tour de force is Rebecca's Retreat, a triptych that utilizes a very sophisticated understanding of a complex composition. In this work the narrative sweeps the viewer away as well as the attention to detail, and handling of paint.

Dr. Joseph V. Scelsa, President of the Italian American museum has said that, Constance DelVecchio/Maltese is an artist in keeping with the mission of the Italian American Museum. In her earlier works such as the Age of Discovery Navigators' series, she celebrates her Italian American heritage by researching the contributions of her Italian ancestors. She continues to work extensively in the public arena and has contributed greatly to many social concerns. A full color catalogue accompanies this exhibition with a biographical sketch by art historian, Carol Gordon Wood, an interview with the artist and curator, and a contributing essay by Dr. Anne Paolucci. The Italian American Museum is open from 10 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

The exhibition continues through January 12th, 2007.

The Italian American Museum is the first museum dedicated to preserving and presenting the cultural and social contributions of Italian Americans to the American way of life. The exhibit The Journey Continues is free and will be open to the public from Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment (212-642-2020) at 28 West 44th Street, 17th floor between 5th and 6th Avenues.

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Please visit our website www.italianamericanmuseum.org

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