



Cactus Needles

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On the Web

Check out Mike Contos' pictures from **Wild Wild West Con 2**
at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/40438868@N00/sets/72157633155062684/>
and <http://www.flickr.com/photos/40438868@N00/sets/72157633158054083/>



From the Mailbox

Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild Finery 11.2, March-April 2013 – Japonism or Not? by Sand Vroman. Imbibing Fashionable Waters by Deborah Parker Wong (an effervescent history of carbonated water and fountain drinks). Adventures in Glove-Making by Thena (T.E.) MacArthur. President's column from Deborah Borlase.

Come review these hard-copy newsletters and other correspondence at the next SWCG meeting.

Digital Print Fashion Exhibit at the Phoenix Art Museum

by David Ramirez

Hello, I'm your Guild Secretary, I take the minutes so you don't have to. Now, I'd suggest a visit to the Phoenix Art Museum any day just on principle. With its wide range of exhibits on display, from Renaissance portraits, Japanese wall scrolls, to South American Modern art, it's pretty easy to get lost for hours walking around hall after hall. Most of the halls however don't allow photographs, obviously to protect against light damage from the flashes. And boy are the museum staff ever picky about that fact, if you even had your phone out of your pocket they'd be giving you the hairy eyeball like you were about to walk out with a Monet under your jacket again. Luckily for everyone, this particular exhibit was one of the exceptions, because I especially would recommend the Digital Print Fashion Exhibit be visited. Not only is it in a costumer's wheelhouse, but the vibrance, creativity and technological acumen just has to be seen to be believed.



I went there last month after finally convincing my coworkers to try something different for our quarterly group outing. Usually it's movies or Dave & Busters, but for once they were willing to give something a little more cultured a chance. Can't say I'm surprised that I was the last one to leave the museum when they only gave it an hour's chance. But I digress.

The Digital Print Fashion Exhibit demonstrates just what can be made when not only the pattern, but the print of the fabric itself are assembled in tandem to produce a unique design. Graphics technology has advanced to

the point where not only magazine-quality photographs may be produced at home, but the same digital tools are capable of producing countless patterns and colors on fabric. Custom designs are already produced at shirt printers like T-shirt Hell and CafePress, but this takes it altogether to another level. A designer can create a print to accentuate the cut of their outfit, or recreate a vintage print that's been out of stock for decades.



This exhibition is located in the Ellman Fashion Design Gallery till July 14th, and does not require any special admission beyond the general entry pass. It features the work of contemporary designers such as Mary Katrantzou, Alexander McQueen, Ralph Rucci and Issey Miyake and others, demonstrating the possibilities of digital print fashion designs. If you ever get the chance, check it out.





Trailer Trash Tour
By Cathie Yankovich



Sisters on the Fly, an international women’s group focusing on vintage trailers and fly fishing held their Old West Highway Hitch-Up in Globe March 23-25. Forty-seven trailers of all colors and sizes showed up. Founded in Arizona, the group has over 3500 members. Members are encouraged to decorate their trailers in a theme. Typically, a variety of fantasy western is selected (bordello, cowboy), although Space Cadet Sister opted for outer space. Trailer restoration is addictive. Some of the sisters have four or five

trailers. The group offered a “Trailer Trash” tour of their vehicles, benefiting Globe Main Street (a local non-profit.)

Calendar

Do you know an event of interest to Arizona costumers? Please contact your editor with the details. **Red text and an asterisk*** designate an SWCG-sponsored event. *Unless otherwise noted, our monthly meetings start at 1PM.*

March 2 – July 14, 2013 – **Digital Print Fashion** in the Ellman Fashion Design Gallery at the Phoenix Art Museum. Advances in digital textile printing have brought about the widespread use in fashion design of a new range of prints in bold, eye-catching patterns and colors. Over the past two decades, technological advances in graphics software, photography and ink-jet printing have expanded the range of possible image sources, the potential for image manipulation, and the rapid production of intricate patterns in limitless colors. These digital tools also aid fashion designers in engineering the custom placement of a print on a garment as so the notion of the repeat in a print design that was once dictated by the limitations of production methods may now be based on aesthetic choices.

This exhibition featuring over 40 works by contemporary designers including Mary Katrantzou, Alexander McQueen, Ralph Rucci and Issey Miyake among others incorporate digitally printed textiles in their designs. In addition, a selection of works outlining the history of printed textiles from Phoenix Art Museum's fashion design collection will give context to these revolutionary looks.

See Blackfeather's review earlier in this issue.

Oh, another that = 'First Friday @ the Phoenix Art Museum' museum is free on the first Friday of the month. Then there are a lot of street vendors -- can wander around and see the sights. -- Jean

April 5-6, 11-13, 18-20 at 7:30 PM, April 6,7,13,14,20 at 2:00 PM – **The Importance of Being Earnest**. Oscar Wilde's comedy of manners and manors presented in Steampunk style at the Brelby Theater Company, 6839 W. 58th Ave. Glendale, AZ. <http://brelby.com/> Opening night will feature a gala at the Gaslight Inn.

April 10-14, 2013 – **Maricopa County Fair** at the state fairgrounds, NEC 19th Avenue & McDowell in Phoenix. <http://www.maricopacountyfair.org/>

April 12, 2013, 6-9 PM – **Yasmina's Belly Dance Costume Workshop** in the multi-purpose room of the Mesa Arts Center, 1 East Main Street, Mesa AZ. Workshop will consist of viewing costumes already made, discussion of cabaret and tribal costumes along with handouts and instructions to make your own costumes. Materials: Several clear shower curtains for tracing your patterns, Sharpies and a folder to hold all the handouts and patterns. Ages 16 and older one day. Here's the direct link to register, <http://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/classes/arts-workshops/performing-arts-workshops/CAW13DNCW06>

April 13, 2013 – **Spring Children's Tea** at Hacket House, 94 W. 4th Street, Tempe AZ. Be Our Guest! Be Our Guest! On Saturday, April 13, 2013, Hackett House will host the Beauty and the Beast Children's Tea. Belle and Gaston will be in attendance! Before taking tea, there will be a craft project and story time with the characters. Costumes are encouraged. \$24.00 per person. <http://www.hacketthouse.org/for-children/childrens-teas/>

April 28, 2013 – **Fun with Felt*** SWCG Workshop at Jean's place 17829 North 107th Avenue, Sun City (See Map). What to do with a big pile of craft felt fabric? Ideas so far include jester hats, biggins and anime-style animal hats.

May 9-12, 2013 – **LepreCon 39** at the Mesa Marriott Hotel, 200 N. Centennial Way, Mesa AZ. Guests include Jon Schindehett of Wizards of the Coast. <http://leprecon.org> .

May 17-20, 2013 – **Costume-Con 31** at the Red Lion Denver SE in Aurora, Colorado. A whole weekend for costumers and costumes! <http://cc31denver.com/>

May 17 – June 2, 2013 – **The Pirates of Penzance** at Fountain Hills Theater, 11445 N. Saguaro Blvd. Fountain Hills, AZ. Gilbert & Sullivan & Steampunk! Thursday, Friday & Saturday @ 8:00PM / Sunday @ 2:00PM <http://www.fhtaz.org/>

May 19, 2013 – **Masks!*** SWCG Workshop. Location TBA. Robin has a cool mask construction technique that even works with eyeglasses.

May 23-26, 2013 – **Phoenix ComiCon** at the Phoenix Convention Center and Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix AZ. <http://www.phoenixcomicon.com>

May 25-27, 2013 – **Wyatt Earp Days** in Tombstone, Arizona. <http://www.tombstonechamber.com/Wyatt-Earp-Days>

June 9-16, 2013 – **Highlands War** in the Apache National Forest, near Alpine, Arizona. The SCA Barony of Ered Sul's annual get-together in the cool pines. <http://highlandswar.org/>

June 23, 2013, 1PM – **The MIM*** SWCG field trip to the Musical Instrument Museum at 4725 East Mayo Boulevard, Phoenix. This museum features not only musical instruments from all over the world, but the costumes worn by the musicians who play them. <http://mim.org/> Museum admission is \$18 for adults.

June 29-30, 2013 – **Costumers Lost Weekend** at the Crowne Plaza Addison hotel in Addison, Texas. Presented by the Dallas-Fort Worth Costumers Guild. <http://www.dfwcg.org>

August 1, 2013, 7PM - **CopperCon Revolution Presents 2001 A Space Odyssey w/ Plan 9 From Outer Space** at Pollack Tempe Cinemas, 1825 E Elliot, Tempe AZ. 2001 will start at 7PM with Plan 9 From Outer Space starting at 9:30 PM. You wanted the best science fiction films of all time and were giving them to you in one sitting. Tickets for the showing are \$10 to the general public and \$5 with a membership to CopperCon: Revolution which will happen August 8th-11th 2013. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time at <http://casfs.org/cucon/2013/02/special-screening-2001-a-space-odyssey-wplan-9-from-outer-space/>

August 8-11, 2013 – **CopperCon 33 Revolution** at the Windemere Hotel & Conference Center in Mesa, Arizona. <http://www.coppercon.org> . *Believe it or not, your editor is Fan Guest of Honor.*

August 17, 2012 – **Can't Stop the Serenity - Tucson** Annual charity screening of Joss Whedon's "Serenity" and "Dr. Horrible's Singalong Blog at the Fox Theater, 17 West Congress, Tucson, Arizona. <http://azbrowncoats.org/>

October 4-6, 2013 – **Browncoat Ball** – at the Coastal Phoenix Sky Harbor Hotel, 4300 E. Washington Street in Phoenix. The Arizona Browncoats will host the Browncoat Ball, an annual gala in celebration of Firefly, Serenity and the other works of Joss Whedon. <http://www.browncoatball.com>

October 18-20, 2013 – **Helldorado Days** in Tombstone, Arizona. <http://www.tombstonechamber.com/Helldorado-Days-84th-Annual>

January 16-19, 2014 – **DarkCon 2014**. Location TBA. <http://www.darkcon.org>

Spring, 2014 (exact dates not yet set) – **Hollywood Costume** exhibit at the Phoenix Art Museum, Central Avenue & McDowell Road. Bringing together more than 100 of the most iconic movie costumes from across a century of film-making, this will be a rare opportunity to see the clothes worn by unforgettable characters from films such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *My Fair Lady*, *Superman*, *Titanic*, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, and *The Dark Knight Rises*. ***Hollywood Costume*** will explore the central role costume design plays in cinema storytelling. The exhibition contains costumes that have never left private and archival collections in California, and most have never been publicly displayed or seen beyond the secure walls of studio archives.

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