

Bogoshian art featured in Swim for Life
Provincetown Banner 7/22/10

If you're looking for the best and cheapest cup of coffee in town go to Adam's according to artist Varujan Boghosian, whose work was selected for this year's Swim for Life, set for September 11. Known as Buggy, he's still exuberant about Provincetown since his arrival in 1948, recently noticing "a great feeling of love in town." His selected monoprint, "Courage," features a white, jagged-edged heart floating in a sea of blues, anchored by an image of the Pilgrim Monument. A timely and compelling image.

Invited to town by watercolorist James Wingate Parr with a group of students from the Vesper George School of Art in Boston – Romanos Rizk, Sal Del Deo and Edward Giobbi– he settled on Miller Hill Road in a place dubbed "Shangri La", with Fritz Bultman down the hill and poet/artist Weldon Kees nearby. Like many artists at the time, he worked at the art colony's "Grand Central", Ciro's and Sal's Restaurant. He now enjoys the ambiance of Tip for Tops'n Restaurant.

In 1963 his work shifted to assemblage and sculpture, and he began dragging, carrying and floating large chunks of timber from sunken ships from the backshore and the fishing boat graveyard at the West End dike. The Provincetown Advocate once dubbed him "the world's greatest beachcomber." His acclaimed Totem Series continued for forty years and helped earn him residencies at the American Academy in Rome. During his many visits to Italy he collected numerous objects for his assemblages. He also received awards from the Guggenheim and Fulbright Foundations and the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

Boghosian studied with Joseph Albers at Yale and has taught at Yale, Brown, Cooper Union, and Pratt, and most recently, at Dartmouth where he taught for almost three decades before retiring. His work is in many public and private collections including the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum in New York City. He was a member of the legendary Long Point Gallery in Provincetown and is now represented by Berta Walker Gallery and Lori Bookstein Fine Art in Chelsea, NYC.

Celebrating its 23rd year, the Provincetown Swim for Life & Paddler Flotilla will welcome swimmers and kayakers from across the country on Saturday, September 11 for this weekend benefit for AIDS, women's health services and the community. The 2009 event raised \$200,000 from 363 swimmers and dozens of kayakers. Beneficiaries include the AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod, Helping Our Women, Outer Cape Health Services, Provincetown Rescue Squad, Lower Cape Ambulance, Soup Kitchen in Provincetown and the Academy at Provincetown High School. Business sponsors for 2010 to date include: Provincetown Banner, Paul Mitchell, Boatslip Resort, Far Land Provisions, White Porch Inn, Seamen's Bank, Lobster Pot Restaurant and Fanizzi's Restaurant. The event is also sponsored in part by the Provincetown Tourism Fund.

This popular post-Labor Day celebration and quintessential community event will be held at the Boatslip Resort, 161 Commercial Street, and includes the Mermaid Brunch,

entertainment and the awards ceremony. The Celebration of Life Concert will be held at the Meeting House on Friday evening, produced by John Thomas. Local community radio station WOMR 92.1 FM (www.womr.org) will once again broadcast the event live and online from the Boatslip Resort and from the starting line at Long Point.

For registration forms for swimmers, paddlers, security boaters, volunteers and sponsorship opportunities, or to make a donation, contact: Swim for Life, P.O. Box 819, Provincetown, MA 02657, 508-487-1930, email, thecompact@comcast.net, and at its website, www.swim4life.org.

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