

February 16, 1991

Dear Susan,

It was great meeting you and friends at
Diner in Canaan, Ct. the other day!

I am enclosing a few articles about
good community things going on upon the
banks of the Housatonic!

Flyers and articles of E.F. Schumacher Society
and SHARE program - Bob Swann and
Susan Witt are directors - They developed
Deli Dollar, Farm Preserve Note, & Berkshares -
(I am the artist!)

Also working in conjunction with them is

Rachel Fletcher: ~~also~~ 113 Division St.

Great Barrington, Mass, 01230 phone (413) 528-3391.

She organized Great Barrington Riverbank
Cleanup and they pulled tons of stuff out
of the river - lots of volunteers. Also
working with her is Glen Chamberlain
who is knowledgeable on History of the
Valley - and works in conservation.

Also, today I gave your name to Ned
Swanberg of Bathhouse's Cabbie & The
Ashley House. He was most interested &
will write you - : Swanberg. Box 128 -
Ashley Falls, Mass. 01222 phone (413) - 229-8600.

He can tell you more about efforts to keep
Schnob Brook as Nature Preserve area.

Also, there is a good Master Garbologist
in the area - garbage collector & master
recycler: Joe Mallory - & his wife Robin
does fantastic Newsletter. Rachel Fletcher
has worked with them.

Also, some articles on Community Supported
Agriculture.

So as you can see there is much good
"ferment" going on here!

I hope you had a great journey down the
River to the ocean.

From our little talk I felt you were trying
to bring dance/music into local communities.
Or to stimulate it - That can really change
quality of our lives. I get that deep feeling
from the African drums! I wish you well
in your work & we shall probably meet
again along the banks of the beautiful
Housatonic!

With all best wishes,

Martha Shaw

Box 86

Ashley Falls

Mass 01222

ask Rachel Fletcher ~~\$~~
for write-up on her project
Places to eat on the Housatonic?
Places to stay on the Housatonic?

phone books - Pittsfield
Conn.

Do this over

Winter has been a ~~time~~ to reflect, work and stay warm. Lois, Sue, Julius and I have had wonderful experiences meeting many of you, individually, ~~at~~ ^{and} at the group meetings. I am overwhelmed by the fact that you ~~are~~ are just a few people of the many that live and work on ^{the} The Housatonic River and ~~with~~ with any project it is ^{only} representative of the people involved. I hope in some small way each of us can share our unique response and concern for the river in a way that will have meaning for others. Maybe this project will inspire others to have a concern for the environment around us and the artistic expressions that engenders in all of us. Already groups and individuals who normally do not cross each other's paths have talked to each other. Hopefully, this will continue and even further collaborative efforts will result.

I hope you will spread this newsletter around and encourage people to let us know about any projects that will happen on the River from Fall '93 to Fall '94. The deadline for getting on the calendar is July 1st 1992. We hope to have as many and as varied events as possible.

We are in the process now of inviting artists from Jacob's Pillars to collaborate with certain groups along the river as part of this project. I am also interested in making a dance for seven sites along the river. I'll be spending all Spring and summer working on this dance.

I want to thank each one of you who have taken the time to talk to us and hope that you are interested in participating. Please feel free to contact Lois or myself for any ideas you might have and don't forget to get on the calendar!

~~Pa~~

Section II Aphrodite Emerging From The Waters

- ✓ Aphrodite, flanked by two female attendants, is shown rising up out of the waters. The goddess emerges looking upward to her right, her arms outstretched. (The impression of wetness is conveyed by the thin chiton that adheres to and reveals the forms of her body.)
- ✓ — Rising up naked out of the foam of the sea and riding on a scallop shell, Aphrodite stepped ashore for the first time on the island of Cythera. . . . Grass and flowers sprang up from the earth beneath her feet, and at Paphos, the Seasons hastened to clothe and adorn her.
- ✓ The ritual bath, in which the youth and beauty (virginity) of the goddess is renewed, is found also in the myths about Hera and Athena. . . . and ~~in~~ may well be related to an even older tradition, . . . according to which the goddess of Spring rises up out of the earth as if emerging from the underworld. . . . ? All three traditions suggest the epiphany of the eternal virgin, the return of youth, beauty, and desire commingled with hope for new life. . . .

✓ The waters are often believed to be a symbol of chaos, or of the unconscious, that reality where all things rest in potentiality. (Another symbol for this state is the Tao of Chinese thought. To return to this place is to receive again all that has disappeared through the entropic forces of time.) The experience of renewal.

The renewal of the goddess of Love represents on the intrapsychic level a restoration of the capacity to receive new life, new emotions, new ideas, new relationships. The capacity to "fall in love," that is, to experience the rebirth of Aphrodite, is a receptivity to the unconscious and its contents as well.

Emerging from the waters, Aphrodite represents a form of consciousness that leads to connection rather than separation.

"My sense is that you are often seen as representing the pull toward dissolution because you imply a reconciliation of what are usually seen as contradictions or mutually exclusive ~~pairs~~ choices. What you make possible is not logical resolution or synthesizing compromise but mediation at the level of feeling. Your bringing together of what is ordinarily kept apart is not fusion; it represents an intense valuing of both poles. Yours is a loving

Section ~~III~~ Scientific Observations Repetition and Unison Narrative

1. Fractals record what happens in the transition zones between order and chaos
2. Strange attractor is the name given by chaologists to the plots they chart of the chaos in dynamical systems.
3. Negative Capability - the ability to be in uncertainties, mysteries, and doubts
4. Fractal Scaling: the frames show similar details on many different scales.
5. Self-similarity - as viewers peer deeper into the fractal image, the shapes seen at one scale are similar to the shapes seen in detail at another scale
6. Holism - the tree that sheds twin leaves that fall from "outside" into the stream are also an integral part of the dynamical system called the stream. Also within the stream itself, the smallest leaf and pebble constantly interact with each other. outside and/or internal
7. Dynamic balance - simplicity and simultaneous
8. Iterating - dynamic recycling Complexity leading to stability, periodicity, or chaos

9. Mandelbrot's Set - the possibility of zooming into increasingly smaller scales of the set infinite number of points between two points
10. transforms - shrunken and distorted versions of the original object
11. negative feedback - keeps things in check
12. positive feedback - pushes systems to explode or spiral out of control
13. Reflectaphors - artistic juxtapositions where self-similar forms contain a tension composed of similarities and differences.
14. Greek philosopher Heraclitus: You can never step into the river of time twice, though it is always the same river.

IV
Section ~~III~~ River Facts - ~~Notes~~
Audience Observations -
Repeat of Phrase - upstream

Housatonic River Basin

Total Drainage Area 1,950.39 mi.
Source of River - Muddy Pond
Mouth of River - Long Island Sound
Total River Length 150.9 mi.

Rare Species

Plants: showy lady's slipper
Swamp birch, hemlock parsley
purple cliff brake, purple cress
deciduous sedge

Animals: bog turtle, northern spring
salamander

The Housatonic River - Mahican Indians named
"the place beyond the mountains"

Rises out of three ponds into streams in
Berkshire Valley - meanders through extensive
floodplains, passes through Conn. and empties
into the ocean at Long Island Sound

PCB contamination - catch & release program of fish
combination of marble outcrops & meandering of river
along flat valley floor makes basin most biologically diverse.

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival
Housatonic River Project Retreat

Participants

Susan Sgorbati
Project Director
Choreographer/Dean of Faculty
Bennington College
Bennington, VT 05201
802/442-5401 ext. 212

Dorothy Jungels
Aaron Jungels
Everett Dance Theater
349 Hope Street
Providence, RI 02906
401/831-1643

Demetrius Klein
Choreographer
P.O. Box 6187
Lake Worth, FL 33466
407/964-9779

Mary Lee Hardenbergh
Choreographer
125 N. First Street
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612/332-0278

Steve Moore
General Electric
Suite 250, Bldg. 11
100 Woodlawn Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01266
413/494-1110 7226

Pepon Osorio & Merian Soto
Visual Artist/Choreographer
P.O. Box 410
Canal Street Station
New York, NY 10013
212/588-1936

Sue Rees
Visual Artist
Bennington College
Bennington, VT 05201
802/442-5401 ext.111

Jay Critchley
Visual Artist/Activist
P.O. Box 819
Provincetown, MA 02657
508/487-3684

Bill Jackson
Chairman, Visual Arts Dept.
Simon's Rock College
Alford Road
Great Barrington, MA 01238
413/528-0771 - ex 7277
H- 518-733-5044

Hirokazu Kosaka
Multi-media Artist
Japanese American Cultural
& Community Center
Suite 505
244 S. San Pedro Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213/628-2725

Dawn Lane
Dance Educator, Berkshire
County Schools
P.O. Box 295
Mill River, MA 01244
413/229-2809

John Myers
Simon's Rock College
Alford Road
Great Barrington, MA 01230
413/528-0771

Betty Phinney
21A Starwood Drive
Lenox, MA 01240-2516
413/637-0709

Dana Reitz
Choreographer
c/o Roulette
228 West Broadway
New York, NY 10013
212/925-3337

Performance Rare Species

May 27, 1993 8:00 p.m.

Kent School Chapel

Kent, Conn

(include lines from calendar draft)

~~for more info. call Charles Farnsworth~~

May 28, 1993 2:00 P.M.

Derby Senior Center

Derby, Conn.

repent

July 9 1993

1. 3:00 Release

July 10, 1993 3:30 P.m.

Bartholomew's Cobble

Ashley Falls, Mass.

includes ~~water~~ ^{water} ~~beginning~~

with a short natural history interpretative

walk to the dance site

repeat

July 11, 1993 3:00 P.M.

Pitt Park -

John St. Children's Park

Pittsfield, Mass.

repeat

Aug. 6, 1993

3:08 P.M.

August 7, 1993

tentative date

American Indian Archaeological Institute

Washington, Conn.

repeat

Aug. 16 — week —

August 8, 1993 3:00 p.m. tentative date
Edward S. Yeoman's Park
at Short Beach
Stratford, Conn.
, repeat

October 8 & 9, 1993 6:00 p.m.
• Jacob's Pillow
Barn Studio
repeat