



Local filmmakers to be featured in World Cinema shorts

02-17-14 by Janelle Gelfand



Janson of Glendale inspects the organ panels that still exist, hidden in the orchestra pit at Music Hall.

Two local filmmakers will have their short films premiered at Cincinnati World Cinema, this Saturday at The Carnegie in Covington.

Andrea Torrice's "Art As Action" explores the story of women Abstract Expressionist painters through the story of Torrice's mother, Gloria Torrice. Talented and rebellious, Gloria and a group of post-World War II women artists rented a cold water loft together in Kathy NYC and devoted themselves to creating new that challenged conventions in visual arts, gender roles, politics and society.

Gloria's paintings and rare archival photographs of other women artists are seen in the film, with the photographs of Fred McDarrah of the *Village Voice*, who documented the art scene at this time.

Melissa Godoy's 14-minute "The Art Carvers of Music Hall" tells the true story of 108 local women artisans and their role in one of the largest and most important public art commissions in Cincinnati's history — the carved organ screen for Music Hall's historic Hook & Hastings organ of 1878. Godoy shows historic photos of old Cincinnati, and conducts interviews with Cincinnati Art Museum's Amy Dehan and Anita Ellis on the importance of the art-carved movement. Also interviewed are Robert Vitz, author of "The Queen and the Arts," and Kathleen Janson, member of the Society for the Preservation of Music Hall, who spearheaded the society's drive to save the existing organ panels. Most were discarded or lost during a previous renovation of Music Hall.

Godoy follows conservators Tom and Dawn Heller to their Tennessee farm, where they began removing a century of grime to unveil the cherry wood underneath. The film illuminates an important but, in the case of the art carvers, largely forgotten role that Cincinnati women played in establishing the decorative and musical arts in Cincinnati. In the words of Ellis, "It ennobled and enabled women to move on to bigger things."

Her film was created with a grant from the Cincinnati Arts Ambassador program, and features music by Rick Sowash and Mudslide Charley.

Oscar-nominated shorts will be shown at noon. There is a reception for filmmakers Andrea Torrice and Melissa Godoy at 2 p.m., prior to the start of their program at 3 p.m.

Tickets: Advance Single Tickets for each program are \$10 and \$12 at the door. Advance Combo Tickets for both programs are \$16 and \$20 at the door, available ONLY via CWC WebTix and by phone.

Single Tickets for students and Enjoy the Arts members with valid ID are \$10, available only at the door. Cincinnati World Cinema: 859-957-3456, Mon-Sat 9 a.m.-7 p.m., <u>www.cincyworldcinema.org</u>

In person at these area locations:

Clifton-Ludlow Avenue, Sitwell's Coffee House, 513 281 7487

Mt. Lookout Square, Lookout Joe Coffee Roasters, 513 871 8626

Downtown Cincinnati, Coffee Emporium, 513 651 5483