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SHOWCASE OF THE ARTS KICKS OFF



By Margie Malone

The Sea Cliff Arts Council's 2013-2014 season kicked off Wednesday, October 2 at the K. DiResta Collective, 212 Sea Cliff Avenue, Sea Cliff. The evening began at 7:30 pm with a one-act comedy, "Just Desserts," and continued with an exhibit of the photographs of Xiomaro.

"Just Desserts" by Linda Prussen began as a reading and has since been well received on Long Island, as produced by Northport Plays and the Township Theater Group's touring company. Performing in this delightful comedy are Lisa Meckes and Jim Bradley.

As a playwright, Linda has had over a dozen plays produced in various venues around New York City. Linda's poetry has appeared in a number of print and online literary magazines. As a journalist, she is the recipient of ten press awards. Linda is also a gymnastics instructor and actress with a handful of TV and film credits. Her latest career foray has been sharing her passion for the world of wine as a tasting host for Oyster Bay Wines.

The main mission of Northport Plays, Inc. is to bring the members of the Long Island Theater Community together to read and produce new plays by predominantly local playwrights. Jo Ann Katz began the Northport Reader's Theater eight years ago. The group meets once a month to do cold readings of new scripts. For the actors this is a wonderful exercise. It also benefits the playwrights to hear their words come off the page, and to get input from actors, directors, producers and audience members about their play. With co-founder Michael Casano, a local playwright, Jo Ann also produces the Northport One-Act Play Festival.

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Roslyn Heights artist, Xiomáro, will discuss his new photographic art series, *City Grids, Country Patterns*, which will also be on exhibit at the DiResta Collective from October 1 to November 1, 2013.

The 12 photographs in the series juxtapose views of contemporary New York City skyscrapers with those of J. Alden Weir's historically preserved Connecticut home and grounds now known as Weir Farm National Historic Site. Weir was part of a family art dynasty and was one of the founders of American Impressionism whose works now hang at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Each photograph is a close-up so that the series transitions from modern grids to organic patterns, which highlights the abstract beauty within each subject.

Xiomáro (pronounced *SEE-oh-MAH-ro*) is a nationally exhibited artist who is frequently commissioned by the National Park Service to artistically photograph historical sites. His other collections include Theodore Roosevelt's Sagamore Hill mansion in Oyster Bay, which was covered by the *New York Times* and will be exhibited at Harvard University next year. His photographs of the William Floyd house in Mastic are on exhibit at New York City's Fraunces Tavern Museum. His collections can be seen and purchased at his website, www.xiomaro.com.



One Act Play, "Just Desserts"

