

May 1, 2009

Dear Jo,

Here is the stuff I mentioned in my e-mail.

A Raw Vision article on Peter Mason Bond and/or Taya Mitchell would go over well, I think. I have some good slides and so does Tamara Hill (formerly Emily Wasserman).

The other disc and printed material is on Norbert Schlaus. Not a genuine "self-taught" or primitive, he is more of an "outsider" due to the fact that he worked in near total isolation in a dingy apartment on Brook St., behind Oakland's Auto Row, for 45 years. He had a couple of shows, but was totally disconnected from the art world, as you can see from the work.

His brother, Ben, wrote me in February, including Norbert's letter written in January wanting to give the Oakland Museum his life's work. I visited the apartment in Oakland, which was wall-to-wall with about 200 paintings, and a small press and stacks of prints. We accepted three works for the collection, a small self-portrait, a small seascape (the beach at Davenport) and a larger view of Santa Cruz from up on the hill.

I often get calls from family who inherited 1,000's of paintings and don't know what to do with them, and I don't either. But many of Norbert Schlaus' paintings are so intense and compelling I want to help his brother get them out into the world. I'm putting together a list of people and galleries to send a disc and printouts to in the hope that something? will happen.

Anyhow, take a look at this stuff. Eventually I'd like the Taya Mitchell and N. Schlaus material back. Come on up to tour our new galleries and we can visit Taya the same day. Most days are relatively free of meetings, at least half the day, so come when you can.

* any Suggestions?

Regards!

Di do Sam!

OAKLAND MUSEUM of CALIFORNIA