

New England's Culture Magazine

# artscope

07  
08 | 09

Leah Giberson at Nahcotta  
& Gallery M

The Old, Weird America at the  
DeCordova • Rona Pondick's  
sculpture at WAM • George  
Oommen at the Whistler House

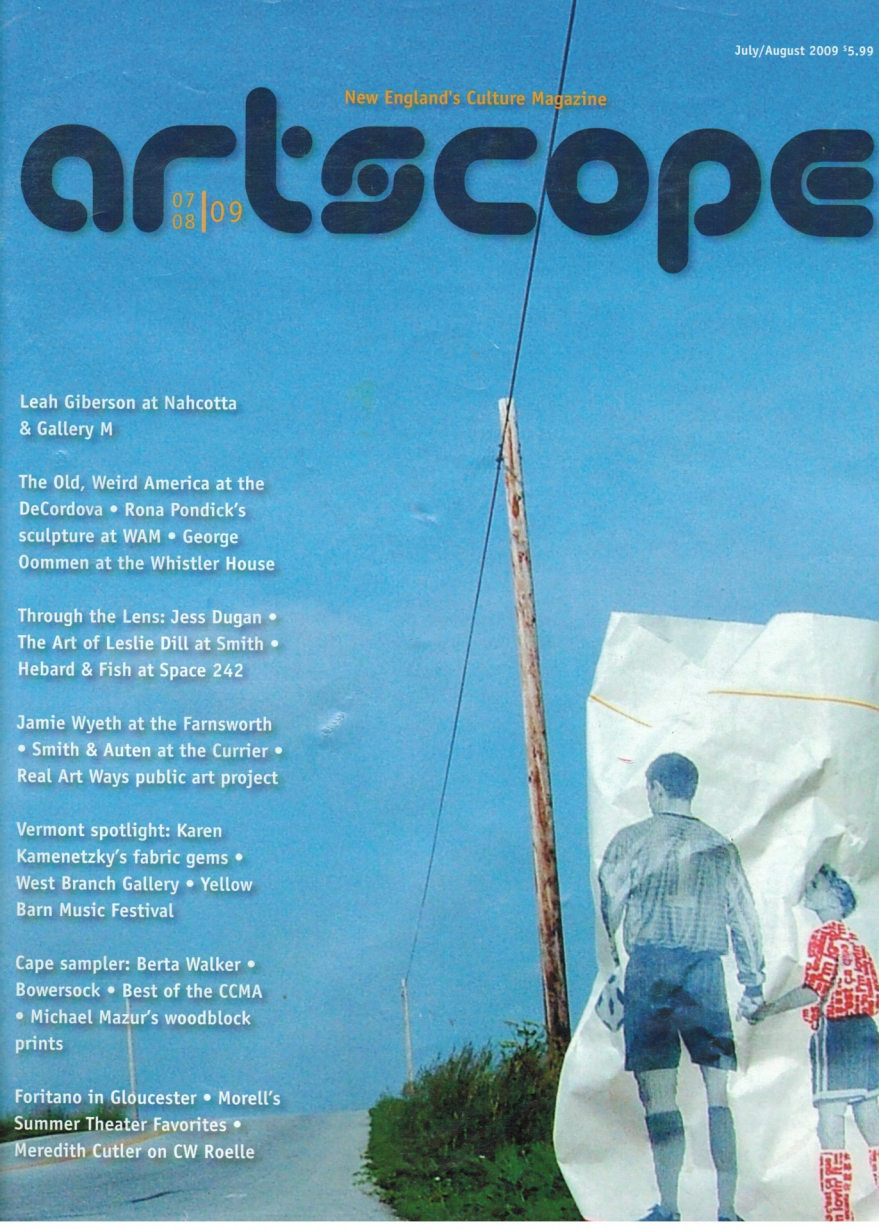
Through the Lens: Jess Dugan •  
The Art of Leslie Dill at Smith •  
Hebard & Fish at Space 242

Jamie Wyeth at the Farnsworth  
• Smith & Auten at the Currier •  
Real Art Ways public art project

Vermont spotlight: Karen  
Kamenetzky's fabric gems •  
West Branch Gallery • Yellow  
Barn Music Festival

Cape sampler: Berta Walker •  
Bowersock • Best of the CCMA  
• Michael Mazur's woodblock  
prints

Foritano in Gloucester • Morell's  
Summer Theater Favorites •  
Meredith Cutler on CW Roelle



**SHAUNE MCCARTHY**  
JULY 31 THROUGH AUGUST 19

**STEVEN CARPENTER**  
AUGUST 21 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1

Bowersock Gallery  
373 Commercial Street  
Provincetown, Massachusetts

TWO YOUNG NEW ENGLAND SCULPTORS WHO SPECIALIZE IN THE HUMAN FORM ARE FEATURED AT THE BOWERSOCK GALLERY THIS SUMMER.

New Hampshire-based Shaune McCarthy sculpts moderately scaled figures that possess the rounded, smooth planes of pre-Columbian ceramics. For McCarthy, they also are endowed with something of the same magic. "I'm really interested in how people relate to the cosmos," she said. "I am actually thinking sometimes about the existential absurdity of life. We all are here on this earth and what purpose do we hold? Maybe no purpose, but we're here and we all have a power inside us." The magic of McCarthy's figures is transmitted through their posture, expression and her treatment of the surfaces. As a former dancer, McCarthy brings a heightened physical awareness to her sculptures, posing them in ways that connect the viewer through their own bodies. We feel the posture, the advanced pelvis, the arms outstretched. In addition, the faces are highly detailed. They express resignation or desire, acceptance or a quest. Finally, McCarthy dresses her figures in hieratic patterns that further the mystery and magic of each piece.

While McCarthy's art is intuitive and mystical, Steven Carpenter grounds his bronze figures in an acute awareness of muscle and the body. Like McCarthy, he understands the body through practical experience as a landscape stoneworker. "I've always been interested in the human figure, but by doing this stonework, that has really given me an advantage to understanding how the body moves and functions, in labor or under stress." Carpenter's figures are active in the extreme. He achieves a level of detail down to each tendon and muscle in his small bronze figures. They flex and strain. Carpenter transmits that dynamic sense of work and effort into breathlessly elegant forms. "What I try to do is get the emotional quality. That's what I'm really after."

| Taylor M. Polites



ABOVE: Shaune McCarthy, *Man with Vessel*.  
BELOW: Steven Carpenter, *Standing Stone*, bronze.

