



NEWS From
Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society
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HIDDEN MEANINGS OF "PICTURESQUE"
EXPLORED AT AUG. 17 "TUESDAY TALK"

AUG. 6, 2010 -- "The Persistence of the Picturesque in Landscape and Memory", exploring the ageless human affinity for landscape scenes, will highlight the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society "Tuesday Talk" on August 17 in the Old School House Discovery Center, 130 Center Street, Douglas. The one-hour program begins at 11 a.m.; admission is free and public attendance is invited.

Presenter E.W. Ross, program director at Ox-Bow and former dean of continuing education at The School of the Art Institute in Chicago (SAIC), is a practicing and exhibiting artist and has shown his work internationally. Ross received his Masters of Fine Arts from SAIC where he was graduated with honors in 1980.

His talk examines such questions as why the "good view" is so compelling and satisfying to the eyes and soul of the viewer, what is the meaning of "picturesque", and why the idea of picturesque has resisted change over the course of time. Illustrated with projected slides, the talk will show examples of how landscape art moved from the symbolic to the sublime as the ongoing struggle and accommodation between humanity and nature played out. Ross also will probe deeper genetic links to human appreciation of beauty and nature, and the role of the instinctual in understanding the picturesque. Audience participation is welcomed to enliven the discussion with comments and questions.

This Tuesday Talk is sponsored by Saugatuck's James Brandess Studios and Gallery, creating and offering paintings, prints, greeting cards and other forms of art with emphasis on area landscapes.

Tuesday Talks with varying topics and sponsors will continue throughout the summer, concluding August 31, in the west exhibit room at The Old School House. Free but limited parking is available in the Old School House driveway, with more along Center Street and nearby side streets.

For a full schedule of Tuesday Talks, and more information about the Historical Society, its Museum and its Old School House Discovery Center, visit www.sdhistoricalociety.org.

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