

WEEK OF NOV. 14-20, 2013

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE



ALAN MALTZ / COURTESY PHOTO

"Very Gullible," winging it on Clam Pass Beach

Paradise *by the* book

Alan Maltz's photographs capture the beauty and luxury; Karen Bartlett's words illuminate the places and the process

BY PHIL JASON
Florida Weekly Book Critic

THIS GORGEOUS COFFEE-TABLE COLLECTION of fine art photographs would be an attraction for any lover of the natural environment as interpreted by a watchful and skillful photographer. For those who make their homes or take their vacations in Southwest Florida, it has the added attraction of capturing the particular flavor of our slice of the Sunshine State.

That Alan Maltz brings to his

SEE BOOK, C4 ►

■ "Journey Through Paradise: Naples, Marco Island & The Everglades," photographs by Alan S. Maltz with a narrative by Karen T. Bartlett. Light Flight Publications. 144 pages. \$60.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Bach Ensemble is back for a new season

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Aficionados of European culture won't want to miss the Bach Ensemble's first concert of the season, "Highlights of the French Baroque." Two performances are offered: at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17, at Grace Lutheran Church in Naples, and at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Marco Island.

Performed by the Bach Ensemble, soloists and the Bach Ensemble Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of

Dr. Ronald Doiron, the program features six choral and instrumental works from the 16th and 17th centuries. Two young artists judged Outstanding Performers at the recent Bach Festival will also perform.

The ensemble's programs for the coming season pay tribute to the French, German and Italian cultures that are renowned for their Baroque music. Each will also feature a performance of two Outstanding Performers from the Bach

SEE BACH, C16 ►

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INSIDE



Society

A Roaring Twenties to-do, and more fun around town. C26-33 ►



No rush

Film critic Dan Hudak says if you have to see "Diana," wait for the DVD. C11 ►



Authentic Mexican

Manzanillo's is all that Tex-Mex fare is not. C35 ►



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ALAN MALTZ / COURTESY PHOTOS

"Violet is the Night," a panoramic view captured in Big Cypress Swamp.

BOOK

From page 1

meticulous craft a unique vision and a master's signature of style makes this new book truly a portfolio of pleasure.

Though there is much energy in the play of light and shadow in Mr. Maltz's work, it is held in check by a prevailing calm, a respectful stillness. This effect comes in part from the artist's preferred working times. Shooting at daybreak or sundown, he can find places that at those times are uncluttered by human activity. This, of course, is less of an issue at an unpopulated place like the Big Cypress Swamp and more of a concern in tightly packed residential and commercial areas.

Mr. Maltz seeks the striking, enhancing moments during which the light is just right in its color, intensity and angle, and the subject is perfectly revealed. This means being alert to seize upon the best opportunities that come along. His "drive - stop - shoot" method depends upon being ready for good luck. It is our good luck that readiness is part of his skill set.

We expect artists to give the familiar a sense of freshness, to change our way of seeing. One way in which Mr. Maltz accomplishes this end is through giving us unexpected perspectives. On occasion, he shoots down from an elevated perspective, as in his spectacular "Fifth Avenue Overview," which allows us to see the iconic neighborhood anew.

Another way he changes perspective is by employing the fisheye lens, taking advantage of its hemispherical or concave distortion to create what he calls "otherworldly" images. "Beach Dreams," a Marco Island view, is one such scene.

A major portion of Collier County is represented in "Journey Through Paradise." Settings include our area's major communities and wildlife preserves, but also Immokalee, Chokoloskee, Ochopee, Everglades City, Keewayden Island and Corkscrew Swamp. Scenes of residential and commercial Naples (but with people absent) are abundant, as are such adjacent natural/recreational sites as Clam Pass, Gordon Pass, and Delnor Wiggins State Park.

Among the glories of this collection are two "books within a book." Clearly two places of beauty that tempted and challenged Mr. Maltz beyond the oth-



"In Time Passing," a touch of Old Florida on the Tamiami Trail.



"Mission in the Moonlight," wood storks in the Ten Thousand Islands

ers are Big Cypress Swamp and Naples Botanical Garden. "Violet is the Night" is a breathtaking panoramic view in Big Cypress — one of many stunning long views and middle range views.

This photographer is also a magi of the close-up. "Shades of Blue" brilliantly reveals the coloration of the little blue heron in light-streaked shadow, as well as the color of her eggs. "The Gatekeepers" captures the protective sternness of two Burrowing Owls (discovered on Marco Island). "Nature By Design" celebrates the patterns and hues of a Dutchman's pipe blossom at the Naples

Botanical Garden.

While Mr. Maltz is infatuated with the wilderness, he has equal appreciation for the human interaction with nature that creates landscaped treasures and gardens: planned nature. His homage to the Naples Botanical Garden provides astounding images. These include the breathtaking "Garden of Dreams," a view of the lily pond that links the Brazilian Garden (the photographer's favorite) with the Asian Garden. Planned nature is also captured in his views along Third Street South and other downtown locations.

in the know

Photographers Alan Maltz and writer Karen Bartlett will be at the following:

- >> **Wednesday, Nov. 20:** Reception and book signing from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Naples Depot Museum, 1051 Fifth Ave. S. Free. 262-6525.
- >> **Thursday, Nov. 21:** Book signing at Barnes & Noble in Waterside Shops beginning at 11 a.m. Free. 598-5200.
- >> **Tuesday, Feb. 18:** The Marjory Stoneman Douglas Festival luncheon at noon at The Lighthouse Club at Everglades Isle, 803 N. Collier Ave., Everglades City. 695-2600.

Lucid, graceful prose

While "Journey Through Paradise" is a dazzling showcase for Mr. Maltz's passion, vision and talent, it gains context and meaning through the accompanying narrative by Karen T. Bartlett. An enthusiastic guide to the places Mr. Maltz visits with his camera, Ms. Bartlett explains how he approaches his opportunities, how he imagines a way of capturing an aspect of a scene that most people will miss. Then his technical mastery of his medium allows him to create not just the reproduction of a scene but an artwork — an experience.

Ms. Bartlett effortlessly enters and translates the creative process that is the master photographer's habit. Her lucid, graceful prose echoes the dance of color and form in Mr. Maltz's compositions. One example is in her commentary on "Mission in the Moonlight," a photo of wood storks in the Ten Thousand Islands: "It appears so effortless, doesn't it? A casual observer might notice a wood stork busily bringing twigs to build the nest. What Alan sees instinctively is the exquisite synchronicity of textures in the birds. He sees the afterglow of sunset at its peak of glory ... a perfectly round moon, slightly obscured by clouds for a fleeting moment ... the stork's mate patiently waiting ... the formation of his wings a split second before landing. It happens in the blink of an eye."

About the artists

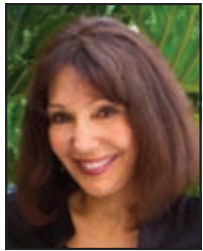
As a successful photographer and travel writer, Ms. Bartlett was the perfect choice to provide a narrative accompaniment to Mr. Maltz's new collection. Ms. Bartlett has published three collections of her own photographs — "Naples, Florida: A Photographic Portrait," "Rhode Island: A Photographic



“Fifth Avenue Overview,” a familiar place from a new angle.

Portrait,” and “The Sea Islands of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.” She has written the text for collections by several other photographers, and she is the author of “A Kids Guide to Chicago.”

Ms. Bartlett’s deep roots in the Naples area, her love for its natural beauty and her work as travel editor for Gulfshore Life magazine make her the ideal tour guide through Mr. Maltz’s powerful images of the region she knows so well.



BARTLETT



MALTZ

Mr. Maltz’s books have received numerous honors and recognition. Both “Key West Color” (1995) and “Miami: City of Dreams” (1997) were named Best Coffee Table Book of the Year by the National Association of Independent Publishers. “Florida: Beyond the Blue Horizon” (2006) was selected as the Official Welcome Gift for Super Bowl XLI and received numerous awards, including Best Florida Book for Adults and Best Interior Design by the Florida Publishers Association.

Gov. Charlie Crist represented his state by presenting “Florida: Beyond the Blue Horizon” to dignitaries around the world. Mr. Maltz’s “Visions of Beauty — Fort Myers, Sanibel & Beyond” (2010) has received much acclaim from the media, local government, corporate and private sectors of Lee County, and 60



“Nature by Design,” up close and personal with a Dutchman’s pipe blossom at Naples Botanical Garden.

of his fine art images are on permanent exhibition at Southwest Florida International Airport.

“Journey Through Paradise: Naples, Marco Island & The Everglades” is available from major booksellers and from the Alan S. Maltz Gallery in Key West. It’s bound to be another award winner. ■

— Phil Jason, Ph.D., United States Naval Academy professor emeritus of English, is a poet, critic and freelance writer with 20 books to his credit, including several studies of war literature and a creative writing text.

EVERY MONDAY AT THE SIDNEY & BERNE DAVIS ART CENTER
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11.18.2013 CELEBRITY JUDGES

Judges filmmaker **Donald Reynolds**, Executive Director of The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel **Tamara Pigott**, NBC2’s **Chad Oliver**, hosted by **Eric Raddatz** and co-host **Melissa DeHaven** with musical guest guests **Carley Levy** and **Al Holland**.

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