CAPE ANN Museum

Vincent Castagnacci's Notes from a Quarry: A Special Exhibition at the Cape Ann Museum

On view through October 9, 2022



Vincent Castagnacci, 26.XII.15-25.II.16 Halibut Point Variation #9, 2016, Acrylic, ash on cotton duck, 34 x 40 inches, Promised gift to the Cape Ann Museum

GLOUCESTER, MASS. (September 2022) – The Cape Ann Museum presents a special exhibition of works by contemporary artist Vincent Castagnacci. *Notes from a Quarry* will focus on Castagnacci's drawings and paintings from the mid-2000s to the present, pulling in earlier works that reflect the strong influence Cape Ann has had—and continues to have—on the artist.

"All that I have become I owe to the first time I set foot on Cape Ann, and specifically Gloucester," said Castagnacci. "For close to sixty years, I have lived with its presence in my life."

Originally from Providence, Rhode Island, <u>Castagnacci</u> studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and with George Demetrios in Boston and Gloucester in the early 1960s. In 1964, he earned a BFA from Yale, and two years later an MFA from the same institution. It was through his work with Demetrios that Castagnacci came to know and love Cape Ann. For the past 40 years, the Castagnacci family has owned property on the backside of the Cape. The neighborhood, from Folly Cove's rugged shoreline, out to Halibut Point and up into Dogtown, has provided Castagnacci with boundless inspiration.

"The Cape Ann Museum, is delighted with this presentation of Vincent Castagnacci's work to continue its focus on contemporary practitioners inspired by Cape Ann", said Oliver Barker, Museum Director. "Castagnacci through explorations of media, surface, pattern and texture illuminates a new way of looking at granite which is such a defining feature of Cape Ann's history and our collective lived experience."

Castagnacci began teaching art while studying at Yale and working at Southern Connecticut State College. He moved from there to Old Dominion University and since 1973, has served on the faculty of the University of Michigan. He has received numerous citations and awards over the course of his career including from the American Academy in Rome (1980). Castagnacci is currently Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus at the University of Michigan School of Art and Design.

Activities related to the exhibit include:

CAMTalks: Exhibition Series

Quarry Dance X with Lisa Hahn, Executive Director of Windhover Friday, September 9, 2022 at 4:00 pm CAM Auditorium, 27 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA Free for members, \$10 for non-members

Second Saturdays: Sugar Cube Quarry Sculptures

Saturday, September 10, 2022 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Downtown Campus, 27 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA Free for Cape Ann Residents

The Cape Ann Museum, founded in 1875, exists to preserve and celebrate the history and culture of the area and to keep it relevant to today's audiences. Spanning 44,000 square feet, the Museum is one of the major cultural institutions on Boston's North Shore welcoming more than 25,000 local, national, and international visitors each year to its exhibitions and programs. In addition to fine art, the Museum's collections include decorative art, textiles, artifacts from the maritime and granite industries, three historic homes, a Library & Archives and a sculpture park in the heart of downtown Gloucester. In Summer 2021, the Museum opened the 12,000 square foot Janet & William Ellery James Center at the Cape Ann Museum Green. The campus also includes three historic buildings – the White-Ellery House (1710), the recently acquired Babson-Alling House (c.1740), and an adjacent Barn (c. 1740), all located on the site at the intersection of Washington and Poplar Streets in Gloucester.

The Cape Ann Museum is located at 27 Pleasant Street in Gloucester and is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$15.00 adults, \$12.00 Cape Ann residents, seniors, and students. Youth (18 and under) and Museum members are free. Cape Ann residents can visit for free on the second Saturday of each month. For more information please call (978)283-0455 x110 or visit www.capeannmuseum.org.

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