

A PERSISTENT PASSION:

# *The Art of Lora Eberly Ballou: 1870-1976*

Places in a One Hundred Six Year Life

Historic Walking Tour of Prospect  
Terrace and South Fullerton Avenue

Saturday, June 7, 2014 from 10AM - 11:30AM



## *Rediscovering an Artist*

Lora Eberly Ballou lived during a time of enormous change in this country. Growing up in an agrarian society in Ohio during the last quarter of the 1800s, where the horse and buggy was the primary mode of transportation, then moving to the suburbs of New York City in 1902 and residing in several elegant homes in Montclair, New Jersey with her husband John Ballou and their two daughters, Margaret and Harriet. As the world dramatically changed around her, she spent much of her 106 years (1870-1976) doing the thing she most loved—creating images of her surroundings on canvas. Ballou's work focused on an interest and passion for gardening and travel, and depicts many of the places she lived, including a winter scene of Montclair's Toney's Brook painted in "en plein air" at Edgemont Park, floral arrangements featuring irises and other flowers, often from her own carefully cultivated gardens, and scenes from her extensive travels to other parts of the country and world.

Ballou was active in Montclair – painting, socializing, raising a family and engaged in civic activities – alongside a community of artists, collectors, and influential families. After living in several homes in Montclair, in 1925 Lora and John Ballou moved to 15 Prospect Terrace, an architecturally significant home in one of the most prestigious neighborhoods of the day. Lora lived in a vibrant section of Montclair, within walking distance of the original Yard School of Art on South Fullerton Avenue, the Women's Club of Montclair on Union Street, where she was secretary in 1918, and the First Congregational Church of Montclair on South Fullerton Avenue, where she was a member for over 40 years. The Montclair Art Museum, founded in 1914, offered various programs and workshops in which Ballou participated. The Ballou family was surrounded by prosperous neighbors in homes designed by some of the finest architects in the nation in the late 19th/early 20th centuries. While Lora was married to a successful businessman, and much of her time was spoken for at dinners, attending the opera, or other social, civic or religious obligations in the area or New York City, she always managed to carve out a time and space for her artistic endeavors.

### **EXHIBITION DATES:**

APRIL 27, 2014 - JULY 20, 2014

### **WEEKDAY HOURS:**

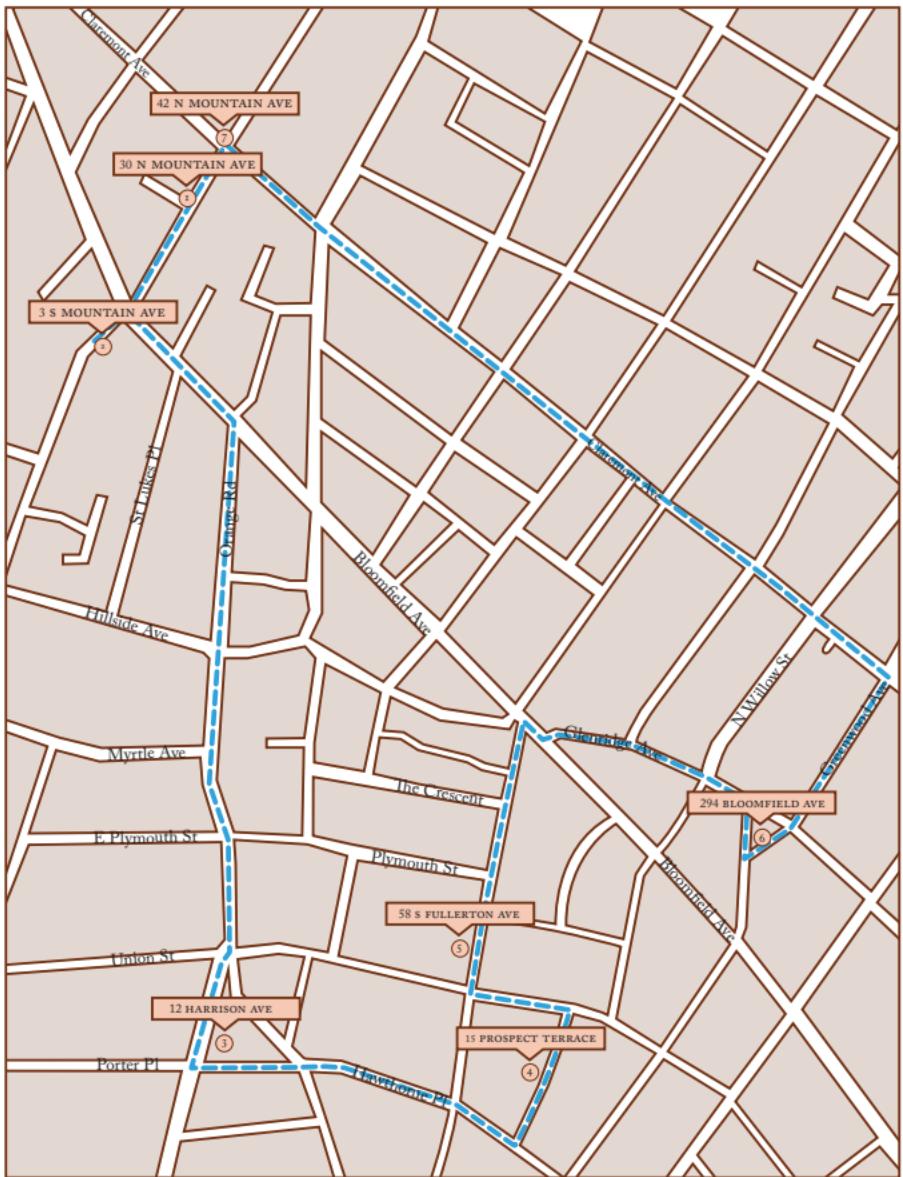
TUESDAY - FRIDAY, 8:30 - 2:00PM  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

### **WEEKEND HOURS:**

1ST AND 3RD SUNDAYS, 1-4PM  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 973 744 1796  
[WWW.MONTCLAIRHISTORICAL.ORG](http://WWW.MONTCLAIRHISTORICAL.ORG)

### **ADDRESS:**

THE CHARLES SHULTZ HOUSE (EVERGREENS)  
30 NORTH MOUNTAIN AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, NJ 07042



#### LOCATIONS ON SELF GUIDED WALKING TOUR:

1. CHARLES SHULTZ HOUSE — 30 NORTH MOUNTAIN AVE
2. MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM — 3 SOUTH MOUNTAIN AVE
3. PORTER PARK — 12 HARRISON AVE
4. FORMER BALLOU RESIDENCE — 15 PROSPECT TERRACE
5. FORMER BALLOU RESIDENCE — 58 SOUTH FULLERTON AVE
6. OLD LACKAWANNA TRAIN TERMINAL — 294 BLOOMFIELD AVE
7. VAN DYKE NURSING HOME — 42 NORTH MOUNTAIN AVE

#### POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- LIFE AND ART OF LORA EBERLY BALLOU
- DEVELOPMENT OF MONTCLAIR
- LIFESTYLE, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCENE OF THE EARLY 1900S
- NOTABLE ARCHITECTURE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

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GUEST CURATORS:  
Susanna Baker, Studio Montclair  
Valerie A. Cooper, Picture That LLC  
& Lina Morielli, Arts Advocate

CATALOGUE ESSAY:  
© Sophia Gevas, 2012

TIMELINE RESEARCH:  
Valerie A. Cooper, 2012  
CATALOGUE (4 PAGE INSERT):  
Mike Farrelly, Montclair  
Historian and the Montclair  
Historical Society Board  
of Trustees

ART DIRECTION:  
Lina Morielli

GRAPHICS:  
Connacher Design and  
Maria Almazan Design

COVER IMAGE:  
Lora Ballou at her easel, Oakland,  
New Jersey, 1937

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