

# Figuratively Speaking

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORICAL FIGURES FOUNDATION

## “Diamonds” Exhibit to Travel to Tucson, Chicago

If all goes to plan, “Diamonds” will journey to Arizona and Illinois next year. Representatives from the Mini Time Machine Museum and the Lizzadro Museum visited Ventura to examine the MVC exhibit before it closed on September 28.

The Mini Time Machine in Tucson plans to schedule the exhibit to coincide with the many gem and jewelry shows held in the city annually each winter. For the thousands of visitors and vendors attending the winter shows, “Diamonds” will offer a unique glimpse into the famous gems of the world.

The Lizzadro Museum in Lapidary Art in the Chicago suburb of Elmhurst houses a major collection of Asian art, so they may exhibit Stuart’s Manchu Figures mixed with the Diamonds cast of characters.

The “Diamonds Are Forever” exhibit is comprised of seven tableaux, each telling a fascinating story of a famous diamond and the Figures who owned them.



Photo: L. Becker

Victoria & Albert with replicas of the Koh-i-Noor in a spectacular tableau.

## Foundation to Close by Year End MVC, Others to Continue Many Activities

After a decade supporting the Historical Figures, the Foundation will cease operation by year’s end. As much as we have all enjoyed working with Mr. Stuart and the Figures, the staff and officers must now move on.

In 2004, we set out to document and promote the Historical Figures. Thanks to generous support of our members and the community, many ambitious projects have been completed.

Foundation activities will be handed off to other entities, especially the Museum of Ventura County. Many specific projects were completed successfully, while others are on-going. (See pages 2-3) In summary, the digital image library, website, blog and DVDs will maintained and remain accessible to the public. Communications from MVC will replace this newsletter. MVC will continue to promote exhibition of the Figures through outreach to museums and other venues.

Mr. Stuart is further reaffirming his confidence in MVC. Upon his death, any Figures remaining in his personal collection will pass to the Museum.

All of you who have supported the Foundation with donations of money and time can take pride in the results. We encourage your continued support of ongoing MVC activities, including a reactivated *George Stuart Historical Figure Guild* which will focus on Figure-related activities.

Please contact me for more information at (805) 641-3100 or beckerbysea@gmail.com.

Leroy Becker  
Executive Director

### A Note from George Stuart

*After seven years of outstanding publications, it saddens me to have to accept the closing of Figuratively Speaking. Mr. Becker has done a superlative job publishing this newsletter. Along with the website (galleryhistoricalfigures.com), Figuratively Speaking has brought the Historical Figures to a wider audience than they have ever had.*

*I am deeply grateful to Mr. Becker and those working with him in this endeavor for the effectiveness of their efforts. All aspects have been professional in every way.*

*However, the enterprise was of such a personal and special nature as to be impossible to find replacements to carry on the publication.*

*Things of this nature seem to run a finite course and then pass into limbo. It was a good run, and supporters of the Historical Figures Foundation are to be thanked many times over for their loyalty and dedication over the years, and that is what I am doing here.*

*Thank you, dear friends, for being there.*

*Sincerely,*

G.S. Stuart

# Activities Report

## Beautifully Restored and Digitally Photographed

### Digital Image Library

Expert photographer Peter D'Aprix has captured more than 350 Figures in beautiful, high-resolution digital images. About 20 Figures at Naples Museum of Art have yet to be photographed because of cost. Locations of several Figures remain unknown, e.g. Winston Churchill, Jean Harlow, and FDR.

Mr. D'Aprix has made the images available royalty-free to the Foundation and Museum for non-commercial use. By law, the original images remain the property of the photographer.

### Restoration of Figures

Assisted by Kathy Henri, Mr. Stuart has restored and maintained every Figure in his and MVC's collections. In addition the team restored 32 Figures of the newly rediscovered Hernandez-Monsanto Collection.



## Website to Continue Attracting Thousands Weekly

### “Look and Feel” Will Remain

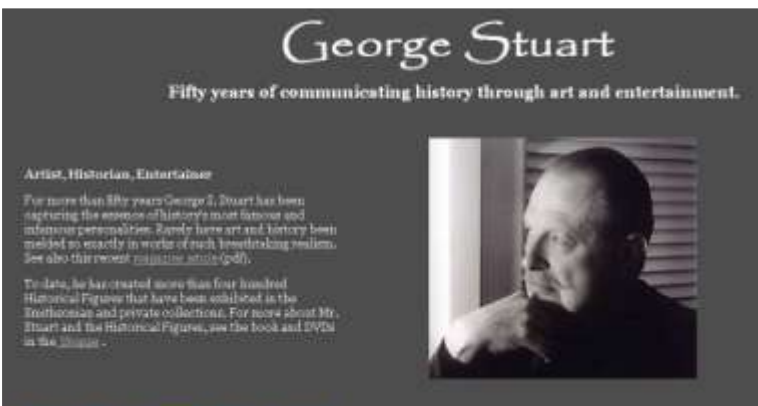
With nearly 2,000 pages and 1,500 images, [galleryhistoricalfigures.com](http://galleryhistoricalfigures.com) remains the world's largest website dedicated to a single artist. Nearly 900,000 visitors worldwide have learned about George Stuart and the Historical Figures from the Foundation website. The website will continue operation under license to Adele Sciortino, owner and operator of the popular *A for Artistic* website. Ms. Sciortino looks forward to further enhancing the site with occasional assistance from developer Mary Harrsch.

### Every Figure Has Their Own Pages

As each Figure was photographed, selected images were inserted in the Figure's own web pages. From an introductory page, visitors are invited to jump to additional resource pages, including a full view page, a video clip view (English, Russians), a jigsaw page and the person's page on Wikipedia.

### Supporting Pages and Activities

The pages on George Stuart, Media Archive, Events, Exhibits and Blog will remain; Foundation and Shoppe pages will be retired.



# Activities Report

## Instructional & Historical DVDs to Remain Available

We documented in great detail how Mr. Stuart makes his fabulous Historical Figures in two instructional DVD sets. His Monolog on English history was recorded in an eight-DVD set. **In addition, C. Ewing McCartney's excellent "Presenting . . ." documentaries will remain available. Other DVD's include Mr. Stuart's recovered collaboration with the late Stella Martin of Norse Gods drama, and artist-to-artist talks.**

Since 2008, Foundation members have produced and distributed more than a thousand DVDs under license from Mr. Stuart. Our special thanks to Ria Becker for burning and packaging the DVDs.

Mr. Stuart plans to license DVD production and sales to Mrs. Sciortino, once foundation inventories are exhausted.

Many More Monologs Are Ready to edit!

Over two decades, extensive video recordings by Carol McCartney and the Foundation have built a large archive of Mr. **Stuart's legacy monologs, ready for editing to DVDs when funds become available.**



## Monolog Documentation in Capable Hands at MVC

Since Mr. Stuart gave his first multimedia monolog in 2005, the Foundation has developed or supported dozens of PowerPoint-based monologs. The MVC's Ariane Karakalos and assistants have supported many additional monologs, and will likely continue research & production for Mr. Stuart.

Most monologs were record on audio and video tape. In the future, selected monolog recordings will be edited for DVD or **Internet streaming format.** Stuart's "Despicable Borgias" monolog has been viewed over 15,000 times on YouTube, while English Figure clip views top 500,000!



## Projects Studied but Never Enabled

We could always conjure up more ideas than money or time to complete them. If funds had been available, we would have pursued these projects—

- Promote Figure exhibits at all presidential libraries and other historical museums.
- Photograph and restore 26 Figures from the Kaye Collection in Naples Florida.
- **Produce and publish a "coffee table" book about Mr. Stuart and his work.**
- For more traffic, enhance and upgrade the Gallery website for social media & new industry standards.
- Complete more DVDs of more historical Monologs, and **adding clips to each Figure's webpage.**

Some projects were just too risky because of limited market size or distribution challenges—

- Playing Cards—double decks designed but never printed.
- Calendars—annual
- Audio Books Of Monologs
- Figures virtual chess pieces
- Flash Cards
- Jigsaw Puzzles
- Vanity postage stamps
- Figure Replicas



# Roll the Credits!

## Thanks for Ten Years of Generous Donations

Over \$1,000

Khaled & Sheryl Al Awar • Leroy & Marie Becker • Lorraine Finch  
Patricia Chase Bergen • Adrienne & Robert Gardner • Gail Reilly  
Bob & Carol Lamb • Eugene & Donna Langley • C. Ewing McCartney  
Joseph Rund • Robin Sim • G.S. Stuart • Smith-Hobson Foundation

Over \$500

George G. Appel • Lila Atkisson • George & Sharon Berg • Howard  
Burroughs • Veronica Chiang-Fitzgerald • Jean Cinader • Edward  
Powell • Eleanor Rasnow • Mary Schwabauer • Elizabeth Thomas.

Over \$250

Christina Allison • Patricia Anand • Mary Ann & Bill Bang • Gayle  
Brindley • Sol Choolijan • Al & Freddie Contarino • Larry Daase  
Barbara Evans • Pompy Gragg • Donna Hamer • W C Johnson &  
V Matthews • Linda Ochoa • Shirley Randall • Claire Stuart  
Barbara Topping • Janet Wilson • Lucinda Wehrkamp

### Additional Contributors

Jean W Abbe • Henry Ansbacher • Ross E Breyfogle • Nancy Britton  
Ruth Beach • Robin Britt • M. Buhr • Capriccio's • Dia Chass  
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Sayre • Karen Schatz • Ben Snell • Sensei Publications • Esther  
Sorkin • Mariann Vancura • Rodd Whitney • Curt von Wooster •  
Zystar.

### Givers of Precious Time & Talents

Khaled Al Awar—director, treasurer and advisor  
Pat Bergen—director and promoter of traveling exhibits  
Mary Harrsch—director and webmaster  
**Linda D'Aprix**—director and supporter of Mr. Stuart  
Joseph Rund—director and legal counsel  
**Peter D'Aprix**—consummate photographer of Figures  
Frank Boross—creative and designer  
Johanna Burlingham—event organizer and promoter  
Rich Burlingham—producer & videographer  
David Comden—publisher and advisor  
Dawn Golden—CPA and advisor  
David Haevner—internet researcher and programmer  
Kathy Henri—newsletter editor, assistant to Mr. Stuart  
W. C. Johnson—non-profit start up specialist  
Margaret de la M—writer, editor, educator  
Carole McCartney—video productions and archives  
Gene Langley—artist, cartoonist and advisor  
Stella Martin—artist, producer, collaborator  
Maureen Martinez—lecturer, hair coloring specialist  
Marie Estes Pratt—bookkeeper and advisor  
Scott & Karen Sucher—gemologist and educator  
Greggory Smith—advisor and benefactor  
Barbara Topping—website editor and proof reader  
Ria Becker—mailings and DVD production manager

### Carnevale Ventura Volunteers

Angel Jones • Robert Lamarche • Shelley Rodgers  
Kellie McEwan • Cody Gerstman • Heather Heiss • Vic Myers  
Jennifer Ridgway • Andrew Schmidt • Apryle Tackett • Airealistic

## A Wonderful World of Professional Supporters

Organizations advisors and staff who freely gave of their time  
and resources to promote and support the Figures.

### Museums & Exhibitors

Museum of Ventura County • Ojai Valley Museum  
Clinton Presidential Library • Naples Museum of Art  
Oxnard Public Library • Pasadena Museum of History  
MuseumDiamonds.com • Gemological Institute of America  
Thomas Paine Society • Mini Time Machine Museum  
Hernandez-Monsanto Collection • Fine-Golden Collections  
World Model Soldier Expo

### Community & Media

Ventura City Council • Ventura Cultural Arts Commission  
Ventura County Community Foundation • CAPS TV  
Downtown Ventura Partners • Ventura Visitors Bureau  
Ann Flower Communications • WHPR Communications  
VC Reporter & VENTANA Magazine • Neal Andrews  
The Breeze • Ventura County STAR

### Collaborating Suppliers

A for Artistic.com • LU Zhengliang Arts Studio (China)  
Micro Production Techniques • Ventura Quick Printing Plus  
MuseumDiamonds.com • Fox Fine Jewelry • Viade, Inc.

## A Special Thanks to G. S. Stuart

For sharing his breathtaking art, entertaining monologs, and his pro-  
digious techniques to create them. For patiently educating us all in  
history and style. For moderating our frequent optimism and enthu-  
siasm. And, for enduring occasional Photoshop humor.



### Can You Name the Figures?

Louis XIV  
Stalin  
x Gladstone  
Queen Alexandra  
Queen Victoria  
Cortez  
Jaguar Warrior  
Henry VIII  
Gladstone