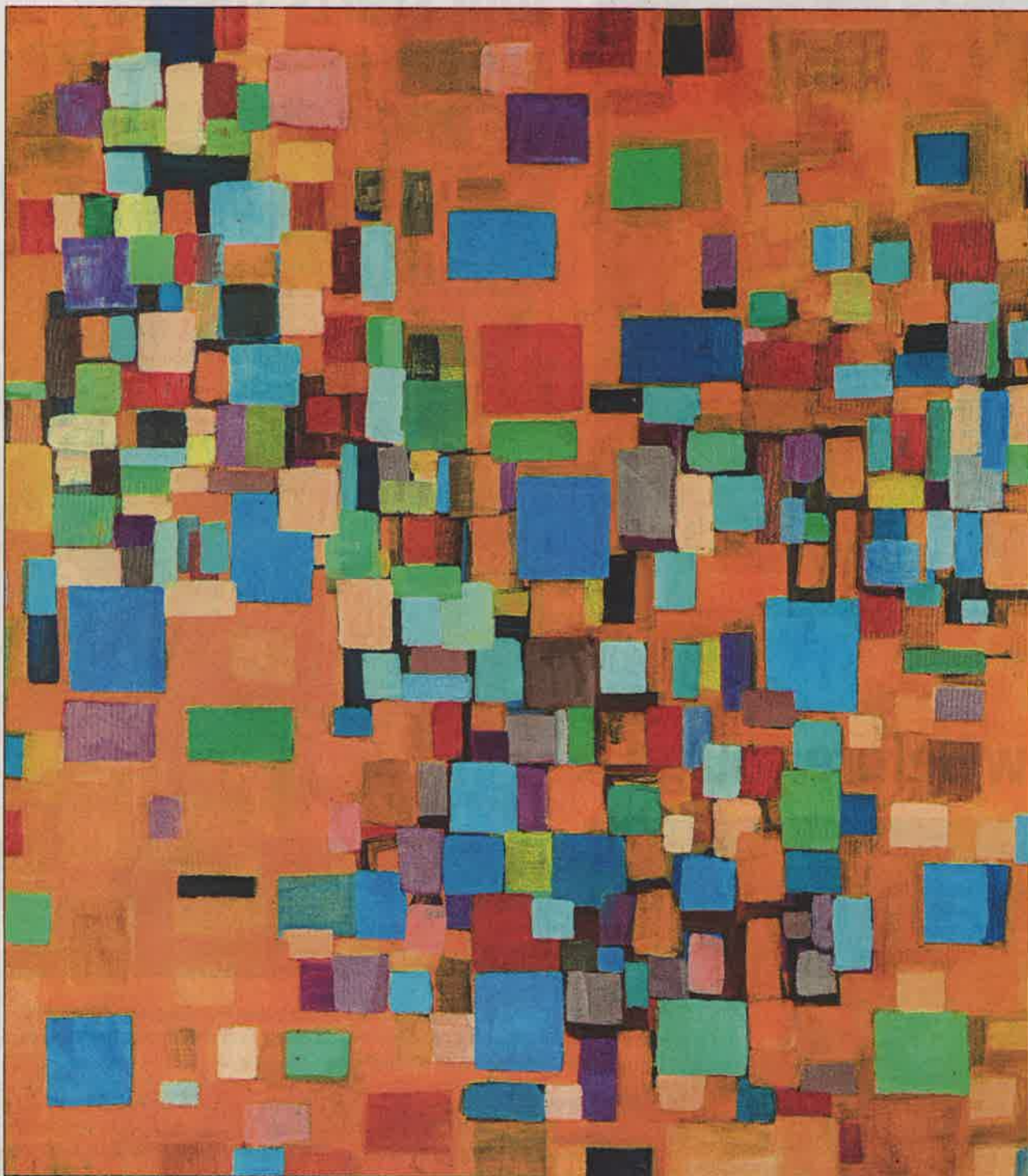


# Arts & Leisure

STATEN ISLAND SUNDAY ADVANCE | JANUARY 18, 2015 | SILIVE.COM/ENTERTAINMENT/ARTS

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Betty Bressi's "City Lights, Oil on Canvas," circa 1960, a watercolor from the collection of Mr. & Mrs. John Visconte.

## Hues the boss? Actually, there are two



Bressi's baskets, from left: red and black, green teepee and watercolor dot paper. (PHOTOS COURTESY THE STATEN ISLAND MUSEUM)



Edith Susskind amid some of the fine porcelain and collectibles she amassed in the course of operating her gift shop. (STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE)

*Museum to splash in color bath, courtesy of twin exhibits showcasing artist Bressi and collector Susskind*

By Lauren Steussy | lsteussy@siadvance.com

**S**T. GEORGE — Two new exhibitions arriving at the Staten Island Museum will inject vivid color into this white winter.

The first is a retrospective of painter, teacher, paper-weaver, poet and native Staten Islander Betty Bressi.

The exhibit features work from her early days as a teacher in a Japanese internment camp to her most recent paper weavings and book works.

The second features work from the beloved Edith Susskind porcelain collection.

Both exhibits will appear in the museum (75 Stuyvesant Place, St. George) from Jan. 25 through April 8. A reception to mark the openings will be held on Jan. 25 from 2 to 4 p.m.



Betty Bressi

SEE HUES, PAGE C3

### S.I. MUSEUM EXHIBIT OPENINGS

There will be a reception to mark the unveiling of two new exhibits.

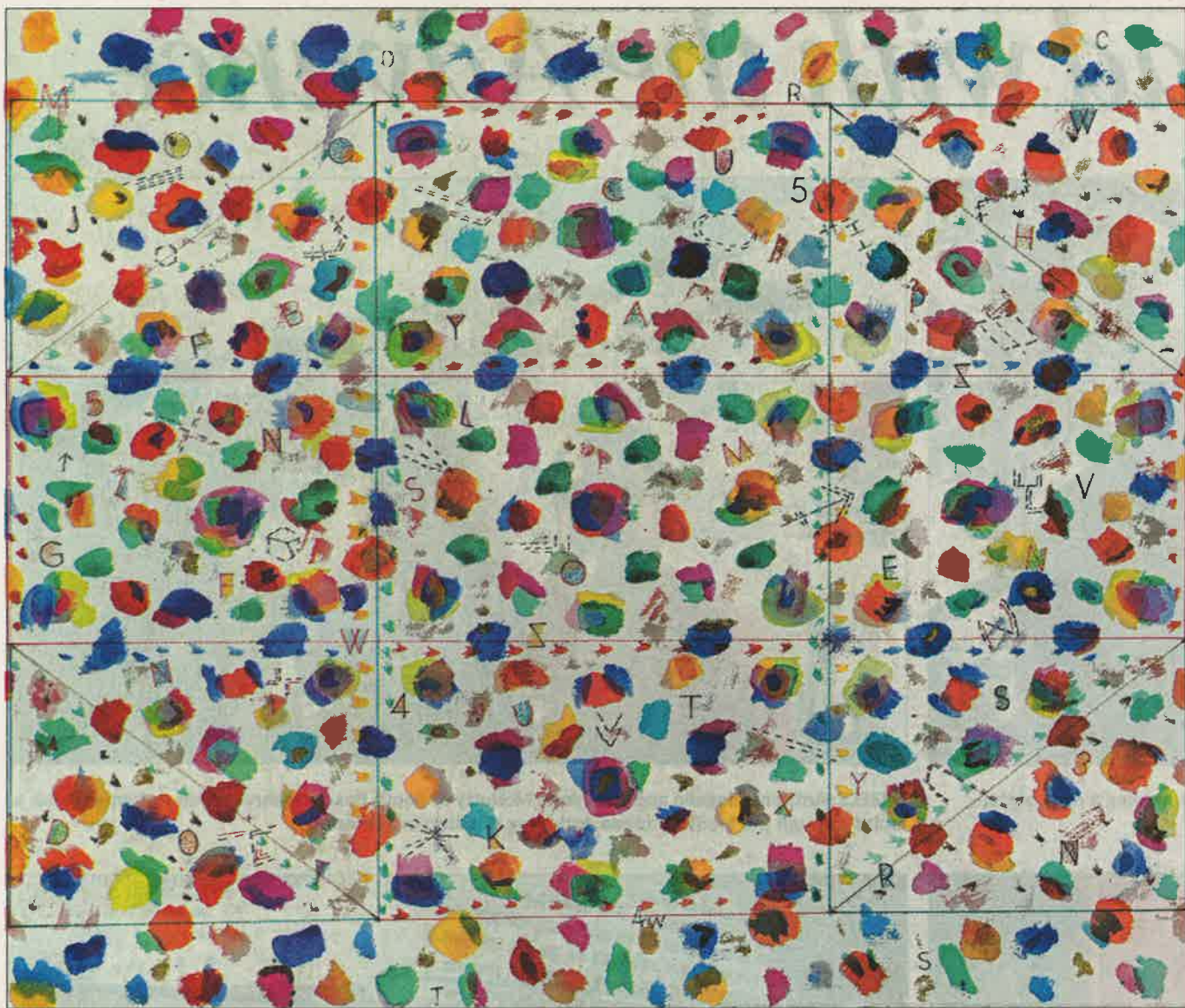
**What:** Art from the late acclaimed Staten Island painter and weaver Betty Bressi, plus additions to the Alfred & Edith Susskind Porcelain Collection.

**When:** Opening reception is Sunday, Jan. 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. The exhibits will be on display through April 8.

**Where:** Staten Island Museum, 75 Stuyvesant Place, St. George

**Cost:** \$5 for non-members, free for museum members

**More information:** StatenIslandMuseum.org or 718-727-1135



Betty Bressi's "Multi-colored Dots and Letters," watercolor, pencil on paper (COURTESY OF THE STATEN ISLAND MUSEUM)

## Hues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1

Bressi, who died last year at age 96, was one of the Island's most creative minds, combining stark minimalism with hypnotic repetition. Her colorful work evolved through her artistic career, from representational paintings to the later lyrical abstraction seen in works like the watercolor "Multi-colored Dots and Letters."

In the 1970s, Bressi was among the first artists to rent work space at what was then the new Snug Harbor Cultural Center; from there, she went on to place work in institutions like the Museum of Modern Art.

In addition to her paintings, Bressi also wove baskets — or

"Vessels," as she preferred to call them. The pieces are among those that will be featured in the retrospective.

Alongside Bressi's work will be "Kaleidoscopic Porcelain," an exhibit from the Alfred & Edith Susskind Porcelain Collection. This exhibit presents patterned porcelain plates and cups that communicate the vibrancy of their collector, Edith Susskind, who died a year ago at age 93.

To complement both exhibits, the museum will showcase its "Affinities" collection, which features works that relate to Bressi's art. Pieces include creations by Charles Hinman, Milton Glaser, Uttagawa Hiroshige, Victor Vasarely, William Blake and Arthur Wesley Dow, as well as a Tlingit basket.

Here are the details on the

other programs related to the exhibits.

All three events take place at the Staten Island Museum, located at 75 Stuyvesant Place, St. George.

### Betty's Typewriter Love Fest: A Second Saturday event

**Saturday, Feb. 14, 1-4 p.m.**  
Free with museum admission

Betty Bressi inspires us to use the queen of machines — the typewriter — to make art! Poetry, dance and art — fingers get ready, typewriters await you. Use ours or bring your own manual typewriter.

Featured guests: 2-3 p.m. Typewriter Poetry with traveling public/performance poet Billmarie will create unique poems for you on her 1950s pink typewriter.

3-3:30 p.m. Typewriter Performance by Deep Tanks Butoh with dancers Jayoung Yoon and Florence Poulain, and percussionist/composer Kevin Norton.

### Curator's Talk: Betty Bressi & Edith Susskind Sunday, March 8, 2 p.m.

Curator Robert Bunkin will discuss works by Betty Bressi and rarities in the Edith Susskind Collection. Special guest speaker Susan Visconti will reminisce about her Aunt Betty.

### Lunch & Learn: Betty Bressi & Edith Susskind Wednesday, March 18, 12:30-2 p.m.

\$25, Pastosa box lunch included

To reserve, call Loretta Lonecke at 718-483-7103 by March 11.

Edith



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Three Course  
Friday, A  
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