

# City of Newburgh

## Press Release

83 Broadway, Newburgh, N.Y. 12550  
(845) 569-7354 – (845) 569-7370

for immediate release  
April 25, 2007

### Works by Florence Benzakein in Visitors Center Gallery For Month of May

Reception for the Artist May 5 from 2-4 p.m.

The Downing Park Planning Committee is pleased to announce that the May exhibit in the Visitors Center Gallery will feature the aquatints, collages and etchings of Newburgh artist, Florence Benzakein.



Ms. Benzakein began her lifelong dedication to art with a focus on sculpture while studying for her BFA at Cornell University. After graduation, she continued doing sculpture while working in the commercial art world on magazines including Mademoiselle, Glamour and Ladies Home Journal. However, when she later studied at SUNY-New Paltz for her MFA, she became involved in print making, and that is now her principal medium. She has taken workshops at the Garrison Art Center with renowned print maker Vijay Kumar.

Ms. Benzakein's work is usually abstract and is sometimes a brilliant combination of collage and etching. When making prints from her plates, she explores the layering of color, and creates prints with a glowing depth and intensity. She works in her home studio, and does some of her printing in the Garrison Art Center print shop. Ms. Benzakein's prints are in many private collections throughout the northeast. Her work has been exhibited in New York City, and widely in the Hudson Valley, where it has won many awards.

The Visitors Center Gallery is located in the Shelter House in Downing Park, at Carpenter Avenue and Third Street in Newburgh. It is open daily from 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. The public is invited to meet the artist at an opening reception on Saturday, May 5 from 2-4 p.m. Please call (845) 565-5559 for more information. .