

BBC Films at Philipse Manor Hall



“Great British Railway Journeys” actress Caren Skibell with show host Michael Portillo. Photos by Philipse Manor Hall staff member Charles Casimiro.

The British Broadcasting Company recently came to historic Philipse Manor Hall in Yonkers to film an episode of “Great British Railway Journeys.” Actress Caren Skibell portrayed Mary Philipse, sister of Frederick Philipse III and one of Yonkers’ most famous early residents.

BBC host Michael Portillo and the whole crew enjoyed their time in Yonkers and in Philipse Manor Hall, with the show to provide an interesting take on Ms. Philipse’s claim to fame – she almost married George Washington!

“Great British Railway Journeys” has run on the BBC since 2010, with Portillo as the host. The episode filmed at Philipse Manor will be part of the seventh season.

Michael Portillo is a British journalist, broadcaster and former Conservative Party pol-

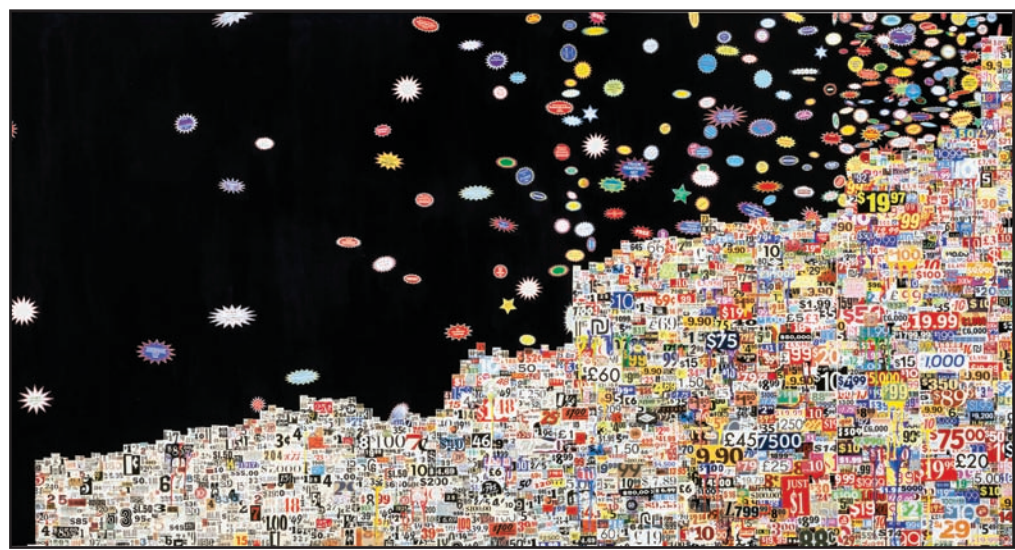


Skibell in front of a portrait of Mary Philipse, inside Philipse Manor Hall.

itician and Cabinet minister. Skibell is a New York-based actress, writer and educator.

Yonkers business Beyond Costumes provided the dress worn by Skibell in the episode.

Pryor Blends Culture And Landscape at YoHo



A piece by Amy Pryor titled “1889 and Up.”

At first glance, selections from artist Amy Pryor’s portfolio might appear to be vibrant studies of abstract landscapes, solar systems and skyscapes. A closer look, however, also brings aspects of American culture and consumerism into focus, as well, as her various installations and multi-media collages reveal post-consumer objects like barcodes, advertisements and magazine paper.

In every case, the end result is a visually appealing and thought-provoking twist on the traditional landscape piece of art, demonstrating that post-consumer materials can relate to the natural world in a painterly, artistic and even beautiful way.

It is this tension between the natural and man-made worlds that is the source of Pryor’s inspiration, and she often portrays her perception of consumerism and the conflicts of the graphic and the natural worlds in her works. Her large-scale collage “And Much, Much, More!” (2011), commissioned by the Bronx Museum of Art and collected by the Yale School of Management, combines barcodes, bulleted ads and historical data to create a landscape-esque timeline that is Pryor’s representation of the United States’ economic climate during the years of 1980 to 2010.

Pryor has occupied her studio at YoHo Artist Studios since 2013, and said she loves the great natural light the giant windows provide, as well as the expansive wall space that allows her to produce the larger-scale murals and mixed-



YOHO artist Amy Pryor in her Yonkers studio

media collages she often works with.

She was recently awarded a grant from the Bronx Museum of the Arts and is currently preparing a piece to be exhibited at the Casita Maria Center for the Arts in early 2016.

For more information about Amy Pryor and her work, visit www.amypryor.com; for more information about YoHo Artist Studios, visit www.yohoartists.org.

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