



Press Office
106 South Street
Easton, MD 21601
410-822-ARTS (2787)
asteward@goeaston.net

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Special Trunk Show and Sale at the Academy Art Museum

Sylvia Gottwald: Cultured Designs

Friday, May 20, 2:30 - 6 p.m.

Academy Art Museum

A special trunk show at the Academy Art Museum will feature the work of jewelry designer Sylvia Gottwald. An exhibition, *Sylvia Gottwald: Cultured Designs*, is on display at the Museum through May 22, 2011. *Cultured Designs* showcases a cross section of materials and forms created over the last 10 years of Gottwald's career as a jewelry designer. More than a decade ago, during her extensive travels, Gottwald began to collect rare shells from France, Thailand, Japan, the Philippines and other locations and turned her attention to creating wearable art and helping to transform the traditional craft of mother-of-pearl into a contemporary form. Juxtaposing mother-of-pearl with materials familiar from her days as an architect, Gottwald incorporates rubber, steel and other metals into the totality of her wearable designs. Because Gottwald is sensitive to ecology and the sustainability of marine life, she incorporates only those shells and

pearls that can be gathered from sustainable farms, including the non-endangered abalone, paua and Turbo Marmoratus shells from the Far East. While many viewers will admire the beauty and elegance of her work, it is also hoped that her work will draw additional attention to the plight of the sensitive ecology of the Eastern Shore, Chesapeake Bay and overall world.

CUTLINE: Pictured are Mike Roman, Director of the Horn Point Laboratory; Sylvia Gottwald, jewelry designer; and Erik Neil, director of the Academy Art Museum are pictured at the recent opening of *Sylvia Gottwald: Cultured Designs* exhibition at the Museum. The Museum will host a trunk show and sale of the artist's jewelry on Friday, May 20, from 2:30 to 6 p.m.

