

“Juliette”

In the late 18th century, the Marquis de Sade wrote the novella *Justine* and the accompanying novel *Juliette*, for which he was arrested and imprisoned without a trial. In the books, *Justine* and *Juliette* are sisters. *Justine* is the virtuous sister who encounters nothing but despair and abuse. *Juliette* is an amoral nymphomaniac who ends up successful and happy. The original French title of *Juliette* is *Histoire de Juliette ou les Prospérités du vice*, translated as *The History of Juliette, or the Prosperity of Vice*. The original French title of *Justine* is *La Nouvelle Justine ou Les Malheurs de la vertu*, translated as *Justine or The Misfortunes of Virtue*.



“A Beautiful Crime: Sensuality Personified”

Historically, gypsies were nomads. People were uneasy around them not only because they were strangers traveling through town, but also because of their clever, conniving ways. It was generally assumed female gypsies engaged in prostitution, but there was no truth to that—at least not if the woman wanted to remain in her family.

But there was a con the teenage gypsy

daughters would play. They would send their little brothers out to ask sailors to shine their shoes. When a sailor took the bait, he was directed inside an apartment and told, “My sister will shine shoes.” Once inside, the daughter would flirt with the fellow and pretend not to speak much English. She would motion toward the back room and say, “Good time?” If he was convinced she was a prostitute, and if he was interested, he’d pay \$10 or \$20 and head to the back room, where the whole Gypsy family was waiting. The daughter would say to her family, “This guy want Gypsy good time!” and the family would pick up fiddles and other instruments and start singing and dancing. Most would just leave in embarrassment, con complete.

“Mistress”

A mistress is a man’s long-term female lover and companion—a relationship usually taken in addition to a wife. The relationship generally is stable and at least semi-permanent, and it usually, but not always, is secret. Historically, the term has denoted a kept woman who was maintained in a comfortable (or even lavish) lifestyle by a wealthy man to be available for his sexual pleasure. Such a woman could move between the roles of a mistress and a courtesan depending on her situation and environment.



“Shameless”

The Moulin Rouge (French for The Red Windmill) is best known as the spiritual birthplace of the modern form of the can-can dance. The cabaret was built in 1889 by Joseph Oller and was marked by a red windmill

on its roof. The can-can existed for many years as a respectable working-class

party dance, but in the early days of the Moulin Rouge, courtesans adapted the dance to entertain male clientele. The dance usually was performed individually, with courtesans moving in energetic and provocative ways to seduce potential clients. It was common for them to lift their skirts and reveal their legs, underwear and occasionally their genitals. As time progressed, can-cans at the Moulin Rouge became increasingly vulgar and overtly erotic, causing much public outrage.

“Cleopatra”

The story of Cleopatra is full of love, romance, greed and war. Cleopatra was born in Egypt in 69 B.C. to the Ptolemaic royal family of Greek-Egyptians, which ruled Egypt from the time of Alexander the Great when Egypt was part of Alexander’s empire. When Alexander died in 336 B.C., his empire was divided among his top generals, and Ptolemy became the ruler of Egypt and the first ruler of the Ptolemaic dynasty. Ptolemy XII was Cleopatra’s father. When he died in 51 B.C., he willed that seventeen-year-old Cleopatra and her twelve-year-old brother, Ptolemy XIII, were to marry and rule Egypt together. Cleopatra was a very different ruler than the Ptolemies who came before her. She learned the Egyptian language (other Ptolemies spoke only Greek), and she also practiced the religious customs of Egypt. Thus, many Egyptians viewed her as a pharaoh (Egyptian ruler), not a Greek ruler. In 48 B.C., Cleopatra’s generals found they could not control her, so they ousted Cleopatra and made her brother the sole monarch. A few months later, a Roman army led by Julius Caesar arrived in Egypt. Cleopatra noted that Caesar’s army was much larger than the Egyptian forces, so she figured Caesar could return her to power. She arranged to have a Persian carpet delivered to the 54-year-old Caesar. When he unrolled it, he found the 22-year-old former queen wrapped inside. The pair became lovers, and Cleopatra got what she wanted from him—the Roman general led his army to capture and kill the people who removed her from power, returning her to the throne.



“Exploitation”

- Stats on prostitution in the United States
- Average age of entry: 14-16 yrs
 - Average mean age: 31
 - Average years in prostitution: 11
 - Percent younger than age 18 at entry: 42%

VIOLENCE IN PROSTITUTION

- Threatened with a weapon: 78%
- Physically assaulted: 82%

WHEN ASKED “WHAT DO YOU NEED?” TO PROSTITUTES

- Drugs: 75%
- Alcohol: 26%

“Geisha”

In Japanese, the word geisha means artist. Geisha are professional hostesses who entertain with impeccable talents and sophisticated charm. They entertain in tea houses called *ochaya*. There are many misconceptions about the role of geisha women. Geisha are not prostitutes. Geisha are single women (if they marry, they must retire from the profession) who entertain clients by dancing, reciting verse,



playing musical instruments or engaging in conversation. Geisha may flirt with a client and make playful innuendos, but it is understood nothing more can be expected. Historically, it was common and encouraged for geisha to take a *danna*, or patron, who would financially support her lifestyle. This relationship is very rare today.

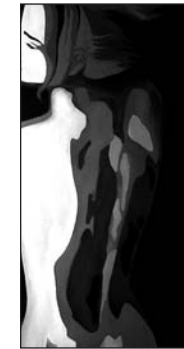
“Harem”

A harem is defined as the women’s quarters in a Muslim household. The Imperial Harem of the Ottoman Empire (1299-1923) occupied one of the largest sections of private apartments of the sultan at the Topkapi Palace. With more than 400 rooms, the harem contained the combined households of the Valide Sultan (Queen Mother), the Sultan’s favorites (*hasekis*), and the rest of his concubines (women whose main function was to entertain the Sultan in the bedchamber). It also contained all the Sultanas (daughters of the Sultan) households.



“Junoesque”

Juno, known as Hera in Greek mythology, is subtly tied to the legend of Lillith, Adam’s first wife before Eve, who was independent and quickly disappeared from Adam’s life because she refused to be subservient. Juno was married to Jupiter (Zeus) and did not sit passively by while he engaged in numerous affairs; she took her revenge on her husband’s concubines and conquests, but rarely on her husband. Not wanting to risk her role in society and being fully devoted to the sanctity of the marriage, she protected her husband in this manner and remained outwardly the diligent and devoted wife. Her deepest desire was for a happy union and proactive partnership.



“Night-time Butterfly”

A recent study showed that prostitution is high on the list of professions that modern Russian schoolgirls dream of pursuing. With few options for survival, Russian women increasingly resort to prostitution. Approximately 500 prostitutes, called night-time butterflies, walk Tverskaya Street in Moscow each night. There are more than 80 escort services operating in Saratov, Russia.

“History’s Naughty Misses” is a traveling show. Additional pieces will be introduced at each new venue. Upcoming locations include:

*Salon Pizzaz, 104 Huron Ave., Port Huron, MI 48060
December 2, 2009 - January 29, 2009*

*Woodward Avenue Brewery (WAB)
22646 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, MI 48220
February 1, 2009 - March 30, 2009*

*For a full schedule of venues go to
www.jodyparmann.com*

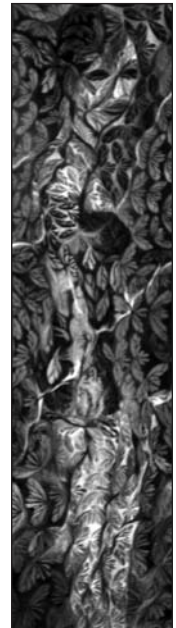




Photo by JFogal.com

Jody Parmann

Jody Parmann, a Port Huron native, was born an artist. From the time she was a small child, her mother taught her how to draw portraits. Independently, Jody honed her skills by drawing the characters, in the books she read, based on how they were described. Her father supported and encouraged her talents, by taking her to the beach to explore rocks and shells, often prompting her to describe the unique colors and shapes she found in them. Her dad would spend creative afternoons with

her, building kites out of garbage bags and sticks, for example. No, the kites didn't fly, but that wasn't the point. The process of creating, exploring and experimenting is what stuck with Jody.

By the time she reached high school, her art teacher, Scott Magnuson, recognized her talents, gave her direction and helped develop her skills. Also during this time, Jody discovered Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944). An accomplished musician and painter, Kandinsky is credited for painting the first modern abstract works. He was inspired by inner beauty, deep spiritual desire—what he called “inner necessity”—

and a desire to create paintings with the same emotional power as music composition. He once said, “Color is the keyboard, the eyes are the harmonies, the soul is the piano with many strings. The artist is the hand that plays, touching one key or another, to cause vibrations in the soul.” Kandinsky’s influence can be seen in Jody’s art—in her propensity for bright, brilliant colors and her desire to create and express herself across a multitude of art mediums, including painting, drawing and clay work.

Soon after high school, Jody became immersed in the local art scene. She joined the Shop, a local art cooperative, in 2003 while attending St. Clair Community College. Shortly thereafter, she joined the Times Herald newspaper, honing her digital art skills while building ads and laying out pages. In 2005, Jody started her own freelance business, Muse Creative Design, a full-service graphic design firm, which she runs today.

Deeply involved in community art events, she is a



One Word One Idea

major contributor to Studio 1219, an art gallery and incubator, assisting with the Studio’s major fundraising events, such as the Art of Being a Woman and Renaissance Roam. She designed the official logo and t-shirt for the 2005 and 2006 Port Huron to Mackinac races and was chosen to paint the official Port Huron Sesquicentennial painting. Her



Paint Pants

work in the community can be viewed at Studio 1219, the Harborside Office Center on Desmond Landing, Port Huron High School and in the offices of the Community Foundation of St. Clair County, where she recently designed and painted a mural.

Jody’s additional artistic endeavors include One Word One Idea, an art project inviting patrons to submit a word for her to interpret through painting, her high-demand paint pants fashion design project, face painting and, most recently, her Wish Bottle project. She runs her art studio out of her home, a loft in downtown Port Huron.



Face Painting at Studio 1219's Fire & Ice



JODY PARMANN

Downtown Port Huron, Michigan

E-mail: jody@parmann.com

810-357-1364

www.jodyparmann.com



Wish Bottle

The show features the colorful tales of women throughout history who have taken a more questionable moral path: courtesans, gypsies, concubines, geisha, doxies, streetwalkers and performers of the Moulin Rouge. These paintings are meant to educate and entertain gallery visitors by bringing to light the shadier side of women’s history.

