

Rivers & Estuaries Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2005

Contact: Patti Dunne 845-838-1600

Don Nice: Hudson River Fish

August 13 - September 24, 2005

Opening Reception: Saturday, August 13, 2005 5-7pm

Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday 9-5

Saturday 11-5

2nd Saturday 11-8

The Rivers & Estuaries Center is pleased to present *Don Nice: Hudson River Fish*, a series of paintings of native fish on anodized aluminum by Garrison artist Don Nice, on exhibit August 13 – September 24, 2005. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, August 13 from 5 - 7pm in the Center's gallery at 199 Main Street, Beacon.

For the past 35 years, Nice has maintained a studio on the banks of the Hudson River and has created eloquent and often profound paintings of the great river and its adjacent terrain. "The river is a tremendous record for us---from its virgin birth in the Adirondacks through the remnants of the Industrial Revolution, to the busy commercial harbor of New York City" commented the artist. "This is our Parthenon, our Chartres. We must do everything we can---not to just save it, but to see it."

Born in 1932, Don Nice grew up in California's San Joaquin Valley. Nice attended the University of Southern California, and, at the age of thirty, was accepted to the graduate school of painting at Yale University with fellow students Chuck Close, Rackstraw Downes, and Janet Fish. He has had more than 60 solo exhibitions in galleries and museums and his work is represented in more than 70 collections throughout the world.

Nice combined the gesture of Abstract Expressionist artists and the realism of Pop artists to make large-scale paintings of common, everyday objects in their most abstracted forms---flat images on neutral backgrounds. These single image subjects from the late 1960s became the foundation of Nice's mature style and gave direction to his inspired predella paintings in the mid 1970s (first used during the Early Renaissance period.)

After experimenting further with totem paintings, Nice completely eliminated the canvas and worked with anodized aluminum using organic dyes. It is this medium which is featured at the latest exhibit at the Rivers and Estuaries Center.

Headquartered on the Hudson River the Rivers and Estuaries Center will, for the first time, offer a centrally located science, technology, education and cultural institution devoted to the understanding of rivers and estuaries and the application of those studies to policy, management and society. The Center offers an integrated model for studying and understanding rivers and estuaries by connecting diverse expertise and recognizing the value of collaboration and partnership to accomplish that critical goal.

For more information, please call the Rivers & Estuaries Center at 845-838-1600, or visit our website: www.riversandestuaries.org