

**Alexander's**

**Now**

**and**

**Then . . .**

***A Sometimes Monthly  
Newsletter & Blog***

***that will be published***

***Now & Then . . .***

**Alexander Lehr**

**Word Collector Writer Editor & Publisher**

**articles photos art bios fantasy**

**Born March 31, 2018  
Volume I, Issue I**

I shared this first issue of my new newsletter at my  
"OUT OF TIME PARTY" on March 31, 2018. Hope you  
enjoy our "TIME" stories here! *Alexander Lehr*

March 31, 2018

In 1984, I was Artistic Director of a Life Stage Show Theater in Hollywood, California called **The Galaxy Stage**. I was committed to only producing new, unpublished plays and shows whose content I believed in. I was very proud of the positive reviews that my theatrical group and I received. During that period, I started my first newsletter that I called **IMAGINE** (inspired by the gentle John Lennon song). One, meaningful issue was published.

"**ALEXANDER'S NOW & THEN**" (©), my new collection of stories, photos, reviews and art is something that is very special to me. After producing many types of events for many decades, I've come to know some amazing people: Artists, Actors, Singers, Songwriters, Magicians & Musicians as well as Teachers, Scholars & wonderful Raconteurs. From Time-to-Time (or Now & Then), I'll take some of their info, their passions and art and stories and share them with all of you in these pages. Honest feedback will also be shared. Hate, intolerance and abusive attacks will never be printed. Politics is currently a no-man's (& woman's) land so that will also be avoided.

And yes, I will also share some stuff that I've written as well. Thanks for visiting here.

*Alexander Lehr*



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I've asked a few friends (as well as myself) to write something about **TIME** and **TIMELESSNESS**. In the following pages, you'll read some of their observations.

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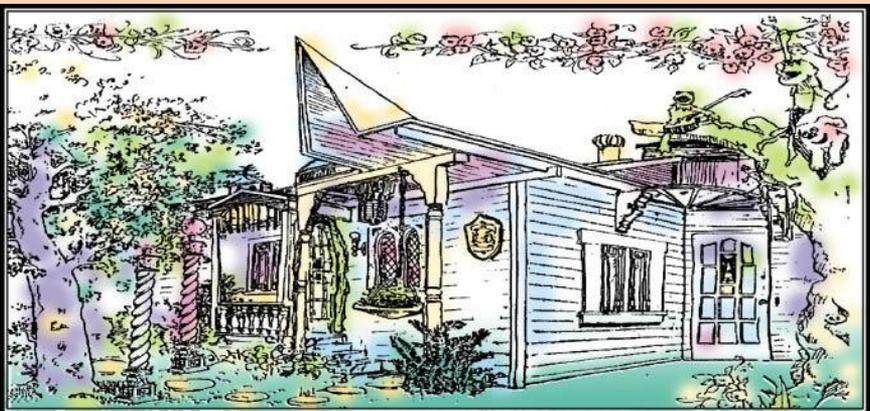
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### **Gemini Manor**

[www.geminimanor.com](http://www.geminimanor.com) // [geminimanor@earthlink.net](mailto:geminimanor@earthlink.net)

(1984 Drawing of **The Manor** by Artist **MIMI STUART**)

# "GEMINI MANOR MUSINGS"

by NANCY HILL

May 2010

*(I met Nancy Hill by way of Facebook in 2010. She seemed interesting, attractive and mystical. (Sent her a "Friend Request"; she accepted; she stayed at my home when she arrived from Arizona - and she's become one of my Best Friends. Facebook CAN be a positive place! Alexander)*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Secret Hollywood Hideaway (Past Musing)

I started feeling a strong urge to visit Los Angeles weeks ago. It was unexplainable, but quite persistent so finally I made a casual call to a new Facebook friend to see if he had any rooms available at his house for a few days.

Was I in luck.

I'd seen some intriguing photos of "Gemini Manor" . . . but photos do no justice at all to this amazing work of art. In fact first night I was there, I decided not to leave my room to get something I'd forgotten downstairs. I just wasn't sure I could find my way back through the winding maze to my cozy room up in the trees.

I've since heard several people say that visiting the Manor feels like being inside an M.C. Escher drawing. Only it's much, much more elaborate than anything Escher ever drew. There are multitudes of stained glass windows, old movie props, total junk pieces turned into magical sculptures, kid's toys, dragons, fairies, cars, hidden rooms, towering skylights, mirrors, artwork, and on and on and on and on.

And on.

I've never experienced anything like it.

I'm addicted – I'll be going back again soon. Meanwhile I just can't keep it a secret from the world. Other people should experience this place. It's the kind of destination people travel far across the world to see, only it's just around the corner in Hollywood. It's a creation that awakens and satisfies that innate human thirst we all have for the magic and mystery of life.

Alexander Lehr is the creative, amazing Wizard behind the curtain. He's a gracious, wonderful host who will happily transport you into his secret oasis of stunning beauty. A visionary genius of many talents, he's a Filmmaker, Event Producer, Real Estate Investor, Artist, Business Man, and Collector (ask him about his 41 cars!).

He's lived on the property for decades so he naturally knows the place and the people very intimately. A natural storyteller, he thoroughly entertained me with fascinating accounts of his adventures in Hollywood as well as his tales of the area history. He's a real insider with connections to people and parties others only dream of knowing.

He also throws some great parties himself, find him on Facebook (Alexander Lehr) and keep an eye on what he's doing. His events are as magical as his home.

If you're going to LA, forget Disneyland (even though it's one of his favorite places) and visit Gemini Manor instead! I highly recommend it. [www.GeminiManor.com](http://www.GeminiManor.com)

*(Patty Parejko has been my auto insurance agent for many years. She is very professional and helpful. Her rates are also very competitive. Mention "Gemini Manor Productions" (my Entertainment Company) and you'll get a discount when you join the Auto Club! Alexander Lehr)*



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**MARILYN MONROE**  
**TRULY TIMELESS**  
**By ANNEKE BEAUNEN**



One of the universal principles of life is that it is in perpetual motion. It is always moving. Always changing. Nothing is permanent. And such is the nature of humanity as well. It is in our human nature to always keep moving forward. To

keep pushing our boundaries. To evolve. To change. And yet in the midst of this quicksilver state of constant change, there is also the element of timelessness. Both individually and in the grand arena of humanity as a whole, we have all sorts of practices, rituals, habits, preferences, likes, dislikes, loves - and, sadly, hates as well - which are both universal and timeless. For example our love of beauty. Beautiful things and beautiful people have always been, and will likely always be, celebrated and revered. Our ideas of what is and is not beautiful may have changed over time, and different cultures have different ideals of beauty. But our love for beauty, our veneration of it, is universal and timeless.

Perhaps one of the greatest examples of both beauty and timelessness is Marilyn Monroe. In the beautiful, complicated, tragic person that she was, she encapsulates various elements that make up the essence of timelessness. There was of course her beauty, and the way the world fell head over heels in love with that beauty. But who she was, and why she is so timeless, goes far beyond her beautiful appearance. The shadows in her life also play a vital role in that. Her lifelong struggles. Her efforts to break free from her own demons. Growing up with a mentally ill mother. Never knowing who her father was. Living in different foster homes. Being the victim of sexual abuse. Navigating the many men in her life, and the many ways in which they took advantage of her. Learning to make her way in the world as a woman. Even having to overcome her stuttering. And perhaps most of all the way she reinvented herself time and time again, going from Norma Jeane to Marilyn in an ongoing cycle of constant transformation. Paradoxically, it is exactly this process of perpetual movement, this continuous evolution of who she was as a person, that is so exquisitely timeless.

After all, isn't that what all of us do to some degree or other? Evolve and change as we go along. It is precisely this process of endless reinvention that is such a timeless quality of humanity.

And Marilyn's timelessness endures to this very day, and will continue to do so for a long time, I'm sure. For many, it is merely her beauty that makes her timeless. Eternally young, eternally beautiful. Her alluring face, her radiant smile, her seductive glamour ... forever frozen in the amber of time. But for others, she represents more than that. Her pure humanity. Not just the superficiality of her outward appearance, but her entire being, with all her good and her bad qualities. It isn't merely her sublime beauty, but also - and perhaps even more so - her flaws which make her every bit as human as we all are, and every bit as timeless.

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Best wishes,

**Anneke.** 

March 30, 2018

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*(Anneke Beunen is another wonderful Facebook find of mine. She lives in Belgium and writes extensively about fascinating, performing women from many years of yesterdays. I'm delighted that she wrote this piece about Marilyn for my first issue. Alexander )*

## TIME MUSINGS



Alex:

A few words of whimsy (as opposed to wisdom) regarding "Time."

*"Time flies like an arrow.....fruit flies like a banana."*

But more seriously....

*Time is nothing but a bunch of "nows" strung together. They move only in one direction and the only thing you can do to influence your future is to alter the course of your current "now." It's scary, and it's hard. But others have done it before you. Otherwise, history would be really boring. Make your own best history that you can.*

*Begin now.*

**0~Dave Destler**  
March 24, 2018

*(Dave is an exceptional friend of several years. He attended many Gemini Manor parties so he knows how exceptional and fun they were. Dave is a very precise writer and editor who has helped to ground some of my wild impulses with his logical way of being and thinking. Everyone should have a Dave in their lives. Alexander )*

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## **TIME WASTINGS BY YULI AN**



*(Yuli An is an extraordinary Russian writer. We met because she thought that I could translate her Russian novels into English. I couldn't (I speak it, don't read or write it too well) but we still managed to form a close relationship. Her philosophical studies and observations about life are very intriguing. With Google's help and my own, limited abilities, I've translated her "**TIME WASTINGS**" piece which I enjoyed very much. I hope you do too. Alexander)*

# TIME WASTINGS, YULI AN

From what circumstances throughout our life path, do we periodically suffer frustration?

This often comes from the thought that time is wasted for us. We worked hard, fussed, absorbed in endless cares ...

Whereas the life time given to us was given to learn how to give love and just be happy.

Are you happy, man-woman? Are you truly happy?

Do not you waste your time in satisfying your gluttonous Ego to prove to yourself and others that you are important in this world.

We all know that time does not just pass; it still has the finality of ending. Our Ending.

So what prevents us from living in love and enjoying every moment of being?

Only ourselves.

So let yourself be: find the purity, the simplicity - the love within your being - set it free - free it while you still have the time!

**Yuli An**

March 28, 2018

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## "THE KNIGHT" BY OLGA HOFMANN

One of our Fabulous

Gemini Manor Productions

Family of Artists!

*\* In coming issues, I'll be presenting various Artists (of all types!) from all over our Earth Planet. Submissions are welcomed!! Alexander Lehr \**

**\* \* \* TIMELESS SOUL \* \* \* BY ALEXANDER LEHR**

In my mind & heart & soul, I am a very simple basic man. I eat and sleep and dream & work & make love & explore & muse about Life. Throughout my life, Time often drifted into Timelessness. I was simply not worried or bothered or dwelled on it. Yes, I was often late and sometimes suffered unpleasant consequences for my lack of time interest. I had to be motivated. When I attended Hollywood High School as a teenager, I was motivated to NEVER miss a class or EVER be late during my three year student term there. (Won a perfect attendance award for my efforts at graduation! in 1965!).

My explanation for my socially unacceptable behavior is both simple and otherworldly. Like Peter Pan, I grew up in a mental fantasy world with no thoughts of aging or maturing or becoming a responsible adult. I did try to be thoughtful, kind, practical, resourceful and caring. Occasionally, I succeeded. But, I continued living through decades of triumphs and tragedies, challenges, victories and defeats as if they were simply interesting, dreamlike chapters in my personal saga. I was young and ageless. I could do whatever I wanted. I would always exist and survive no matter what challenges arose.

As years passed by at an ever increasing, demanding speed, I continued in my blissful State of Denial. I somehow didn't see that every sunrise and sunset was methodically wearing down some aspect of who I was and am. My body, no longer limber and strong, wasn't able to keep up the pace of my younger self. My mind, although still quite active, was

slower in comprehending the intricacies of adjusting to the new, digitally demanding world.

I finally began questioning the image that stared back at me in the mirror. Sure, it was some unrecognizable old guy, but perhaps he could help me understand what was happening. My consciousness felt weird, like I'd suddenly possessed someone else's body. It took various deaths of loved ones and loved possessions to alter my perceptions and thinking. Didn't like my new found wisdom. Didn't like it at all.

Sigh.

Now, despite everything I've lost in the last, few years (Damn, time reference!), I've gained something quite precious: a true and real appreciation of Life in many forms: Birds, Animals, Plants, Humans, Trees, Sea Creatures. I also find Life in Music, in Musicians and Writers and Artists and Actors and Comedians and Magicians. I've learned that Life shares these special Lives and Artistic Creations for only brief moments in TIME and then they often will fade away without warning. Caring and Appreciating in the moment is Essential. Vital. In the Now.

So, I've learned that I can't completely ignore TIME but I can work with it and occasionally shape it somewhat more to my liking. It's actually fun to see if I can outrun and outwit it sometimes. Yes, I really can do that. Don't believe me?

You've obviously never met me.

*Alexander Lehr*

March 29, 2018

*(HANK GARRETT is a wonderful, dynamic Actor who has been very supportive of **Gemini Manor Events**. He's coming out with an exciting new product.)*



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**HANK GARRETT** (born Henry Greenberg Cohen Sandler Weinblatt) is an American actor, comedian, writer & producer who is best known for his role as the Killer Mailman in the film, **Three Days of the Condor** and for the television role of Officer Nicholson on **Car 54, Where Are You?** Garrett has acted in over 80 television productions including Paris (co-starring with James Earl Jones), and episodes of Columbo, The Dukes of Hazzard, Knots Landing, Max Headroom, Santa Barbara & many others.

<https://www.cbtcandle.com/product-page/hank-garrett-the-original-tough-guy-1>

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This was our fun party on March 31, 2018  
where guests received the first issue of the

**"NOW & THEN NEWSLETTER!"**