

Boston Children's Museum

Discussion with Mike Spock

1/19/06

Rethinking Roles

What we do as individuals -vs- collectively

"Everybody Works the Floor"

Beyond the museum

MatchBoxes

Greek Family, etc

Smart Packaging



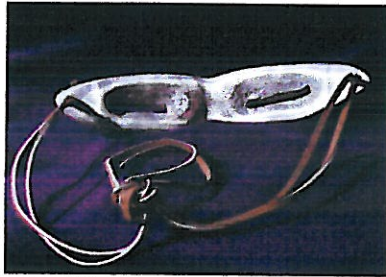
Brochures

Activity Envelopes, Snow Goggles

"Hands-On" validation

Courage, Minds, Attitudes, Inquiry, Open-endedness, Transferability

Eskimo Children's Art



Apt Media, Directness, Clarity, Simplesness, Cheapness, TRUST

Winterfest

Validating Fun, Unpredictable Outcomes



Animals and Armor

Combining natural history, culture & art



Multiple learning modalities



Comparisons, Surrogate "real" objects, Role Playing, Labels
Collaboration among museums
(innovative moving – horse trailer, popcorn)

Teeth

"Validated" Exhibits

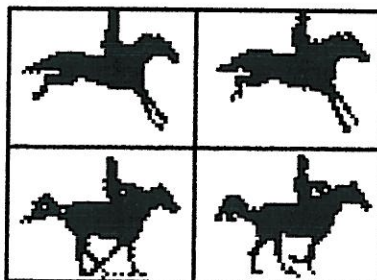
Pre, During and Post Testing; Feedback

Breaking orthodoxies

Talking skulls



How Movies Move



Workshops, Pre-testing, "Guinea-pig Days",



Revisions 1, Revisions 2, Revisions 3, Revisions 4, etc



Size

Beyond scholarly taxonomies



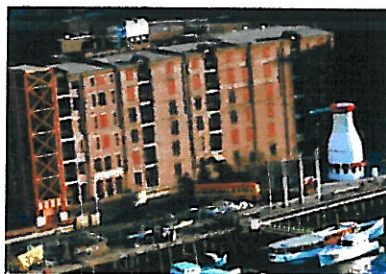
What is appropriate subject matter?
(Like "What's Inside"; "Endings"; "Bridges" etc)

The Facility/Architecture

JP

Adaptive reuse, opportunities & limits
"losing" cases, "losing" the auditorium
Open plan, noise, platforms not rooms, cross categories
Accommodating parent & child, larger crowds, regulars

Fort Pt



Immersion environments
"Time" Zones; Age-specific spaces?

New Kinds of Museums - Explore Centers, Discovery Centers
St Petersburg Grandparent Museum proposal



Φ Day Invitation/fact sheet

Sunday October 6, 2002 - Φ day - a day to celebrate the life and works of Phylis Morrison (May 6, 1927 to July 9, 2002). Participants should come to the MIT campus and make their way to room 6-120, by 10AM, a lecture theater of the MIT Physics department. We will open by introducing Phylis's life, words, and artifacts. There will be a short time for remembrances. We will then break into smaller groups, to discuss how we will use our experiences with Phylis to enjoy the wide world and to make it better.

Work tables will have various of her creations for you to use freely, art, science, weaving, beading, calligraphy, books, photos...

Bring in what you have of hers to show or recall. A selection of comments and materials sent by friends in celebration is here. We will gather your words and any product of the various work tables to send them later to you at home as a report of the day.

Schedule:

9:30	-	10:00	Light Breakfast (outside room 6-120)
10:00	-	11:00	Introductory meeting with talks about Phylis and her hopes, some prepared, some impromptu.
11:00	-	2:00	Work Group Tables & Rooms Teaching Crafts/books Alphabetics Open Conversation.
12:00	-	1:00	Lunch buffet available in the Compton room 26-110
2:00	-	2:30	Close with Baroque music live in room 6-120

RSVP: to Phil Morrison or Bert Singer, at
617-868-0234 or Physday@aol.com, by Wednesday, September 25,
naming the people who are coming, - Fail Not!

FINDING ROOM 6-120: see included map

By Car, park in the MIT East Lot and Garage. These spaces are available *without permit on Sunday, October 6*. There will be signs directing you from the parking spaces to room 6-120.

Public transport will take you to 77 Mass Ave. There will be signs posted to help you get to room 6-120 from there. Red Line to Kendall Sq is a second route.

You might bring garden flowers, or a small pumpkin

Harvard
Square

MIT Campus
Cambridge

Albany Street

Main St

Oneway

Vassar Street

Construction

Garage
Lot

East
Parking
Entrance

Mass Ave

Ames Street

Room 6-120

Memorial Dr

Boston

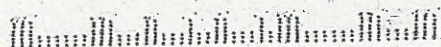
Charles River

Morrison
11 Bowdoin St
Cambridge, Ma. 02138



Mike Judy Stock
% David Lattimer
2 Bedford Rd
Lincoln Ma
01773

01773+2017



Phylis Morrison, born in New Jersey in 1927, died this summer, July 9, aged seventy five, among her friends and family at her Cambridge home of forty years. Sunday, October 6, we commemorate her life and work in solace, gratitude and admiration. We hope and we expect that recollections of her gifted mind and wit, her acute gaze, her deft hands and warmly giving heart, will help us grasp the world as she did in all its fullness, notably the women, the men, and the children who people it, their histories and their hopeful prospects.

She was a keen scholar, one who claimed she had never graduated any school, not even kindergarten. Graphics artist,

author, teacher in the classroom and outside, her original marks are clear in many lands. She held art and science as partners, and she listed herself credibly as master or journeyman of twenty-odd disciplines and crafts: patterns and symmetries, growing crystals, gardens, and ancient crop plants, caring lovingly for our family home (one grown son), weaving, printing in many forms and alphabets, photography with computer graphics, beadwork in 1-, 2- and 3D, doll-making...

Sunday, October 6—Phi-day?—many invited friends will gather at MIT to recall her, examine artifacts, and use her tools to augment the memories all have brought. Phylis knew that words alone do not suffice.



I made you to show honor to my teachers, especially the people who taught me to weave. Of course there are many of those, weavers from many far places and times, weavers from near places and times, but at the very heart of what came to me was the weaving of long-ago Peruvians. They even gave me the idea of making dolls, especially again and again a pair of people, a woman and a child, and the woman is teaching the child to weave. Their families—the people whom they had shown how weaving is done—buried the dollmakers with their dolls and some of these pairs have come to us.

Phyllis Morrison, 2001



(The American Museum of Natural History)

Mid to late 60's

Phyllis working on exhibit on symmetry

Two vertical hinged mirrors

You could complete the image by using the reflections in acute angle between the two mirrors

In early tryouts it was clear kids didn't use the reflected images to complete the pattern in the foreground. -- it just wasn't compelling enough.

Phyllis had the immediate insight that if the mirrors rested on a translucent surface illuminated from underneath the thing might work -- and it did

But Puyk's couldn't get
the exhibits' builder to
modify the