

[Enchanted world of Roger DeMuth](#)

I was tickled to read a terrific story by Renee Gamela in the Utica, N.Y., *Observer-Dispatch* about **Roger De Muth '70** (art and design).

Roger and his wife, **Naomi Weiss De Muth '73** (School for American Crafts), live in Cazenovia, N.Y., which happens to be my hometown. Roger has been teaching illustration at Syracuse University for some 30 years, and his wife operates Chameleon Gallery, a charming art emporium on the town's main drag, Albany Street. They also have an incredible garden at their home on Chenango Street in the village.

After hearing about this garden from my parents, I wandered over there one day a couple of summers ago. Roger was out working in the garden (where he obviously spends a great deal of time) and graciously treated my dad, my spouse and me to a tour. Talk about enchanted gardens! I remember a dragonfly the size of a St. Bernard—one of De Muth's creations, of course.

But I've known about De Muth's art for many years. Way, way back in the day, he illustrated quirky print ads for Rochester's legendary House of Guitars.

And that brings us back to the recent newspaper article. Among his many artistic pursuits, Roger illustrates children's books. Most recent is *Dinner for Eight* (Blue Apple Books). It's about an octopus.

His first children's book, *Messy Bessie, Where's my Homework?*, came out in 2007 and won the Philadelphia Sketch Club's Book Award and a Creativity Award from *Create Magazine*.

These books have an irresistible, hand-drawn quality that remind me of the old HOG ads. They're especially appealing these days, when so much of what passes for illustration seems lifeless and computer-generated.

Anyway, just click [here](#) to see the rest of the newspaper story about DeMuth. You can also find it among the "Alumni in the News" links on the [Alumni News](#) page, which I hope you visit often. There's new information almost every day.

And by all means, to get some insights into one artists's fascinating life, check out [Roger De Muth's world](#) on the Web.