



**MEMORIAL ART GALLERY SHOWCASES MAIRA KALMAN  
ILLUSTRATIONS FOR CLASSIC WRITER'S HANDBOOK  
During Opening Weekend, Visitors Invited to Trade Old Books for Admission**



ROCHESTER, NY, April 15, 2009 — Maira Kalman is well known for children's books (*Max in Love*); New Yorker illustrations (among them the 2001 "NewYorkistan" cover); and the book *The Principles of Uncertainty*, based on her monthly illustrated column for The New York Times. An exhibition opening May 2 at the Memorial Art Gallery showcases other recent work by Kalman—more than 50 original illustrations for a 2005 edition of the classic writer's handbook *The Elements of Style*.

Kalman's serendipitous encounter with an old copy of the book in a Cape Cod antique shop led to a visual rethinking of the rules of writing that William Strunk Jr. and then E. B. White formulated over the years, beginning in 1918. The more than 50 colorful and humorous illustrations will be a treat for Kalman fans and a joy for visitors just discovering her work.

During the opening weekend, any visitor who donates a used copy of *The Elements of Style* for display during the show will receive free Gallery admission. This special offer is good only on Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3.

*Maira Kalman: The Elements of Style* remains on view through August 2.

The exhibition is made possible by Lynne Lovejoy and presented in memory of Bill Buckett, president of the Memorial Art Gallery Board of Managers, 1996-98.



**About the artist**

Maira Kalman was born in Tel Aviv and moved to New York with her family at the age of four. She has worked as a designer, author, illustrator and artist for more than 30 years without formal training. Her work is a narrative journal of her life and all its absurdities. She has written and illustrated twelve children's books and often illustrates for The New Yorker magazine. Recent projects include *The Elements of Style* and her monthly online column for The New York Times (link below).

Kalman has had three solo exhibitions at the Julie Saul Gallery in New York City since 2003.

She lives in New York and walks a lot.

**Maira Kalman on the web**

[www.mairakalman.com](http://www.mairakalman.com)

[kalman.blogs.nytimes.com](http://kalman.blogs.nytimes.com)

**Podcast of interest**

Hear an interview with Kalman by Bob Smith of WXXI-AM 1370:

[feed://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wxxi/jukebox?action=viewPodcast&podcastId=6663](http://feed://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wxxi/jukebox?action=viewPodcast&podcastId=6663)

Maira Kalman illustrations for *The Elements of Style* (2005) courtesy the artist and Julie Saul Gallery:

**A** Roses (frontispiece). **B** "Well, Susan, this is a fine mess you are in." **C** Somebody else's umbrella

more...

**Memorial Art Gallery hours and admission**

The Gallery is open Wednesday-Sunday 11 am–5 pm and until 9 pm Thursday. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

General admission \$10; college students with ID and senior citizens, \$6; children 6–18, \$4. Always free to members, University of Rochester students, and children 5 and under. Reduced general admission, \$6, Thursdays from 5–9 pm, made possible by the Democrat and Chronicle, with additional support from Thomson Reuters, ExxonMobil Chemical Company and Monroe County.

Admission is free May 2 and 3 to any visitor who donates a used copy of *The Elements of Style* for display during the exhibition *Maira Kalman: The Elements of Style*.

**Now at the Gallery Store**

Maira Kalman's illustrated edition of *The Elements of Style* is available in the [Gallery Store](#) for \$16 paperback or \$24.95 hardcover. The Store is open Tuesday–Sunday 10 am–5 pm and until 9 pm Thursday; closed Mondays.

**MAG on the web:**

[mag.rochester.edu](http://mag.rochester.edu)

**Press contacts:**

Larissa Masny, 585-276-8934 [lmasny@mag.rochester.edu](mailto:lmasny@mag.rochester.edu)

Patti Giordano, 585-276-8932 [pgiordano@mag.rochester.edu](mailto:pgiordano@mag.rochester.edu)

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