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## For painter, art inspires art

By **CATHERINE BAUM**  
Staff Writer

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In the exhibit "I'll tell you how the Sun rose -" Easthampton artist Alberto Mancini transformed lines of selected Emily Dickinson poems to each of his 29 oil paintings. Artists have increasingly translated the poet's work to fit their preferred form of expression, including image, music and choreography, according to Emily Dickinson scholars.

"We think there's an explosion of interest in presenting Emily Dickinson's work into other artist media," said Jane Wald, director of the Emily Dickinson Museum. The museum encompasses two historic houses in the center of Amherst closely associated with the poet and members of her family.

"It has a lot to do with the power of Emily Dickinson's poetry and how her kind of compact, distilled poetry reduces many of the important aspects of our human experience to their essence," said Wald. "The reader deals so closely with those essentials the poetry becomes tools that can be applied more readily in other art forms because they are in themselves such gems."

Wald first learned about Mancini's paintings when she was sent a printed portfolio of his "I'll tell you how the Sun rose -" oil paintings, which she said struck her as "eloquent and sympathetic." The same samples were sent to Paul Crumbley, president of The Emily Dickinson International Society, made up of writers and university professors around the world.

The society and the museum collaborated with Amherst College's art department for the exhibition to be held at the college's Eli Marsh Gallery. The exhibition runs for nine days, one of which falls on the same date as the society's 20th annual meeting set for Aug. 1 at 9 a.m. at the Amherst College Alumni House, on the corner of Spring and Churchill streets.

"It's really an exciting time to be witnessing how popular Emily Dickinson's work is in its own poetic form but also how it's been expressed in other art forms increasingly," Wald said. "We're real pleased to be a part of presenting Alberto Mancini's work to the public."

- CATHERINE BAUM

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GORDON DANIELS

This is one of Alberto Mancini's untitled paintings that will be in a show opening this weekend at Amherst College.



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