

Impressionists & Modern French Masters



Bernard Buffet (1928-1999)
title: "Composition sur un plateau", medium: oil on canvas
canvas size: 28" x 36", year: 1991



Jean Jansem 1920-)
title: "Reclining Ballerina with Tutu", medium: oil on canvas
canvas size: 35" x 51"



Valery Tsar
title: "Winter at the Plaza", medium: oil on canvas
canvas size: 24" x 30"

Galerie Rienzo

20 E. 69th. St. (at Madison Ave.)
New York, N.Y. 10021

212-288-2226

www.GalerieRienzo.com

community references available



Knee-Deep in Dept?

Need To Make More Dollars and Sense of Your Savings?

Sephardic Angel Fund in conjunction with Sephardic Bikur Holim announces the induction of The Debt and Budget Department managed by Director, Rachel Powers

Q & A with Rachel Powers



Why is there a need for a Debt and Budget Department now? Many people face a financial crisis some time in their lives. Whether the crisis is caused by personal or family illness, the loss of a job, or

overspending, it can seem overwhelming. But often, it can be overcome.

Today, banks and credit card companies have successfully lured more and more customers with promotions and "too good to be true" offers. The seduction of buying on credit is so easy and attainable. It's virtually impossible today for some not to use some form of credit. Today's interest rates alone can cause credit card debt to go as high as 30%. All these elements have made debt an American national crisis that has penetrated the community as well. The Debt and Budget Department is here to help manage these problems and to assist community members by helping them manage their budgets before troubles arise.

How do you know if you are in need of the Debt and Budget Department's assistance? Basically, if you are having trouble paying your bills, can only afford to pay the minimum balance on your credit cards and you are getting dunning notices from creditors we can offer solutions and assist you with the facilities that we have. Frankly, your financial situation doesn't have to go from bad to worse.

Also, our department helps clients work out a saving plan for big-ticket items such as a home and early retirement options. We are looking to help our community members learn to manage their budget and debts before they become overwhelming. We welcome anyone who feels that they need some assistance managing their finances; anyone can come in for some help.

What are some of the solutions and tools that you offer? Developing a Budget: If you or someone you know is in financial hot water, consider these options: realistic budgeting, credit counseling and debt consolidation. Debt negotiation is yet another option. How do you know which will work best for you? It depends on your level of debt, your level of discipline and your goals and prospects for the future.

We recommend that the first step toward taking control of your financial situation is to do a realistic assessment of how much money you take in and how much money you spend. Start by listing your income from all sources. Then, list your "fixed" expenses

— those that are the same each month — like mortgage payments or rent, car payments, and insurance premiums. Next, list the expenses that vary — like entertainment, recreation, and clothing. Writing down all your expenses, even those that seem insignificant, is a helpful way to track your spending patterns, identify necessary expenses, and prioritize the rest.

The goal is to make sure you can make ends meet on the basics: housing, food, health care, insurance, and education.

This department offers money management techniques for maintaining a budget and creating plans to save money, pay down your debt, review and dispute information on your credit report when necessary.

Is all debt bad? That is a common misconception. Not all debt is bad. A variety of debt can be good, such as a mortgage or car payments. This shows your "spectrum of behavior." A mortgage paid as agreed looks fabulous on a credit report, the same hold true for car payments. Owning property and solid car lease payments exude responsible characteristics to a creditor.

Any final thoughts? With our services being free there is no need to stay in denial! Debt is a revolving cycle and as noted, some is good and some is bad.

It's The Law! The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act is the federal law that dictates how and when a debt collector may contact you. A debt collector may not call you before 8 a.m., after 9 p.m., or while you're at work. Collectors may not harass you, lie, or use unfair practices when they try to collect a debt.

Credit Reports are now available to all consumers for free once every twelve months from the three major credit reporting agencies, Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. To contact Rachel Powers and for more information, please call 718-787-1400 x 16 or email Rachel at RPowers@SCSJOB.org

Rachel's "EmPOWERING" Points To Take Control of Your Finance

- Do fill out the monthly budget plan, you can't control what you cant count!
- Do get things under control now. The sooner the better to let you free up cash to save for your future.
- Do get your kids involved. Keep a universal saving
- apparatus accessible so you can throw all your change and single dollars in to it. (A huge empty water cooler bottle is fun for kids!)
- Don't keep using your credit cards. You can't chip away at your credit card debt if you keep adding to it. Simply, take it out of your wallet or only use for real emergencies.