

*The Trouble With Love*



 Our annual Valentine show was given a bit of a twist this year when it was decided to seek comments, not so much on the negative side of love, but the occasionally troublesome side of it. Although all comments, positive and negative, were welcome.

Nancy Victoria Davis presents an erotic dance with her pen on paper triptych entitled, “When I’m Good, I’m Good—When I’m Bad, I’m Better,” the famous quote by Mae West. Jean Lannen has created a somber mixed-media assemblage entitled, “The Saint of Hearts,” featuring an inverted mannequin lying atop a puzzle-shaped heart.

Betsy Wolf has painted a wonderfully loose heart-shaped abstract, “Untitled.” And nearby, another abstract, Nancy Mona Russell’s “Corazon,” (which is Spanish for “heart”) is a bold expressive painting.

Sydney Clark’s watercolor of her sleeping husband being visited by a cat is entitled “Love is Primary,” and the sentiment is reinforced by the lively primary colors that appear in the blanket. Linda Salter’s graphite work, “Heartbreak” shows a nude with bowed head, hiding her expression from the viewer. And Gale Frances’



“Dream Lover,” oil on canvas, features a strong, sensual woman in exotic dress.

Richard Herring’s “...Besides, It’s My F-----g Bathroom...” features another trip into his strange but always engaging world. It seems to comment on the day to day annoyances we endure for those we love. Alice Kelmon’s abstract watercolor “Forget About It” features a stark division between a black and red field and is reminiscent of broken relationships.

One piece which stepped outside the theme but is worth mentioning for this reviewer is Bill Gallo’s tongue-in-cheek oil, “Bust in the Chops.” It shows just that: a marble bust of a man placed inside a pan of a butcher’s assortment of chops. The painting relates to Bill’s love of pork chops, I suppose.



(Left) Nancy Victoria Davis “When I’m Good, I’m Good—When I’m Bad, I’m Better—Mae West” (detail of pen on paper triptych),  
 (Top) Betsy Wolff “Untitled” (oil on canvas)  
 (Bottom) Sydney Clark “Love is Primary” (watercolor)

**B**ay Area artist, John Toki, who works in clay and porcelain, describes himself as a landscape sculptor. He builds freestanding monolithic forms as well as wall-mounted sculptural murals. “Echoes of the Earth,” now in the Main Gallery, presents his most recent works. Most pieces features earth tones with striations of blue, yellow, and pink. For Toki the linear forms and oblong shapes of his work re-creates the patterns he finds in the natural world of the Bay Area. Born into a family that celebrated the rich Japanese tradition of ceramics, Toki integrates both Western and Eastern styles into his work.

Toki received a MFA from the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, where he now teaches. He’s the author of two books on ceramics and is the owner and president of Leslie Ceramic Supply in Berkeley, which has been the main supplier of sculptural clay in Northern California for more than 40 years. His work’s been show the US, the Netherlands and Japan.

Toki will give an Artist’s Talk at the Art Center on Sunday, January 27 and will also teach a Ceramic Mural Workshop at the Center. (See details below)



John Toki “Blue Knob” (*stoneware & porcelain*)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HELP LEAD THE AGP INTO THE FUTURE!** In this political year, we are looking for members who would like to throw their hats into the ring and join the Board of Directors. The Secretary position and at least 2 at-large member positions are open. Submit your name no later than **Feb. 15th** by writing to our current president, Nancy Davis. Send your name to either: P.O. Box 582, Pacifica, Ca. 94044 or the SAC, 1220B Linda Mar Blvd. Pacifica, Ca., 94044.

“**ANYTHING GOES**” is our next show. Here’s your chance to display your work that hasn’t quite fit into any of our themed shows. The coordinator is especially looking for “edgier” material, so break out of your comfort zone and start creating. Receiving is Sun. Feb. 24, 3-5 pm and Mon., Feb. 25, 10 am to noon.

**ARTIST TALK:** Sunday, Jan. 27 John Toki will talk about his work in the main gallery from 2 pm-4 pm. A brief AGP general meeting will be held either just before or just after.

**CERAMIC MURAL WORKSHOP:** A one-day workshop taught by master ceramic sculptor, John Toki, will take place on Sun., Feb. 10 from 9 am-5 pm, at Sanchez Art Center. Cost: \$175. To register, or for more information, visit [sanchezartcenter.org](http://sanchezartcenter.org), or call the SAC office at 650-355-1894.

**ARTS ON FIRE XII** deadline is March 7th. Visit [sanchezartcenter.org](http://sanchezartcenter.org).

org, or call the SAC office at 650-355-1894 for more info.

**PACIFICA PERFORMANCES** is looking for a new volunteer curator, as Maggie Piver has retired after several years at the post. Out thanks go out to Maggie. An improved hanging surface for the walls is in the works which will not only improve the look of the gallery space but help the new coordinator as well. Interested parties should contact Morning Nichols, [nicholmuse@mac.com](mailto:nicholmuse@mac.com)

**HOLIDAY CARDS** were sent out from the Art Guild this past December. This will be a “new tradition” in the Guild and we are inviting all members to submit art to appear on next year’s card. We’d also like submissions for the next **Annual Member’s Show** in September. Submit your work by slides or CD by sending them to JT Morrow, 220 Kavanaugh Way, Pacifica, Ca. 94044. (SASE if you’d like them returned). Deadline is **July 15th**. Winners will be decided by a majority vote of the Board of Directors and will be final.

**FOUND:** One pair of glasses, possibly left during Open Studios. Clear plastic frames. Contact Melinda at Sanchez Art Center, 650-355-1894 or [melinda@sanchezartcenter.org](mailto:melinda@sanchezartcenter.org).

**MEMBER RESOURCES:** Alice Kelmon recommends Westlake Art & Framing for framing work. If you’d like to recommend a business in the Dirty Palette, contact JT at [jt@jtmorrow.com](mailto:jt@jtmorrow.com).



Northern California seems to have become a hotbed of ceramics work lately. Toki, whose work is featured in the Main Gallery attributes it to a “critical mass” of talented, passionate and influential figures working in the medium.

Part of that “critical mass” is on display in the East Gallery which is presenting the first ever Coastside Student Invitational. It’s an exhibit of ceramic and mosaic artworks by talented college, high school, and elementary students in San Mateo County. Participating in this year’s exhibition are the College of San Mateo, Skyline College, Hillsdale High School, Terra Nova High School, Westmoor High School, Ingrid B. Lacy Middle School, and Ocean Shore Elementary School.

*Above left: Erika Peterson “Singing Tree Folk” (ceramic-raku)  
 Above right: D. Daly “Oh Koi” (mosaic, glass)  
 Lower left: Linda Fahey “Mermaid #3” (ceramic)*

## 2007 OPEN STUDIOS/ OPEN WALLS

The 2007 Open Studios/Open Walls was another successful event. It’s estimated that approximately 1,100 to 1,200 people attended the weekend event. The work of more than sixty artists adorned the walls of the SAC studios as well as the walls of all three galleries. To all of you who participated, either as artists displaying your work or as visitors, many thanks for making this year another success.



## A Note From Nancy Victoria Davis, AGP President

Themes for art shows encourage us to reach new goals, try new subjects or hone a deeper, more meaningful relationship with the muses. Themes invite the audience, saying: “This is an interesting context for art—come inside our galleries and discover the eye & skill of the artist through the means of this topic.” The theme serves as a catalyst to explore ideas, unleash passions, un-fence boundaries and can provide a premise for self-discovery. The themed show (when presented correctly and with continuity to the public) morphs into a totally new & refreshing light. The artwork speaks as one voice (harmonizing) so that a greater understanding of the subject is then obtained. So, be sure you’re taking advantage of the themes in the upcoming year(s). If the show theme fits, please enter; if it doesn’t, then come as the audience or a critic and enjoy the show.

## ARTISTS SHOWS/ WORKSHOPS

**CHARNA CONWAY** teaches classes in Painting with Acrylic, Mosaic Arts, Fused Glass Jewelry, Bowls and Vases, Beading, and Glass • For more information visit [www.eyehighart.com](http://www.eyehighart.com)

**ART HISTORY AND WORLD CULTURE CLASS** • Tuesdays 10:15 - Noon • Stonestown Senior Center, 3150 20th Ave. • Taught by Linda Dever, City College Professor, through lectures and films • Open enrollment, drop in anytime; call 415-242-7135.

**SANCHEZ ART CENTER** Gallery hours are Fri-Sun, 1-5 pm. Office hours are Tues-Thur 1-5 pm. (closed holidays)

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Officers: Nancy Victoria Davis (President), Katherine Curry (VP), Charlotte Seekamp (Secretary), Jennifer Alpaugh (Treasurer), Kathy Miller (Membership Dir.), Nancy Russell (West Wing Chair); and Directors: Ramon Bravo, Mary Harris, Alice Kelmon and JT Morrow.

Dirty Palette Editor: JT Morrow. For announcements call (650) 355-7899 or email [jt@jtmorrow.com](mailto:jt@jtmorrow.com) Copyright, 2008, Art Guild of Pacifica

### “ART QUOTES”

**A work of art must not be something that leaves the viewer unmoved...something passed by with a casual glance. It has to be moving, make the viewer react, feel strongly, start creating too...if only in the imagination.**

—Gustav Klimt

*Without craftsmanship,  
inspiration is a mere  
reed shaken in the wind.*

—Johannes Brahms

**I'm glad I haven't  
found my style yet.  
I'd be bored to death.**

—Edgar Degas

## DIRTY PALETTE

Art Guild of Pacifica  
1220 Linda Mar Blvd.  
Pacifica, CA 94044

(650) 355-1894

[www.artguildofpacifica.org](http://www.artguildofpacifica.org)