



What's Love Got To Do With It?

Love is in the air at the West Wing Gallery—just as Valentine's Day peers around the corner. This is our third annual show based around this broadly themed exhibit. Good love, bad love, sex, relationships, heart break—anything to do with love was fair game for each artist to interpret. And, as usual, members of the guild created many strong, engaging works of art.

The show was curated by Deborah Corsini, who in addition to her own unique assemblage (*shown below*), coordinated an appealing show filled with several brilliant sculptures, paintings and mixed media pieces. Tanya Lin Jaffe's assemblage of doll, eggs, feathers and other materials, "Waiting," greets visitors with small, rhythmic throbs. Gaila Jennings's "Love Endures" is a giant valentine to every chocolate lover who's developed a sweet tooth.

The fiber work by Victoria Vargas, "Kissing Under a Moon" is a dark but playful piece. "No Stopping" a digital photograph by Gale Frances suggests a heroic love of mankind to overcome its evil tendencies. Mary Gould's sculpture of two primates, "Mother and Child," demonstrates not only technical excellence but a wry insight into the nature of motherly love. And Nancy Hall's "They Just Don't Get It," a mixed media piece, cuts to the heart of organized religion's failure to sometimes demonstrate the love proclaimed by its founder. Plus so many other terrific and "lovely" pieces.

The show is on view through February 25th.



- ▼ Jerry Barrish "American Beauty" (*assemblage*)
- ◀ Bill Gallo "Untitled" (*oil*) *far left*
- ◀ Stuart Harwood "Garden of Eden" (*assemblage*)
- ▼ Deborah Corsini "Hear" (*assemblage*)

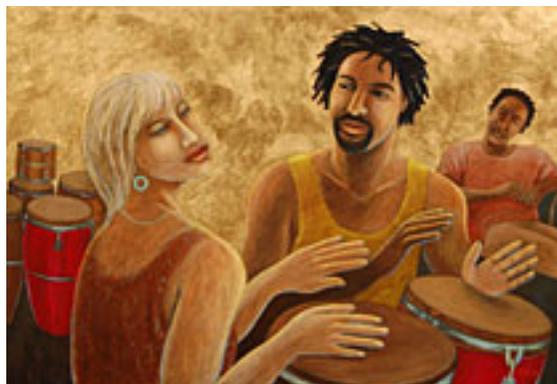


In the summer of 2004, Susan Matthews visited Niger, West Africa. As she walked along the paths between the sorghum and millet fields near Soura Dan Nana, and, later, among the mud walls of Tasha Ibrahim, near the edge of the Sahara, people asked to pose for her camera. After returning home, she sent the requested photos back to those who had posed and realized that she had a large number of intriguing images that she then began to paint. The resulting paintings are vibrant, mystical and insightful.

Yet, 2004 was a hard time in West Africa, people were worried about famine and by the summer of 2005, many had begun starve. Susan decided to use the paintings she had created to help send money back to the villagers. In October 2005, she was awarded a grant by the Sugarman Foundation which helped fund the creation of high quality prints made from the paintings. Gold, silver and copper leaf were later applied to each print by hand.

A percentage from the sale of each print will be sent back to help the people of the villages purchase food.

It's enriching to see an artist use her gift to benefit humankind.



“Woman With Painted Gourds” (upper left)
 “Self Portrait in Cienfuegos” (lower left)

“Wind & Water” (right)
All paintings are done in acrylic with gold leaf.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ART GUILD MEETING/ ARTIST TALK. Thus, Jan. 26. Meeting at 6:30/ Artist Talk by SUSAN MATTHEWS on her “African Paintings” at 7:00 in the Main Gallery.

“**ANYTHING GOES**” is the theme for the next AGP show. It’s an opportunity to show work that did not fit into previous themed exhibits. Due date: Sun. Feb. 26, 3-5pm and Mon. Feb. 27, 10am-noon.

THE AGP ELECTIONS are coming up in March. Anyone interested in running for the board, please contact Randy Booth at (650) 355-7410 or at rbooth99@juno.com.

THE PACIFICA OPEN STUDIOS is scheduled for Dec. 8, 9 and 10, 2006. Community artists are encouraged to participate. A website, posters, postcards, etc. are planned to promote this event to the Bay Area public. No commissions will be charged, only a fee for the wall space (7.5’ x 8’) in the East and West Wings. The Main Gallery will exhibit artwork from each participant along with a locator guide to help visitors find your work. If you would like to sign up for wall space to show your work at Sanchez Art Center, please contact Alice Kelmon at 799-5200 or by email at akelmon@gmail.com. It’s not too early to sign up. Those interested on working with the committee should contact Annette Poitau at 355-9028.

Curating Shows... A Creative Process!

by Nancy Hall

Just before the holidays, Charlotte Seekamp and I offered a curator's workshop in conjunction with the regular meeting of the AGP. We covered everything specific to curating a show at the Sanchez Art Center, but also presented info that was useful for putting on a show anywhere.

In the "olden days" of the Art Center, the main gallery was run by a committee that selected artists, and took turns curating shows. The Main Gallery committee for many years selected great up-and-coming artists whose work deserved attention, and displayed the work very professionally.



We learned so much! We are now lucky enough to have a skilled and respected Artistic Director who has taken on the task of keeping the Main Gallery booked with high quality shows of more well known artists that continue to put us on the map in the larger Bay Area art scene. Thanks, Jerry Barrish.

However, many of us came to greatly enjoy the creative aspect of curating a show, from contacting one or more artists we were interested in presenting, perhaps choosing a theme or focus, to making the art cards and hanging the work. The curating workshop was designed to inform and inspire AGP members so more would feel welcomed to learn the process and try their hand at it at Sanchez and beyond.

Sanchez's two other Galleries, The West and East Wing Galleries each have a specific focus; West being a venue for AGP members and sometimes their guests and East for community outreach oriented shows. Each of these galleries does get booked far in advance, and each has a committee that makes sure there are shows lined up, but both are opened to considering proposals for shows from our membership, and in some cases outside organizations whose work brings something of interest to our community.

The East Wing Gallery committee is currently chaired by AGP member Kathy Miller, whereas the West Wing Gallery is currently being run by the AGP board for lack of a volunteer to put together a committee. See an opportunity here, anyone?

The Art Center has hosted shows with themes like Environmental Works or Surf Art, and from organizations as diverse as The Hospice of San Mateo County, San Francisco's Mission Cultural Center and Ocean Shore Elementary School.

Charlotte will be posting an updated/revised version of The Sanchez Art Center's "Curators Check List", which you will be able to access via the web site, www.sanchezartcenter.org. It is a wealth of helpful info, guidelines and timetables.

The collective spirit of our art center will be greatly served when AGP members feel that proposing and curating shows is another vital, creative outlet that helps us share our visions, increasing diversity and richness in our calendar of exhibitions.

Turn this page over to check out a handy "Curator's Checklist."

A Note from Jerry Barrish, Artistic Director

Jerry Barrish has stepped in to help in the direction of both the Main Gallery and the West Wing Gallery. As such, he receives lots of suggestions for future AGP shows, most of them engaging and welcome. Yet he knows each show needs to be set up to encourage participation by all members of the guild.

"We need 40 to 50 submissions for each show in order for it to be successful—both artistically and financially," he states, "so the themes have to be inclusive." In other words, a show of just landscapes might have an appeal to many members but others who do abstract works or who only do still lifes would be excluded which is not good for either the guild or the Center.

Some previous shows such as "Apolitical/Be Political" allowed many who wanted to speak out on current events an avenue to do so but allowed others who were not so inclined space for their work as well. (Note: another "Apolitical/Be Political" show is scheduled for later this year.) Another example, the "Buddy Show" allowed for an open theme and also generated a good number of new members to our guild.

So next time you come up with an idea for a show, consider how it can be phrased to include as many members as possible.

Have you ever considered curating a show at Sanchez or elsewhere but didn't know how to go about it? Here, in an easy to follow checklist, is a helpful guide to carry you from the beginning to a successful end.

Three To Four Months Prior To The Exhibit

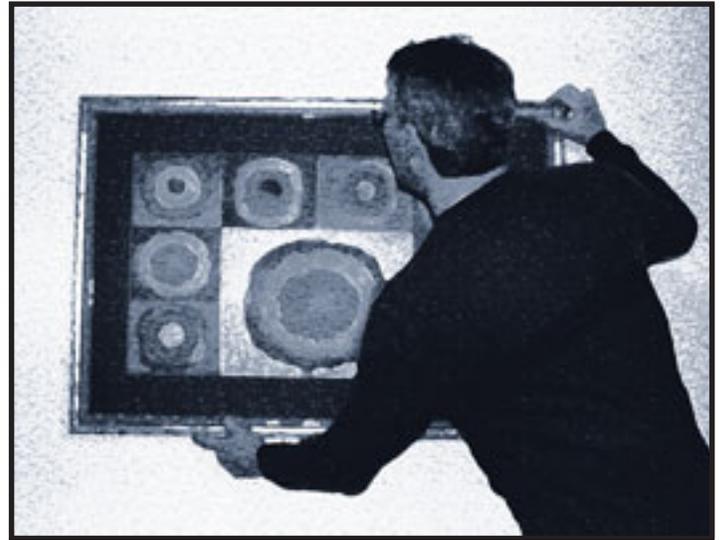
- Have a studio visit with the exhibiting artist(s) and review his or her work, keeping in mind the layout of the space available at the gallery.
- Determine the important dates for the exhibit and have the artist(s) sign the contract.
- Start work on the invitation and get it to the printer. Determine if you'll be using bulk mailing or first class. Bulk is cheaper but it will take about two weeks for the mailing to reach your audience. Ideally the postcard should reach your audience about four days before the event so that it will be fresh in their minds.

Six Weeks To A Month Prior To The Exhibit

- Get press materials from the artist(s) and deliver them to the Publicity Committee.
- Invitation materials (such as postcards) should be ready to go.
- Labels for the invitations should also be ready to go.
- Discuss with the artist(s) the artwork presentation requirements and plans for the reception's refreshments.

Two Weeks Prior To The Exhibit

- All invitations should be mailed (if bulk mail) or ready to go soon (if first class).
- Confirm all dates that apply to the show with the artist(s), the prior show's curator (who will need to take down the previous show), and all people who will be helping to hang the show and oversee refreshments, etc.
- Get a list of the artwork from the artist(s) and start preparing the labels and/or price list.



Delivery Of The Artist's Work

- Confirm that all the work corresponds to the list of work and can be properly identified.
- Confirm the reception details with the artist(s).

Hanging The Exhibit

- Arrange the work, oversee the hanging of the show, do the fine tuning, adjust the lights, apply the labels and make sure everything looks good and is ready for your visitors.

Reception

- Prepare the food. (Keep it simple: wine, juice, water, cookies and finger foods.) Have a good time. Clean up afterwards.

One Week Prior To The Last Date Of The Show

- Confirm the pickup dates with the artist(s) and the art buyers.

End Of The Exhibit

- Return all the artwork that was not purchased.
- Pull all nails from the walls, patch the holes, and touch up the paint over the patches and on any pedestals used.
- Clean up any debris left in the gallery.

WEST WING CURATOR/COORDINATOR NEEDED!

The Guild is currently looking for someone to oversee upcoming shows in the West Wing. Here is a chance to spread your creative wings by fashioning shows—everything from originating themes to hanging the work, planning receptions, etc. If you're not sure you'd want to do it alone but would be interested in working on it with a friend or in a group—that would work too. To volunteer or to receive additional info, please contact Randy Booth, AGP president, at (650) 355-7410 or by email at rbooth99@juno.com.



Wanyvn Chen "Hope"

Design work from the students at City College of San Francisco is on display in the East Wing. The students were faced with design challenges and met those challenges with creative and engaging results.

The teachers (one of whom is our own Andrew Leone) gave the students tasks such as illustrating a month of the calendar by connecting a "web of composition" from cut paper. Other tasks included creating a composition using only dots inside a grid. Or drawing an animal using only black shapes. The results are often very clever.

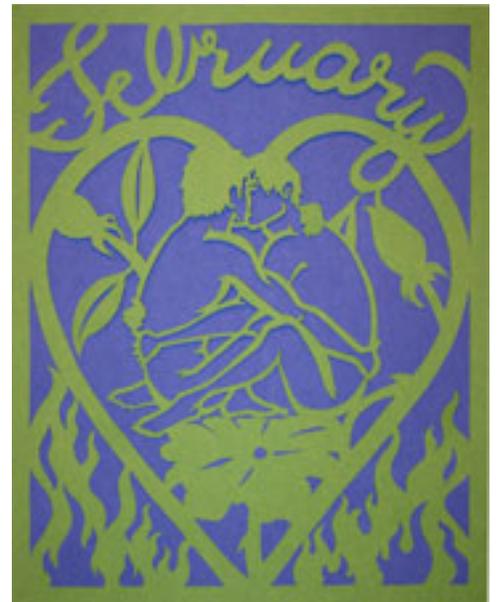
Perhaps the most interesting piece is the "Group Color Project" which dominates the back wall. A black and white photo of a face was cut into 24 parts and each student received one of the sections. The students then had to enlarge their section and translate the black and white image into various colors. The finished piece is a large absorbing work, well worth a second look.



Cody Vrosh "Dot & Grid Pattern"



Group Color Project



Joseph Pulsoni "February"

Kathleen Salvia, *New SAC Director*

The new director of the Sanchez Art Center is settling into her new position. She's Kathleen Salvia of Brisbane. Kathleen comes to her new position from the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir where she's been a singer for twelve years and, for the last nine years, oversaw event production, grant writing and various other endeavors.

"I want the public to know that the Sanchez Art Center is here," Kathleen said, "and that we're healthy." Her aim is to help the Center become better known among both the public and the arts community. She's already at work writing grants with the hope of improving the facility.

Kathleen is a singer, not a visual artist. But she jokingly admits that she was briefly married to an artist years ago and did come out of the experience with a love of the visual arts—even though her ex-husband left with all the good paintings they had accumulated.

We wish Kathleen the best in her new position and look forward to a long and rewarding partnership with her.



ARTISTS SHOWS

TANGERINE ARTS, a group of women visual artists from San Francisco and Pacifica, have two upcoming exhibits • At the Noe Valley Ministry's Gallery Sanchez in San Francisco • Jan. 7 – Feb. 26, 2006 with a reception on Sun. Feb. 5, 3-5 p.m. • And at the Salada Beach Café in Pacifica • Feb. 28 - April 3, 2006 with a reception on Sun. March 19, 4-6 p.m. • Music at both receptions will be by Vivace. • For times and other information, please call Kathy Dybeck at (415) 661-8502 or Melinda Lightfoot at (650) 738-2885.

JT MORROW has work on display at both the Sanchez and Pacifica Branch Libraries thru Feb. • “Artists’ Pets” is the theme at the Pacifica Branch & “Three Views of San Pedro Rock” is at the Sanchez branch • For information on the shows, please contact JT Morrow at (650) 355-7899 or by email: jt@JTMorrow.com.

SUSAN RATTENBURY & JT MORROW will have a show “Polaroids & Paintings” at the Art Waves Gallery • 3848 Judah St. in San Francisco • Reception on Feb. 29, 2-4pm. • Info for Susan Rattenbury is at www.susanrattenbury.com. Contact JT Morrow at (650) 355-7899 or by email: jt@JTMorrow.com.

ALAN FIRESTONE has a piece in “Ray’s World” thru Jan. 28 at Works/San Jose • 30 North 3rd St. • Tues. to Sat. Noon to 4pm. Thus. Noon to 7pm.

ANN WEST's work is part of the “Horizon” show at Hang Art Annex • 567 Sutter St., San Francisco • Opening reception Thus. Feb. 2nd, 6-8pm • Gallery hours are Mon.-Sat., 10am to 6pm.

FREE ART HISTORY AND WORLD CULTURE CLASS • Tuesdays 10:15 - Noon • Stonestown Senior Center 3150 -20th Av. • Taught by Linda Dever, City College Professor, through lectures and films • Enrollment is ongoing; call 415-242-7135.

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

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Officers: Randy Booth, President; Nancy Davis, VP & Treasurer; and Directors: Ramon Bravo, Mary Harris, Gaila Jennings, JT Morrow and Ann West. Dirty Palette Editor: JT Morrow. For announcements call (650) 355-7899 or email jt@jtmorrow.com

“Art is not a thing, it is a way.” —Elbert Hubbard

ART QUOTES

The Dirty Palette

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