

# The Dirty Palette

A Newsletter  
Published by the  
Art Guild of Pacifica  
at Sanchez Art Center  
May-June 2007

**"Looking at this show, I'm glad to say that in this day and age of digital computers, drawing, painting and sculpture are very much alive."**

—Peter Selz (juror)

## ARTS ON FIRE



The Arts On Fire XI's reception arrived with a BOOM! when the Flaming Lotus Girls' fire art installation erupted (*pictured below*). Plus there was fire juggling by Sylvia Beck and the Rock City Jugglers. The Asia & Arabesque Belly Dancers were back again this year. As was Vivance!

And, of course, the reason for all of this passion: the art chosen from submissions by artists from all over California.

For this reviewer, the highlight of the show is Zachary Williams' oil entitled "The Guardians of Social Prosperity" which portrays eight grim-faced teens and preteens brandishing semiautomatic weapons. It's a bizarre and somewhat frightening piece, beautifully rendered. It received the juror's

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Zachary Williams "The Guardians of Social Prosperity" (oil) / Julia Nelson-Gal "Cellular" (assemblage) / Phoebe Ackley "Losing My Head" (clay sculpture)

award from Peter Selz. The other juror's award went to Alexandra Ostroff's for her "Untitled 8" an installation of bronze, sand, twine and wax. More work by Ostroff and Williams will be exhibited next year at SAC.

Our own Alice Kelmon has two watercolors in the show: "Landscape 6 'Mirage'" and "Landscape 15 'Marsh.'" (Alice also coordinated the show.) Andrew Leone has a wonderful mono-toned piece in the show entitled "The Mechanics of Wonder #1." Annette Poitau's "Gris 7" is a vibrant oil in black and gray. Tanya Lin Jaffe has another photo in her "In Search of



Philip Tice "Dawn, Union City" (acrylic on paper)

Fertility" series, this one #87. Jamey Brzezinski has three superb Plexicut relief prints: "Vanitas #9," "Vanitas #11," and "Vanitas #6," each a still life reflection on science and evolution. (It's beginning to look like the key to getting accepted is to have a number in your title, isn't it?)

Member Laura Williams has a lovely impressionistic oil, "Clouds Over Alligator Hole" in the show. Ramon Bravo contributed "Pork Barrels." Pam Chavez has an engaging piece entitled,

"Pears for Sale." And James Walden has three works in the show: "Sunset Sphere," "Walk in TV," and "Wow Big Orange." Other impressive works include Julia Nelson-Gal's "Cellular" a beautiful homage to a by-gone age in its assemblage of 19th Century photos, acrylic and resin on board. Jeanine Briggs' mixed media piece, "Bottom Line," is a clever assemblage of money, wood, string and bags. Phoebe Ackley has a wonderfully whimsical clay sculpture, "Losing My Head," in which we see a pinkish lady whose head seems to be floating from her body.

In "Story Notes 1952" Liz Maxwell's places images of that year's H-Bomb detonations next to Hank William's song "Cold, Cold Heart." And, lastly, Philip Tice's acrylic on paper "Dawn, Union City," is an almost photographic rendering of morning clouds floating over a silhouetted neighborhood.



Liz Maxwell "History Notes 1952" (mixed media)

Juror Peter Selz had it right when he said: "drawing, painting and sculpture are very much alive." Indeed, the walls of the Sanchez Art Center are bursting with life in our current Arts On Fire show. Don't miss it!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BUDDY SHOW** will be AGP's next show with members exhibiting with non-member buddies. Exhibit dates are June 8- July 14, so find a buddy who creates art and plan to exhibit at this upcoming show. Receiving will be Sun. June 3, 3-5 pm and Mon. June 4, 10 am-noon. The reception will be Fri. June 8, 7-9 pm.

**BLACK & WHITE AND COLOR—ART AND POETRY** will follow the Buddy Show and will combine visual art with poetry. Artwork that includes poetry or text as well as illustrated poetry will be accepted. Collaborations between visual artists and poets are welcome. Receiving will be Sun. July 15, 3-5 pm and Mon. July 16, 10 am-noon. The reception will be Fri. July 20, 7-9 pm.

**CERAMICS LAB** Classes and Open Labs begin June 19. AGP members receive a \$25 discount on classes and a 10% discount on Open Lab and Kiln services. If you would like to receive a brochure, or volunteer to be a Lab Monitor, please contact: kathleensanchezartcenter.org, or call the office at 650.355.1894.

**ARTS EDUCATION** Registrations are now being accepted for Summer Camps. To receive information, please contact [jnico@sanchezartcenter.org](mailto:jnico@sanchezartcenter.org), visit the website at [www.sanchezartcenter.org](http://www.sanchezartcenter.org), or call the office at 650.355.1894.

**CREDIT CARDS:** The Center is now taking credit cards for purchases of art.

**GALLERY SITTERS** are needed for the Arts on Fire show. If you can donate a couple of hours of your time to help us keep the galleries open, it would be most appreciated. If you can help, please contact the SAC office at 650:355-1894.

**DIGITAL SLIDESHOW** Remember, current and past shows can be viewed on our website ([www.artguildofpacificca.org](http://www.artguildofpacificca.org)).

**WRITER NEEDED** If you enjoy writing and would like to write for the Dirty Palette, please contact J.T. at [jt@jtmorrow.com](mailto:jt@jtmorrow.com).

**E**ileen Starr Modenbacher does not consider herself a landscape painter since she uses the outdoors only as a setting for urban and social issues. Many of her paintings show industrial or domestic trash in the scenes to create disharmony with their surrounding.



“I choose provocative images that trigger an association in my mind...for my narratives” says Ms. Modenbacher. “They seem to exist in a dream state neither in the present or the past, neither truth or fiction.”

Many of her paintings pose a juxtaposition of different techniques: line drawings or cartoons intermixed with realistically rendered objects, 3-dimensional areas with flat areas, sharp and soft focus, detailed and sketchy drawings side by side.

It all adds up to mesmerizing

images that beckon the viewer to look at our everyday environment in a new way.

**F**or the past several years Haakon Faste has explored themes relating to technology, human aspiration and the universe. Many of his pieces incorporate fragile organic materials, such as bird feathers, in contrast with cold industrial materials.

The works in the current exhibition are paintings and works on paper that were created in parallel with larger, more sculptural works. The paintings address technology as a process of iterative actions to create the perception of space. “A guiding theme,” says Mr. Faste of his work, “is the parallel between the evolution of nature and technology’s influence on humanity. Our survival as a species depends on our ability to employ technology for the betterment of culture while adapting to its potential to destroy.”



*Above left:* Eileen Starr Modenbacher “Military Industrial Complex”  
(oil, wax, graphite on panel)

*Above right:* Haakon Faste “Flight V (whirl)”  
(acrylic, enamel and feathers on paper)

## A Letter from the new AGP President, NANCY VICTORIA DAVIS



**A**s I see it, the community of art in Pacifica is like a flower garden, we plant seeds in the dark of winter with a vision of color and design to come, wait patiently for signs of life and confidently nurture the progress throughout spring, knowing in our hearts that a burst of riotous bouquets will reward us in summer. So here we are surrounded by sprouting flowers of creativity & bustling buds of inspiration.

But this garden of delight requires tending and that means volunteering your time and talents to the Guild, otherwise it’s a garden that struggles and has weeds. Soooo, if you don’t remember when you put in some quality time at the center, don’t wait a minute longer, call up the Art Center office at **(650) 355-1894** and either leave a message or talk to John, Kathleen or Melinda. Come meet with the other artist and friends who are helping with the myriad of task and chores that keep the vision fresh and alive and beautiful!

—Nancy Victoria Davis

## ARTISTS SHOWS

**MARY HARRIS** (in honor of her upcoming 90th birthday), is currently exhibiting in Sanchez Concert Hall • Pacifica Center for the Arts • May 11- July 6 • Viewable during Pacifica Performances concerts • [www.pacificaperformances.org](http://www.pacificaperformances.org)

**JERRY BARRISH** will be exhibiting 45 pieces of his sculpture in Schwerin, Germany • June 7- August 8 • Schleswig-Holstein-Haus • He will also be screening his three feature films • We wish Jerry the best of luck in Germany

**JEAN LANNEN's** "Altered Images" show at the Art Waves Gallery will have a reception on Sat. May 26th, 2-5 pm. • The show runs from May 26 - June 17 • 3848 Judah (at 44th Ave), San Francisco • Thurs - Fri. 4 pm - 7 pm & Sat - Sun 12 noon - 6 pm • [www.artwavesgallerysf.com](http://www.artwavesgallerysf.com)

**DEBORAH CORSINI's** solo exhibition of tapestries and wedge weaves is at the Morris Graves Museum of Art in Eureka, CA • April 5 - May 20 • For info call 707.442.0278 or visit [www.humboldtarts.org](http://www.humboldtarts.org)

**JOHN MERIA** is currently exhibiting at the Salada Cafe in Pacifica.

**TANGERINE ARTS'** Second Season show • April 10-May23 • Jennifer Alpaugh, Tama Blough, Kathy Dybeck, Melinda Lightfoot & Patricia Sundgren Smith • Gallery Sanchez at the

Noe Valley Ministry • 1021 Sanchez Street (off 24th St) • San Francisco.

**AGP Artists :** Richard Herring, Linda Dever, Teresa Bravo, Jean Lannen, Kathy Dybeck & Susan Bistline are currently exhibiting at the Art Waves Gallery • 3848 Judah (at 44th), San Francisco • Hours are 4 - 7 Thurs.. - Fri., and 12 - 6 Sat/ Sun 12 noon - 6 pm • [www.artwavesgallerysf.com](http://www.artwavesgallerysf.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)

The Dirty Palette is published by the Art Guild of Pacifica.

Officers: Nancy Victoria Davis (President/Treasurer), Katherine Curry (VP), Charlotte Seekamp (Secretary) Kathy Miller (Membership Dir.); 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, 2007, Art Guild of Pacifica

**Art is not a mirror held up to reality, but  
a hammer with which to shape it.  
—Bertolt Brecht**

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