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Jerrie Jerné**

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- Watercolors**

[www.riverfrontartgallery.com](http://www.riverfrontartgallery.com)

(707) 775-7248

**THE GALLERY'S NEW SHOW**

**March 16 - May 16**

**Reception: March 20, 5:00 - 9:00 PM**

**Art Walk: March 13**

**Art Walk Reception: 4:00 to 8:00**

**THE CURRENT SHOW**

As Featured Artists from March 16 through May 16, painter, John Gowan, and photographer, Jerrie Jerné, will light up the gallery with their shows, "An Expression of Light" and "The Splendors of Spring."

**FEATURED ARTIST: JOHN GOWAN**

**"An Expression of Light"**

There is such a thing as a glow upon the landscape--a special quality that makes one pause to relish the visual poetry of it. You see it in the golden hues the sun spreads over dried grasses. You see it as morning light brushes tree tops on these North Bay hills. You see it as thin fog, lit to a dazzling brilliance, tumbles over the ridges or tickles the Golden Gate Bridge in passing. You see it in John Gowan's paintings.

John is a master of light. It is an astonishing thing to look at his hillsides of dried grasses and notice the gradual change in the golden tone as it moves from deeper shadows to sunlit ridge tops or meadows, and he is capable of painting light so that each treetop in a forest is individually articulated as those forms change planes and levels within the image.



*Fog Blowing Over Bolinas Ridge*

[www.gowanfineart.com](http://www.gowanfineart.com)

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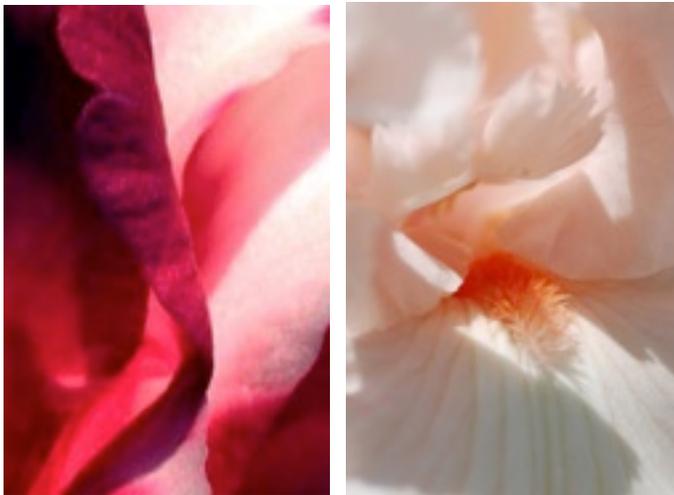
## FEATURED ARTIST: JERRIE JERNÉ

### “The Splendors of Spring”

This year the first day of Spring will be March 16, with the opening of Jerrie Jerné’s show of flower photography. The variety of form and color on view will leave no doubt about the splendors of the season, with Mother Nature doing the “exterior decorating.”

“Spring is one of my favorite times of the year. It is the season of Nature’s rebirth. Nature awakes with a burst of color, and I love to get out and capture her Art Show.” As she says this, you can see Jerrie is thinking that right now out there somewhere is a gorgeous flower waiting to have its portrait done.

“The textures and shapes of the iris, tulip, gerbera daisy and others have been some of my favorite subjects. I have loved the iris for its many shapes and colors. It just dances for me.” Jerrie’s sense of form and color will themselves be on display in this show, as is readily appreciated in her iris images.



Begonias and Irises, favorite subjects

Many of the images in the show are straight shots, including those done with the difficult technique of close-up photography. As seen in the iris above, Jerrie often uses selective focus to achieve an effect. Here she is creating a focal point around the swirl of small central petals and bit of beard by letting the focus fall away on the remainder of the image. This technique automatically directs the viewers eye to the most significant area. Keeping the focus somewhat soft also adds to the misty, poetic look of an image in keeping with the softness and delicacy of the flowers themselves.



Gerberas (Artistic Treatment)

However, Jerrie also has a creative instinct and often just can’t resist trying something that will give an image a “painterly touch,” moving it away from a cerebral, documentary image to more of an emotional treatment. Her gerberas image is an example. It is meant to be an artistic interpretation of how flowers can seem to shimmer in certain light and to give the viewer a sense of wonder at the color and the glow.

Jerrie has photographed flowers for 30 years. The images in “The Splendors of Spring” show represent her favorites from the past 3 years. “We live in an amazing area. You just need to get out and look around you. There will be a piece of nature’s art staring at you. Just stop and enjoy it.”

In this show, Jerrie brings an entire garden into the gallery. She invites you to stop and enjoy it--you might say, to “tiptoe through the tulips” with her.



Black-eyed Susans (Artistic Treatment)

**FEATURED ARTIST: JOHN GOWAN continued.**

A hiker and mountain biker, John is thoroughly familiar with the hills of the Bay Area. By the time he got into painting, he had a good knowledge of not only how to reach the common viewpoints but also where to find the secluded depths within the landscape. He developed a deep love of his chosen subject, expanding outward from there.

"I feel a certain connection with the landscape. The landscape of the west coast and the Sierra's IS my inspiration," John explains. "The geography and light make Northern California an artist's paradise.

As the show title indicates, light itself, as much as the landscape, is the subject of this show. "As I've painted through the years, light is the key thing I've really tried to emphasize. The exploration (the hunt) to find my subject matter is what fuels me. Being on the trail out in nature and never knowing what's around the corner raises my awareness. Sometimes after hours of hiking, I arrive at a view so astonishing that my only possible response is to sit down in front of a canvas and let the scene translate itself onto the canvas through me."

As gallery visitors study John's work, a question frequently asked is: "Is this a photograph?" John chuckles at that. "I have always been a highly

Sunset  
From  
Loma  
Alta



The personal pleasure his painting gives him is evident in John's results, but the environmental motivation is still there. "My subjects are the natural landscape, but my paintings are still environmental paintings even if people don't realize it right away. I've seen Open Space disappear to development and hillsides transformed into neighborhoods. I hope my art will remind people of the value of the undeveloped landscape and will stir them to cherish the beauty of one of the most amazing places on our planet."

In his show, "An Expression of Light", John debuts some of his new work which he describes as having "a very dramatic sky, the sun making its way to the horizon with the last light of the day dancing across the hills. I have found that the sunset is my favorite time to get my subject matter. I've very much become interested in the glowing light during the last hour of the day and the drama of the light as the sun draws ever closer to the horizon."

details from Sunset  
From Loma Alta



detailed artist. In my teen years, when my art consisted mainly of female forms and exotic cars and I was working with pencil, most of my work came out looking like photographs. My subject matter has changed since then," John smiles. "Awakening to the issue of our environment in distress, I moved into environmental art, still using pencils but at least they were color. After spending sometimes a year or more on a single piece, I finally made the move to paint."



John has certainly accomplished his goal. His paintings are suffused with light and, as with *Mt. Burdell Sunset* (above), emit their own glow--nearly enough to light up the room all on their own.

## MEMBER NEWS



Leaf Curl

[www.images-and-interpretations.com](http://www.images-and-interpretations.com)

March 1-31  
Sharon Feissel's  
photomontage works  
in red, black & white  
at Gary Farrell Winery  
(south of Wohler bridge)  
10701 Westside Rd.  
Healdsburg

March 20 & 21  
Karen Spratt's  
oils at the  
40th Annual  
Original Yachats  
Arts & Crafts Fair  
Yachats, Oregon



Gentlemen Bees

[www.karenspratt.com](http://www.karenspratt.com)

## MEMBER NEWS

Lance Kuehne, Riverfront Art Gallery owner, has a busy schedule in March speaking, teaching camera arts, and leading tours.

March 6: Leading photo hike for Sonoma Land Trust on their new Jenner property.

March 8: Talk to the Art Photography Class at Santa Rosa Junior College.

March 13 & 14: Exhibiting at Napa Mustard Festival Marketplace on the Napa Riverwalk.

March 18: Landscape Photography Class, beginning class of workshop (see below).

### Photography Workshops

Lance Kuehne offers a series of workshops covering various aspects of photographic imagemaking. The next workshop in the series is "Photographing the Landscape." The focus of this workshop is on creating powerful images. It includes 3 class meetings and 2 field sessions.

For information, go to  
[www.lancekuehne.com/classes.html](http://www.lancekuehne.com/classes.html)

## MEMBER NEWS

### MARILEE FORD'S ARTWORK TO ADORN CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS

The product design industry is full of established designers. It is a difficult field to break into. That explains why Marilee Ford, who owns a business, but has had no connection with the design industry, was so surprised at being contacted about her paintings for use on children's products.

She was contacted by Enchantmints, a company that espouses the Waldorf principles of childhood education and models its products in accord with them. The company produces books, puzzles, paper dolls, boxes (lunch boxes, treasure boxes, tooth fairy boxes, music boxes), and other products. Sales are through retail stores both here and in Europe. [www.enchantmints.com](http://www.enchantmints.com)

"We are in the design phase now, so I don't know exactly what products my work will be on," Marilee says. "I am finding this opportunity very exciting and stimulating. The company gives

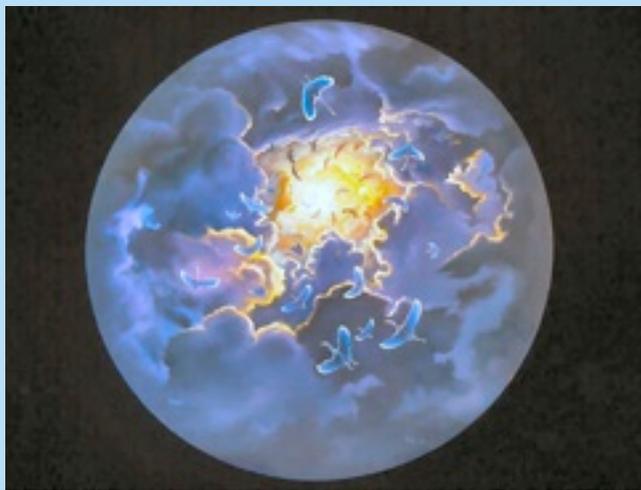
little in the way of specifications for work, instead encouraging exploration and creativity in its artists to take them beyond their usual approach."

Our hearty congratulations to Marilee on this new direction in her art career!



**RAFFLE WINNER IS GUEST ARTIST  
ROBERT PITONZO**

Riverfront Art Gallery donated gallery space for one show as a raffle prize when the Petaluma Arts Council had its member show, "Small Works in Hard Times" in November, 2009. The winner was surrealist painter, Robert Pitonzo, although he would be quick to mention that he also paints realistic, abstract, expressionistic, and impressionistic work, as well as belonging to a film troupe as Art Director. Robert says of his work, "By incorporating universal spiritual symbols, cosmic images, and prismatic color, I draw the observer within to experience a myriad of multi-layered spectrums of reality."

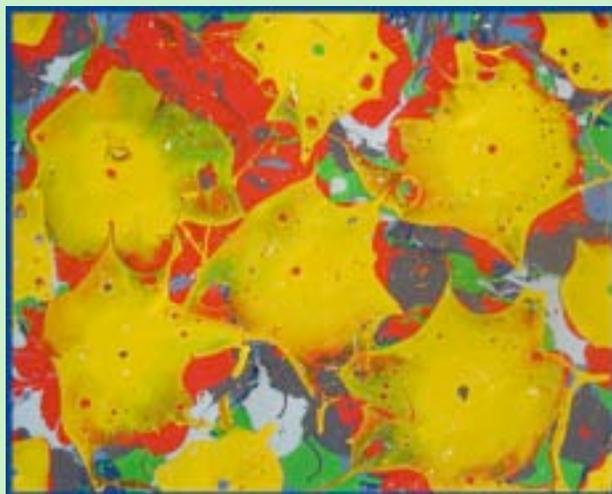


Enigma

[www.vistapointe.net](http://www.vistapointe.net)

**GUEST ARTIST  
MARK LIFVENDAHL**

Mark is an accomplished abstract painter whose work has been shown in numerous galleries. Mark's original technique of paint application results in works described as "bright, splashy, translucent, glass-like, and crystalline." As Mark expresses it, "I am aware of the positive affect color can have and am inspired by it. For me, line and form follow after color, and I am interested in creating a symmetry of shape and form." Mark works in various styles, all the way from textural, almost single-color pieces to vibrant, multi-color works. In the current show Mark will exhibit his colorful new works.



Summer's Coming

[www.lifvendahl.net](http://www.lifvendahl.net)

**V-DAY PETALUMA CELEBRATIONS & ART SHOWS**

V-Day Petaluma draws attention to the abuse of women and girls and to the organizations concerned with this problem. In support of this community effort, Riverfront Art Gallery owner, Jerrie Jerné Morago, has organized two art exhibitions with the broad theme being women--anything to do with women, the status of women, the strengths and qualities of women, etc.

The exhibition featuring local artists will be at the Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Boulevard from March 8 through March 13. In addition, Riverfront Art Gallery members have images for V-Day awareness at Viva Cocolat! through March 14.

For V-Day program information and tickets to the March 13th matinee and evening performances of "The Vagina Monologues," go to the organizations' website: [www.vdaypetaluma.org](http://www.vdaypetaluma.org).

**SPRING HOURS**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday  
10:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Friday & Saturday  
10:30 AM - 8:00 PM

Closed Monday

Show Reception Evenings to 9:00 PM  
Art Walk Reception Evenings to 8:00 PM