



MARCH, 2011

Featured Artists:
**Stephanie
 Hamilton-Oravetz**

Christine Kierstead

Jerrie Jerné

Member News

**

Gallery Offerings:

Acrylics

Mixed Media

Oils

Photography

Photomontage

Watercolors

www.riverfrontartgallery.com

(707) 775-4278

THE GALLERY'S NEW SHOW

Spring Show dates: March 9 - May 8

Show Reception: March 12, 5:00 - 9:00 PM

Musical interludes provided by Demian & Anne Marie Bannister of the acoustic pop group, Calm & Chaos.

NOSTALGIA, HISTORY, INTERPRETATION, HUMOR

The Early Spring show will offer a fine juxtaposition of local interest and the lure of distant places. Nostalgia might be considered as a sub-theme for both features with their touchstone to the history and culture of the places the works will interpret for us. However, there is also humor and some fresh approaches in store for the viewer.



Murano Glass Forest

In her show, ***Enchanting Venice: Winter Memories***, photographer Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz brings to viewers her love of Venice, especially in its winter mood and during the revelry of Carnival. "The cold, romantic winter in Venice is the time I know well, and it is the one I love," Stephanie comments. Her show lets us savor Venice in its many winter flavors.

<http://visualovation.zenfolio.com>

Enchanting Venice: Winter Memories continued on page 2

In ***What Came First?***, painter Christine Kierstead and photographer Jerrie Jerné team up to delve into Petaluma's past history as the butter and egg capital of the country. Timing their show to coincide with Petaluma's Butter and Egg Days Parade & Festival, the two will interpret this aspect of Petaluma through their respective mediums.



Butter 'N Eggs



Eggs in a Bowl

Which Came First continued on page 3

GALLERY HOURS SPRING THROUGH FALL

Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday
 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Friday & Saturday
 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Closed Monday & Tuesday

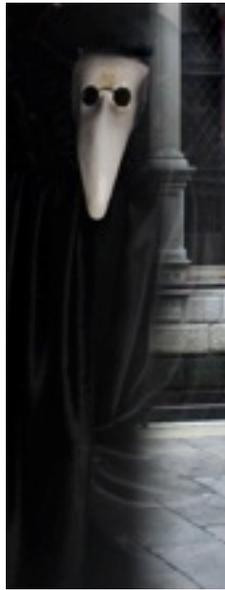
FEATURED ARTIST: STEPHANIE HAMILTON-ORAVETZ

PRESENTS ENCHANTING VENICE: WINTER MEMORIES

What is seen and what is unseen.... What is said and what is unsaid.... Delving into symbolism, mystery, and ambiguity....

The above phrases arise as descriptions of Stephanie's intuitive skills as a psychologist, skills she applies while helping her clients through the processes of transformation. Yet it is equally possible to apply such phrases to her Featured Artist Show, *Enchanting Venice: Winter Memories*.

Stephanie gives us classic, timeless Venice during Carnival. She presents the city's aging, visual richness enhanced by the excitement of costumes and masks--a touchstone to Medieval origins--suggesting mystery and ambiguity and arousing Stephanie's curiosity and creative inclinations in response.



The Apparition

The Apparition pulls us even deeper into mystery and lets our imaginations play with various symbolic scenarios. In speaking of *The Apparition*, Stephanie chuckles, "The form was in a shop window. The pillar and stone elements were across the canal, but reflected in the shop window. The transparency of the reflection in the glass overlaying the figure behind the glass gave the figure its eerie quality. I actually didn't notice the effect until it appeared on my computer screen. I was shocked in the most marvelous way, finding this sly bit of Venice magic!"



The Red Lady

As viewers, we too are curious. Who is this Red Lady hidden behind her mask? What secrets do her molded and unmovable lips conceal? What humor does she find in seeing from another visage but through her own eyes? What is seen and what is unseen? What is she saying and leaving unsaid?

Then there are the wonders of Venice itself--the canals, the buildings, like the *Aging Beauty*, and the palaces. "The beautiful distortions that come from the interaction of reflections and the movement of water can result in images that seem quite Daliesque," Stephanie comments about *Dali's Venice: The Palazzo*. "And the *Morning Dance* of the gondolas upon the tides always delights me, but it was not until I transformed that image into a more painterly view that I felt I had captured the emotional quality of this dance as it affects me."

In summarizing the breadth of her work on Venice, Stephanie says, "I have tried to capture the intangible--the sense that I have of being surrounded by mystery and spirits--the spirits of history and art and of those before me."



Morning Dance



Aging Beauty



Dali's Venice: The Palazzo

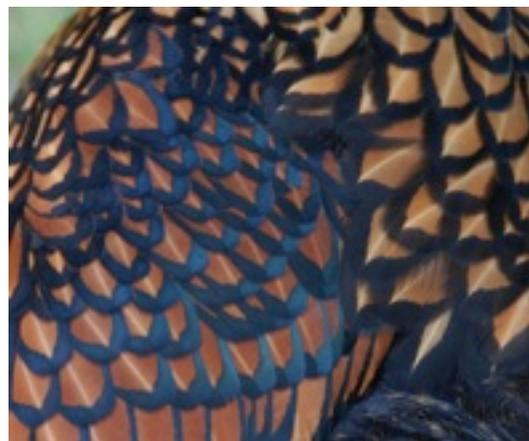
FEATURED ARTISTS: CHRISTINE KIERSTEAD AND JERRIE JERNÉ

PRESENT "WHAT CAME FIRST?"

Christine Kierstead's paintings and Jerrie Jerné's photographs take us down memory lane to the days when local chickens were the foundation of Petaluma dominance in the hatchery and eggs business, with eggs and chicks being shipped around the country.

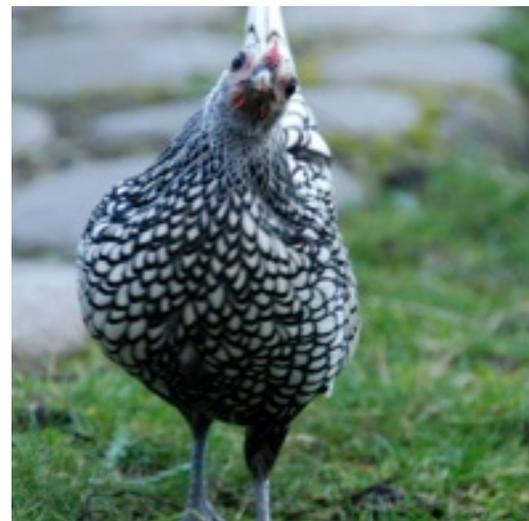
Down on her knees, eye-level with the chickens, Jerrie gives us an up-close-and-personal look at, as Jerrie says, "...the many faces of chickens doing what they do."

Bringing the viewer up close, exploring an object in shadow and form, Jerrie's photos often visually describe what would generally remain unnoticed. In *Patterns*, Jerrie has captured the bronze and blue beauty of Betsy's feather patterns, placing them forcefully before our eyes so that we can't help but notice the flowing, sensual nature of this feathery attire.



Patterns

Jerrie
Jerné



It's Alice

Jerrie
Jerné

Both artists capture the personalities of their "models," a trio of "fancy chickens" recently acquired by Christine and which have become her muse of the moment.

Humor abounds in the show, from Christine's painting of the very self-confident and self-possessed Betty striding boldly across her red background to Jerrie's image of Alice who clearly has some reservations and not a small amount of curiosity about this human on her knees who is seemingly quite shrunken in size and not much taller than Alice herself.

Christine's acrylics and her bold and layered colors, sweeping strokes, and the use of items beyond brushes to push and pull pigments demonstrate the whimsical relationship she has with her paints. She has painted large and playful works of her brood just in time for Petaluma's 30th celebration of its Butter and Egg Days and the history it commemorates.



Betty

Christine
Kierstead

To see more works by these artists go to their websites:

Christine Kierstead: <http://ckierstead%20%20.html>

Jerrie Jerné: www.jerriejernedesigns.com/

MEMBER NEWS

GUS & SHARON FEISSEL, FEATURED
at Moshin Vineyard & Winery,
10295 Westside Road, Healdsburg, 433-5499
Through March 25, daily 11:00-4:30
www.moshinvineyards.com



California Sunset

Gus Feissel

STEPHANIE HAMILTON-ORAVETZ

Participating in
“Art of the Line”
Sebastopol
Center For
The Arts
6780 Depot St.
Sebastopol



Through
March 19

View of Life

<http://visualovation.zenfolio.com>

**GUS FEISSEL IMAGE AT THE
CENTER FOR FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY
Ft. Collins, Colorado**



*Mother
and
Baby,
Agolai,
India*

Phil Borges, author, teacher, and noted documentary photographer specializing in indigenous cultures, was the juror for The Center’s competition on the theme of “Human + Being,” which received more than 1000 entries. Borges selected only 54 pieces for the show, one of them being Gus’s image shown above. The show is on view both at the Center’s gallery and online, March 25 through April 23. Go to:

www.c4fap.org

MARK LIFVENDAHL

Roadhouse Winery Tasting Room
240 Center St., Healdsburg, CA
Exhibition through April 1st

Yellow Lily Pond



www.lifvendahl.net

Call for Entries:
Showin’ On The River
Riverfront Art Gallery’s
2nd Fine Art Juried Show

All you pen and brush artists, take note!
Entry guidelines on the gallery website.

www.riverfrontartgallery.com