



JULY, 2012

**2012 "SHOWIN' ON THE RIVER!"  
JURIED FINE ART  
EXHIBITION**

**2012 PETALUMA  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE  
AWARD for BEST  
ART GALLERY**

**MEMBER NEWS**

**WORKSHOPS &  
PHOTO TOURS**

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**Gallery Offerings:**

**Paintings**

**Mixed Media**

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

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## THE GALLERY'S NEW SHOW

**JULY 11 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9**

**Show and Art Walk Reception: Saturday, July 14, 5:00 - 9:00 PM**

It'll be a toe-tapper of an evening with music supplied by The Rivereens. The group formed while Tracy Grisman and Henry White were Riverfront members. They are joined by Steve Della Maggiora, also an artist.

## RESULTS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL

# "Showin' On The River!"

## Juried Fine Art Show

In this July issue and also in August, Riverfront Art Gallery's *RAG Sheet* will highlight the artists and artwork accepted into this third annual juried show. Each year, new artists come forward. This issue highlights those who had not previously entered the gallery's competitions, whether established artists or those just emerging onto the local art scene. Welcome, All!

One artist who has honed her skills over long years of dedication is nonagenarian Emma Webber, who began hand-hooking rugs and wall hangings 63 years ago. At age 94, she is still at it. Emma executes a variety of designs from abstracts to as close to a portrait as rug material can possibly get. Her work is full of humor as well. Emma will show an abstract and her charming, *Let Me Under Your Umbrella*.

Emma explains that the art form consists of pulling strips of wool through the holes of a cotton or linen burlap-weave background, using a hook that fits into the palm of the hand and produces one loop at a time. Hand hooking is related to the ancient art of rug making.

Emma says, "It is a restful, peaceful and exciting exercise to see the desired shapes and color combinations emerge. Wool and silk fibers were alive at one time and thus cling together for a lasting effect." She enjoys selling her pieces, feeling that her designs are enjoyed and are "at home" somewhere.



*Let Me Under Your Umbrella*  
Emma Webber

The painter of *Fishing at the Lake*, Thomas Hughes, minored in Fine Art many years ago and worked in related fields from time to time. "At last," he says from his Mendocino studio, "I can channel the peace and serenity of one of the most stunningly beautiful places in the world into my artwork."



*Fishing at the Lake*

oil

Thomas Hughes

Mara Farnworth speaks of her watercolors, saying, "The transparency and lightness that is unique to watercolor and the surprises that result from letting colors run together make this a fascinating medium for me." Along with landscapes, Mara does close-in, intimate portraits of flowers and other objects, getting to their essence, as she has in *Little Dinghy*.



*Little Dinghy*

watercolor

Mara Farnworth

Many of these artists have applied themselves diligently to art over a long span of years. Char Wood, a founder of the watercolor society (WASCO), has been a professional artist for three decades. She loves everyday situations and local scenes. Char must have painted nearly every nook in Sonoma County, one of which we see in *Highway 12 Compound* done in oils. (At right.)

Henry Violin and Kath Root are members of the Sonoma 8 group of artists, along with Char Wood. They often work plein air (outdoors). Henry paints Sonoma landscapes and seascapes, as exemplified by *Marshall Boat Yard*. He says, "The inspiration I feel to paint a subject comes from within at a meditative moment."



*Marshall Boat Yard*

oil

Henry Violin

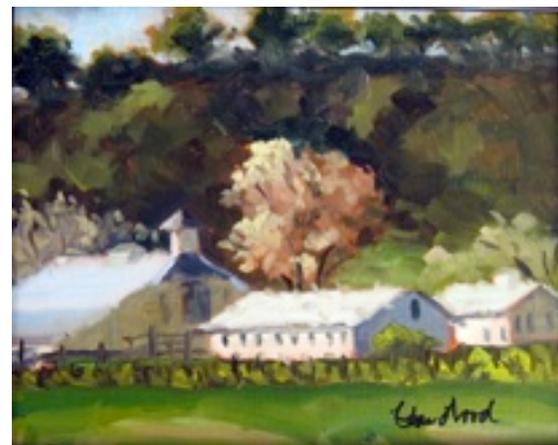
Kath Root also loves plein air. "I try to capture the essential emotional connection to a place at a specific time of day." Using her representational works, like the vibrant *Red Tide at Morning* as a basis, Kath often develops abstract works as well.



*Red Tide at Morning*

oil

Kath Root



*Highway 12 Compound*

oil

Char Wood

Some artists are skilled at mood and atmospheric suggestion. Leona Dadian Akers's acrylic painting, *A Cold Sonoma Morning*, lives up to the implications of its title by placing the viewer in a subdued landscape of varying blues evocative of the chill of many Sonoma mornings.



*A Cold Sonoma Morning*

acrylic

Leona Dadian Akers

Kelly Sooter says of her paintings, like *Skagit Winter*, "Impressionist landscapes evoke both mystery and memories." With just a suggestion of



detail, they stir recollections of forgotten places or prompt the recognition in a new landscape of something we've experienced elsewhere.

*Skagit Winter*

oil

Kelly Sooter

New to the walls of Riverfront but not at all new to the local art scene, Else Gonella is a master of the mood-evoking landscape. As in *Hidden* (below left), there is always a touch of the old masters in her rich colors. The countryside she paints is both idyllic and vaguely familiar, with perhaps a sense of longing for those perfect golden days when life seemed less complicated.

David Kingwill, an architect, deals on a daily basis with form and light. He also enjoys diving and snorkeling where he experiences form and light of a different nature. Since 1979, he has been transforming his impressions into abstracts, such as in his acrylic painting, *Dolphin Friends*. He says, "I pour diluted acrylic from a bowl onto canvas and guide the liquid toward a composition while reacting to the resulting surprises. It is a dynamic art form."



*Dolphin Friends*

acrylic

David Kingwill

Kathryn Kelsey loves the fluidity of water-based paint and the combining of various elements, as in *Vivaldi*, where musical notes from a Vivaldi score give the piece its title. "The complements of color, the textures of paper are endless. I let my imagination run wild, and with paper combined



sometimes with canvas, I tear, shape, layer, and combine multiple elements."

*Vivaldi*

watermedia/  
mixed media

Kathryn Kelsey

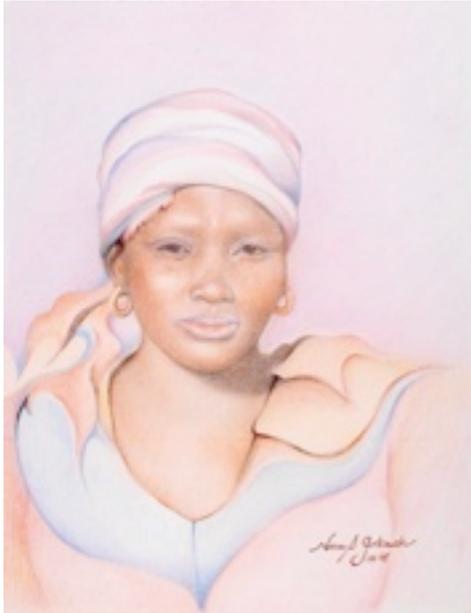


*Hidden*

oil

Else Gonella

Nina Gorbach has a BA in Fine Arts from UC Berkeley. She also plays the flute and piano and has taught Eurythmy, a movement integrating poetry and music. Referring to her exquisitely-rendered, colored-pencil portrait, *Woman From Zambia*, Nina says, "Having lived and worked in many countries, I find beauty, dignity, and grace in people of all ages and cultures. Each face and gesture tells a story of joys and sorrows, both personal and universal, connecting our lives."

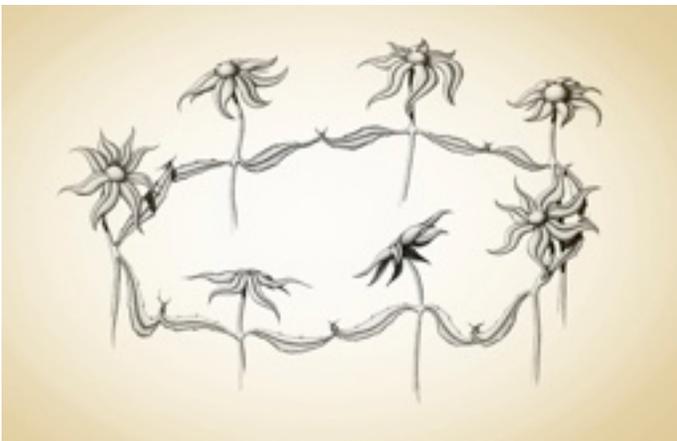


*Woman From Zambia*

colored pencil

Nina Gorbach

Two additional artists in the show, Paul Guido and Noreen Scully, also work in a more illustrative form. Paul Guido will be showing four graphite illustrations from his whimsical series of anthropomorphic florals. He says that "botanicals" have been a recurring theme in his various areas of work, so it is natural that he has chosen to use the world of plants as his medium for expressions of human emotions and experiences.



*The Circle*

graphite

Paul Guido

Noreen Scully's *The Forest Girl* was rendered in pencil and ink. The work has the look of fairy-tale illustrations of more than a century ago, having not only a quiet and thoughtful delicacy in the image but producing a palpable aura of nostalgia as well. (Image not available.)

Last, but definitely not least, we come to Mylette Welch's popular and ubiquitous, smile-inducing dogs. They are all over the county, as are the strays and shelter animals she so often takes as subjects. The show will include four pooches from her series. You'll find one in the garden, one at the beach, and one waiting for a ride. And then there is Susie, waiting expectantly outside a mobile home. "I try to have a good time," Mylette says. "When people view my work, I hope it makes them smile." It does.



*Suzie*

Mylette Welch

**CONTINUED IN THE AUGUST ISSUE OF RAG**

The upcoming August newsletter features the other wonderful artists in this special juried art show. In that issue, we will cover the following local artists, most of whom need no introduction:

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Barbara Bally         | Carole Barlas    |
| Sharon Feissel        | Muriel Goodfield |
| Muriel Sutchter Knapp | Jan Lee          |
| Penny Popken          | Peggy Sebera     |
| Marcy Silveira        | Henry White      |

## CALIFORNIA PHOTO ADVENTURES

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS WITH  
GALLERY OWNER LANCE KUEHNE

Spaces are still available in Lance's July and August workshops and photo tours.

For an explanation of each event, go to [www.caphotoadventures.com](http://www.caphotoadventures.com)

The initial tour at each location is discounted, so participants can help determine what will make the final list of places to go and things to do. For this feedback, Lance is making these initial tours into real bargains!

Contact: [lance@lancekuehne.com](mailto:lance@lancekuehne.com)

2012 PETALUMA  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS  
RESULTS!

**BEST ART GALLERY:**

**RIVERFRONT ART GALLERY**

We are honored  
and proud to be part of your life!

**THANKS, PETALUMA!!**



**MEMBER NEWS**

**FRANK ORAVETZ, FEATURED ARTIST  
IN TOWER GALLERY'S  
FIRST ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION,  
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, IN CLOVERDALE  
RECEPTION JULY 21, 5:00-9:00**

Top left: *Going with the Flow*  
Bottom left: *Young Nicholas*

**STEPHANIE HAMILTON-ORAVETZ  
IN "BORDERS/BOUNDARIES" SHOW AT  
SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
THROUGH JULY 21**

Below: *Aerial Boundaries I: Escher as Architect*

