



OCTOBER, 2012

THANKS!

CURRENT SHOW

INVITATIONAL

ARTISANS' FESTIVAL

NEW TO THE GALLERY:

Tracy Taylor

Wayne Telford

Carol Wedemeyer

FOCUS ON:

Nirlap Bettenhauser

* *

Gallery Offerings:

Paintings

Mixed Media

Photography

Photomontage

Sculpture

Birdhouses

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(707) 775-4278

THE GALLERY'S CURRENT SHOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 4

ARTISANS' FESTIVAL DURING OCTOBER ART WALK
Saturday, October 13, 5:00 - 8:00 PM

THANKS TO YOU ALL! WHAT AN ANNIVERSARY!

Riverfront's 5th Anniversary "Black & White Celebration" was a huge success, with hundreds of well-wishers sharing the evening with us, many getting into the spirit of the evening by donning black, white, or both. With balloons in abundance and Half-Bad Neighbor providing toe-tapping music, the party spirit lasted well past closing time! Raffle prizes were awarded throughout the evening.

Raffle earnings have been presented to Art With Out Labels (A.W.O.L.) on Kentucky St. in Petaluma. A.W.O.L. works with people with special challenges, providing them a place to give expression to their feelings through art. They receive art instruction, work space, and a gallery where their work can be exhibited. Riverfront is delighted to support this fine nonprofit program.



Riverfront Art Gallery's Fifth Anniversary Celebration, September 15, 2012

IN APPRECIATION OF OUR RAFFLE DONORS. THANKS SO MUCH!

Our deep appreciation goes to Viva Cocolat, Shunzi, and Petaluma Pies for donating prizes for the raffle. We also take our hats off to thirteen of our artists who donated works for the raffle: Nirlap Bettenhauser, Jim Coda, Gus Feissel, Sharon Feissel, Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz, John Hanses, Jerrie Jerné, Christine Kierstead, Lance Kuehne, Frank Oravetz, Karen Spratt, Cathy Thomas, and Jeffrey Williams. You are wonderful!

IN THE GALLERY DURING OCTOBER

THE CURRENT SHOW

Our Featured Artists for this Fifth Anniversary show are painter Christine Kierstead and photographer Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz. Both take us on a stroll down Nostalgia Lane.

Christine's paintings remind us that many of the products of our industry, inventiveness, and culture eventually get replaced by new generations of such products, regardless of how attached we might be to the old familiar version. She has created a pictorial essay on items we have lost or soon will lose to changes in technology and preferences.



While Christine concentrates on contemporary subjects that are moving into the past, Stephanie's show brings images from the past into the present for a renewed focus and appreciation. Stephanie pays homage to the faces she has seen in paintings and sculptures in a multitude of settings in various countries. Taking them not only out of their initial context but also out of their contemporary settings, Stephanie has turned them into cameos of people we might once have known, possibly might have dreamed. She presents them as individual characters and invites us to imagine what their stories might have been.

Far left: Turntable by Christine Kierstead

Left center: The Traveler by Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz

INVITATIONAL EXHIBITION IN REAR GALLERY

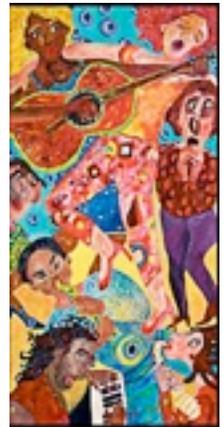
The rearward section of Riverfront's gallery has been set aside this show for an invitational exhibition of several photographers who have previously shown work at Riverfront. Harvey Abernathy, Mary Macey Butler, Leslie Curchack, Joe Gregorio, Maite Klein, Larry McCloskey, Tina Marie, Mike Ryan, Gala Sadurni, Amnon Shemi, and Benjamin Stein are each represented.

Far right: Shindig by Mary Sanders

In addition, Paul Guido's whimsical illustrations, Robert Pitonzo's symbolic paintings, Mary Sanders' folk-art-style paintings, and Hobart Humphrey's wall pieces in metal will also be featured.

A concentration of Lance Kuehne's photography will be in the back gallery as well.

Shindig by Mary Sanders



ARTISANS' FESTIVAL DURING ART WALK, OCTOBER 13, 3:00 - 8:00

The Artisans' Festival is a periodic occurrence at Riverfront, featuring one or more talented people whose works aren't normally shown in the gallery's setting. This festival welcomes back Janet McBeen, with her ever-popular fabric jewelry. André Langlois will again show semi-precious stones, sterling chain and pearl and beadwork. Fifteen-year-old jewelry designer Katie Sachen began selling her jewelry six years ago. She will be on hand with her attractive wirework, her favorite technique.

Join us October 13 from 3:00 to 8:00

Right: Fabric jewelry by Janet McBeen

Right center: Wirework necklace by teen designer Katie Sachen

Far right: Semi-precious stones by André Langlois



NEW TO THE GALLERY

WATERCOLORIST TRACY TAYLOR

San Luis Obispo watercolorist Tracy Taylor is a self-taught artist who was already published by Waterford Crystal by the time she was 18. Clients have ranged from the Tokyo aquarium to Glamor magazine and wineries wanting distinctive labels. Her commercially-attractive pictures have been used as posters, for greeting cards and postcard packs, as well as on water bottles and tote bags.

Tracy says, "I paint in the commercial, corporate, and private sectors. Some of my favorite clients are couples. It's fun to see if we can capture the feeling of their desires. I love to paint with young people and have been privileged to do this for the last 20 plus years." Tracy also says that one purpose of her fanciful, colorful watercolors is to brighten someone's day.



Carousel

Tracy Taylor

CERAMICIST CAROL WEDEMEYER

Carol Wedemeyer has a long resume not only of her ceramics exhibitions but also of teaching the hand-building of ceramic sculptural objects. Her works are in several publications, including in four books from Lark Crafts, and in collections, including several pieces in the permanent collection of the American Museum of Ceramic Art in Pomona, CA.

Carol says, "My work has an anthropomorphic sensibility and a tendency toward figurative abstraction. My pieces suggest gesture and movement, which comes from my background in dance. I play on the specious nature of our blurred societal distinctions between necessity and frivolity. 'The Tea Party' series is a tribute of sorts to Theodor Seuss Geisel."

Carol uses the coil construction method, combined with other hand-building techniques, so that organic form and architectural structure are melded into wonderfully distinctive art objects.



Teapot

Carol Wedemeyer

WOODWORKER WAYNE TELFORD



Of his work Wayne says, "I design and create functional art objects in hardwood that range from unique custom cabinetry to simple containers. The pieces I'm showing at Riverfront Gallery are variations of a 12-sided figure. Some pieces could serve as either a container or small table. I use Birdseye Maple, and Peruvian Rosewood due to the innate richness of the contrast of these two woods."



**FOCUS ON:
PAINTER NIRLAP BETTENHAUSER**

With a definite dash and verve, Nirlap Bettenhauser applies paints to her canvases, turning splashes of color into meaningful representations of real-life situations. Yet her style, whether in the works shown here or in her cubist pieces, is decidedly abstract in nature.

Nirlap says, "With my work, as with much contemporary artwork, there is a story behind it which is hinted at but not explained. Often the hint is in the title, as you see in these paintings."

Nirlap is referring to two examples currently on view at Riverfront in which she took inspiration from news-making events. Of *Active Protest* (below) she says, "In 2011, the Egyptians finally demanded change for their country and way of life. Out of it came a huge uprising, that was bloody and chaotic. This painting expresses the upheaval and frenetic energy that comes with such change."



Second Storm (below) is grounded in quite a different kind of event. Nirlap explains, "In 2010, New York City was hit with a giant, huge blizzard that shut the city down and drowned the scenic skyscrapers in snow and fog. Nothing but white



and hints of dark and grey were visible. A second blizzard hit, inundating the city with another and deeper layer of snow."

Once we know the inspiration, each beautifully-rendered piece takes on new depth. We can feel the raw energy of *Active Protest* and the chill and dread of *Second Storm*.

2012 PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD FOR BEST ART GALLERY

Riverfront Art Gallery co-owner Jerrie Jerné holds the People's Choice award certificate.

The People's Choice Award is based on votes cast by the general public in a competition conducted by Petaluma's weekly newspaper the Argus-Courier and its online edition, Petaluma360.com.

**THANKS
PETALUMA!**



OCTOBER WORKSHOP & PHOTO TOUR



Bodie House Interior

Gallery co-owner Lance Kuehne is continuing his series of workshops and photo tours with an upcoming trip along very scenic Highway 395, with such places as Bodie Ghost Town, Mono Lake, Devil's Post Pile, and Alabama Hills to choose from. Quaking aspens in the drainage defiles and valley beds could be radiant with color.



Cascade Creek, Yosemite

The workshop is in Lone Pine, October 26-29, with the subsequent photo tour continuing through November 2. For full information on this and all upcoming events and to register, go to the website: www.lancekuehne.com and click on Workshops.