

JUNE 2016

PETALUMA POST
30TH ANNIVERSARY
& CLOSING ISSUE

FEATURED ARTISTS
Hamilton-Oravetz
& Kreinberg

NEW MEMBER
Stephanie Rose Long

NEW POSTCARD
COLLECTION

RIVERFRONT VOTED
BEST GALLERY

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GALLERY OFFERINGS:
Paintings Mixed Media
Photography
Sculpture Woodcraft
Sculptural Lamps
Ceramics

FIND US/FRIEND US
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www.riverfrontartgallery.com

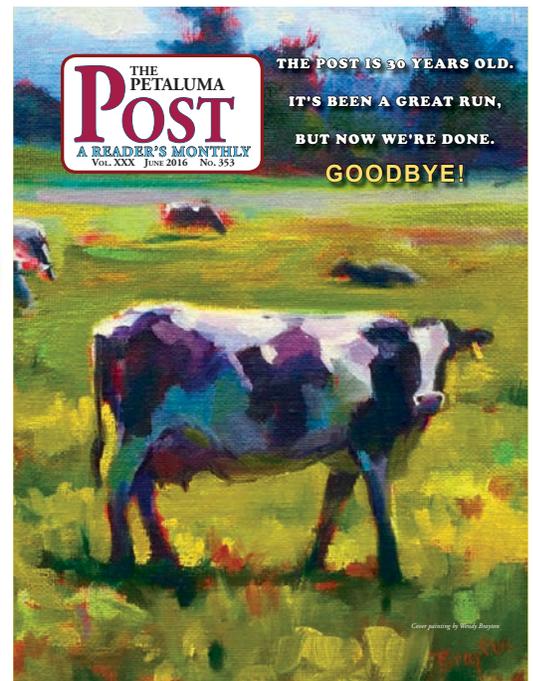
(707) 775-4278

THE GALLERY'S LATE SPRING SHOW
THROUGH SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2016

ART WALK RECEPTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 5:00 - 9:00 PM

THE
PETALUMA
Post
A READER'S MONTHLY

Farewell Issue



MISSING THEM ALREADY!!!

Begun in 1986 by David Bennett, The Petaluma Post, this wonderful, local, monthly paper, has encapsulated much of Petaluma history, events, business, artistry, performances, humor, and opinions for three decades as of this June issue. Terry C. Smith undertook editorship in 2004 and has relied on Karen Phillips to assist in publishing this much-admired, high-quality reflection of the community. After twelve years at the helm, Terry and Karen are shutting down the presses. This June issue, marking the paper's 30th anniversary, will be their final one.

With much appreciation for the recognition the paper has given Riverfront Art Gallery, we wish Terry, Karen, and the entire staff at the paper a most Happy 30th Anniversary! The Petaluma Post covered Riverfront Art Gallery and its many artists from the Fall of 2007 when the gallery first opened, greatly helping to introduce the fledgling gallery to Petaluma and the North Bay area.

On behalf of all the artists that have shown their work at Riverfront and most definitely on behalf of the gallery itself, we say "Thanks for everything, Terry, Karen, and all the staff. We are missing you already!"

FEATURED ARTIST: PHOTOGRAPHER STEPHANIE HAMILTON-ORAVETZ
The Water & The Spirits Moved Me: New Work From Venice

In the May newsletter, Stephanie explained her connection with Venice and the method she used to produce the current body of work on Venice. In this article, she gives the emotional basis for this show. She explains, "The artistic work I have done over the years has bridged the worlds of painting and photography, the past and the present, by using layers of photographic images integrated in the computer to create a new image. This new work from Venice is different. In this work, my aim is still to bridge the worlds of photography and painting. But in this series, there are no layers, no integration of a number of images, no extensive work on the computer. In this series, I have created my images in-camera, in the moment, with the combination of long-exposure and movement.

"Photography often idolizes the precise, the sharp, the clear, with "tack sharp" being the measure of quality. But what if what you want to capture, what you want to say, the story you want to tell is actually all about movement? What then? How do you reveal the flow of the intangible, impressions, feelings? This was the issue that faced me on my last trip to Venice with my husband, Frank.

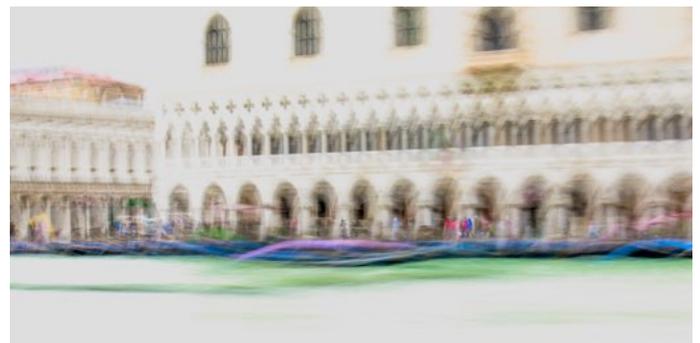
"Frank and I had traveled to Venice in winter, for Carnival. It was a trip we were not sure we would make; the prior 9 months had been consumed by Frank's renewed battle with leukemia. But there we were, filled with the absolute joy of being there, together, celebrating. The illness was still with us, the lurking worry still there, hiding in the shadows. At the time we could not know that another, unexpected crisis lay lurking, only to assault Frank 12 months later, in the form of a severe stroke. This trip was a breath between two storms.

"As we walked in St. Mark's Square on that first morning, I stopped and looked around at this place that I love so much, where I feel most at home in the world. I realized that Venice is a place of melancholy, decaying beauty, death, fantasies, art, history. But I love Venice because she is also resilient. She simply will not die. And so with Frank defying death again, we came to this city that symbolizes living no matter what, carrying on with grace through the worst, steadfastly standing up against the storms and assaults of nature and man, declaring her beauty and strength.

Continued on page 4.



Venice, The Gondolier Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz



Venice, The Palace Of The Doge S. Hamilton-Oravetz



Rainy Afternoon In Venice Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz

**GRANT KREINBERG: Selected Scenes
From A Mythical Village, Sonoma County**



Photographer Grant Kreinberg is a history buff, seeking out realities of the past. However, his featured show, *Selected Scenes From A Mythical Village, Sonoma County*, is illusory in nature. Grant got permission to photograph on private property and has assembled selected images as though they were a historic place, peopled by the generations before us. The illusion of reality is due to the expression of a period in time and to our susceptibility to nostalgia,

Grant says, "Using photographs from 'old' Sonoma County, like *Old Tavern* (above) and *Gold* (below), I've created a mythical village that might have existed in the early 1900s. My goal was to have the images serve as a recreation of a village like our grandparents might have lived in, to portray this mythical village as if it were frozen in time."

Grant invites viewers into his mythical village to people it with their own family stories and to sense a venue and a context where those stories might have taken place. Do come and bring your stories and your imagination.

**NEW MEMBER
Painter Stephanie Rose Long**



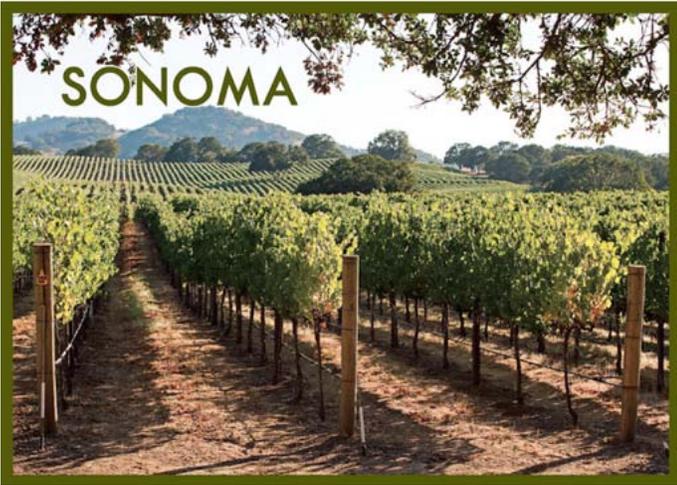
Stephanie Rose Long is a new addition to Riverfront's trove of painters. Stephanie tells us, "My work is a product of my lifestyle. My husband and I moved to Petaluma from Nevada last year and started a horse training business. He specializes in cutting and reined cow horses, which offers a rich cache of western imagery and inspiration to me as an artist.

I love color and create bright pastel paintings which depict the people, horses, and cows that surround me. I also paint western imagery on commercial purses and handbags, as well as create beaded jewelry, which I refer to as painting with beads. I produce limited-edition giclées of my original paintings, but all other work is one-of-a-kind."

Stephanie's pastels, such as *Longhorn* (above), embracing the rural ambiance that lingers in much of Sonoma County, are featured in her debut show at the Riverfront Art Gallery.

RIVERFRONT ART GALLERY VOTED BEST GALLERY IN PETALUMA

In the "Petaluma People's Choice," an annual vote by readers of the Petaluma Argus-Courier, Riverfront Art Gallery has again been honored by being designated the Best Gallery in Petaluma. A presentation event is scheduled for June 9 at the Sheraton. The award will be on display at the gallery along with eight other such awards Riverfront has received from the Argus-Courier and the Bohemian. In an email to gallery artists, co-owner Jerrie Jerné told them, "Thank you all for contributing to our gallery with your amazing talents." Co-owner, Lance Kuehne, adds, "Riverfront is proud to be part of this community, which has supported our local art scene so well!

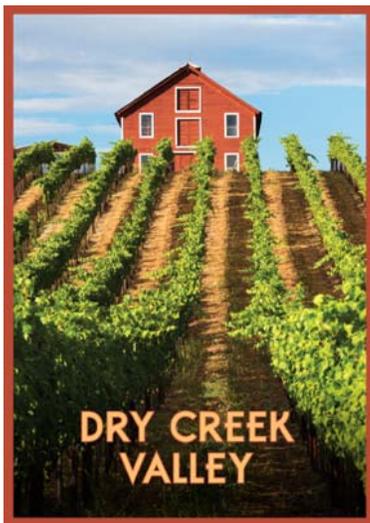


WINE COUNTRY SOUVENIRS

Often gallery visitors, especially those from out of the region, are looking for a way to share their wine country experience with those at home or just to take a small reminder with them. Gallery co-owner Lance Kuehne has produced a series of 11 postcards (with more to come) to fulfill this need. But let us quote from Lance himself.

“Napa-Sonoma Wine Country is known for its mild climate and unique vistas where rows and rows of hand-cultivated grapevines thrive beside wild, grassy hills and wooded glens, creating a topography recognized worldwide as Northern California’s wine growing region. The images in this collection of postcards capture the splendor of Napa-Sonoma vineyards as they are transformed by the seasons: undulating, vine-dotted hills, alive with spring’s greens; summer’s flourishing vines, luminous in sunlight; spring’s greens; the summer’s flourishing vines, luminous in sunlight; the jewel tones of fall’s turning grape leaves; and the vividness of mustard flowers in winter.”

Lance’s Postcards, \$2 each, available through the above website and at Riverfront and other select locations in Napa & Sonoma counties.



Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz continued from page 2.

“So this is a show about many things—movement, change, beauty, strength, resilience. It is about the the spirit of the past and how it is lived in the present. It is about using my artistic tool, the camera, in a new way. It is my intimate and emotional view of Venice—a resilient beauty who simply will not give up and succumb to the perils that assault her. It is about how the water and the spirits moved me and enabled me to visually speak about time and a place that touches me deeply.

“The motion-blurred images are symbolic of the fact that life, on its surface, is often unclear, yet if you look more deeply into it, you find the details and, often, the meaning.”



View from the Piazzetta

Stephanie Hamilton-Oravetz



Stephanie and Frank on location.