GRANTS PASS MUSEUM OF ART Since 1979

ART MATTERS

Vol 8 2015, Issue 3

A publication of Grants Pass Museum of Art

GPMA Mission: To enrich lives by offering art experiences that stimulate the senses, intrigue the intellect and bring joy to the spirit.

2016 Exhibition Schedule

Jan 13 - Feb 11

"Black, White & the Blues"

An exhibit of artwork to be auctioned at the annual Black, White & the Blues art auction and dance party.

Aug 2 - Sep 16

"National Watercolor Show"

The National Watercolor Society Exhibition shows the high quality of watercolor artists in America.

Feb 17 - Mar 25

"Permanent Collection"

A portion of GPMA's permanent collection which has not been recently displayed.

Sep 20 - Sep 30

"Artwork Road Show"

Bring in your works of art, display them, and have a professional appraiser estimate the present value.

Also: **Curtis Otto** - *a retrospective, in the library*

Mar 29 - May 27

Betty LaDuke "Oregon Harvest"

Noted Ashland artist returns to GPMA with a new series.

Oct 7 - Nov 11

"Art About Agriculture"

With this exhibition, OSU Art Department helps celebrate the bond between Oregonians and the land.

Jun 1- Jul 29

SAQA / GPMA "Concrete and Grasslands"

Studio Art Quilt Associates and Grants Pass Museum of Art have collaborated to present this exhibition of international art quilts.

Nov 17 - Dec 15

"Annual Membership Exhibition"

A non-juried exhibition of works by Museum members that is enjoyed by the entire community.

President's Corner

by Susan Eileen Burnes

Are you an Angel?

In the art world, the term *Angel* is applied to someone who contributes financially to the support of arts in the community. The Grants Pass Museum of Art is in need of *Angels* like you to help us with the costs of providing six or more exhibitions per year.

We are excited about offering the community a calendar of outstanding exhibits for 2016. All of the arrangements and labor involved in organizing and installing these exhibits are provided by a small group of dedicated and talented individuals who volunteer countless hours of their lives to make it happen. However, there are many expenses incurred with each exhibition: printing and mailing hundreds of exhibit cards, shipping and insurance for the artwork, fees for renting traveling exhibitions, special events such as artist presentations, and of course, the cost of keeping the lights on and the building warm or cool.

Sponsoring an exhibit or special event is a great opportunity to be an *Angel* and to be recognized by the Museum and community as a true patron of the arts. As a business, a family, or an individual, your name will be included on the exhibit cards, in all promotional material and on a specific sign in the exhibition space. If you wish to be supportive at a level other than as a sponsor, your donation in whatever amount will help and your name will be included in a list of contributors.

Be an *Angel* and help the Grants Pass Museum of Art fulfill its mission of enriching lives by offering art experiences that stimulate the senses, intrigue the intellect and bring joy to the spirit. ♦

Director's Reflections

by Hyla Lipson

It seems like forever since I wrote my very first entry in the Museum's newsletter. At the time, I had planned on using different images of me as if painted by known artists. Since this issue is near the holidays I thought a Norman Rockwell version of me would be fabulous. However, I couldn't find one that really worked – so I decided to use this one instead. I think this is my favorite picture of me. I must have been about four years old and I actually remember the day. The photographer kept saying things like, "And now I'll take a picture with her holding a teddy bear." The words "take a picture with her" threw me and I kept thinking he was going to be in the picture too.

Hyla, just a few years ago

Perception is nine tenths of everything. Whatever you perceive is your reality. I think that's what makes an art museum such an impact for each person. You are not told what to see. You are not told how to interpret what you are looking at. You have the option to like or dislike what you see. You can contemplate it on your own or you can talk about it with one friend or many. You can even take a workshop about what you are seeing. You can research the artists. You can read about the artists in books or on line. You can seek out more of the artists' work. The ways in which you can broaden your perception of something are endless. I dare say your perception will change over time or with your moods or with so many other factors. It's not quite like quick silver – more like magic.

The Invitational Figurative Exhibit elicited quite a number of comments. Many have told us it's the best exhibit we've ever had. I credit our exhibition committee for their ability to choose fascinating subjects for our galleries. I also credit the many wonderful artists we have in this region. Lastly – or perhaps it should be first – I credit you – our members and visitors. Without you we would be an empty shell. I suppose it's like the old saying, "if a tree falls in the forest and there's no one there – does it make a sound?" In the case of the Museum the question would be "If there is wonderful art on the wall but there's no one to view it, will it have any impact?"

You can now see our lineup of exhibits for the coming year. It's going to be exciting and maybe even the best year we've ever had. Come to the Museum often. Bring friends. Tell friends. Keep in touch yourself. There will be lots of things happening.

I would be remiss in not wishing you all a very happy New Year. Cheers! ♦

Jim Harman--Multi Medium Man

by Peggy Horn

Jim Harman's artistic adventure started with a paint-by-number set he did when he was a teenager. It didn't take long for him to begin painting outside of the lines. In college he majored in art where he received a BA degree from Long Beach State College, in California. His first bronze casting was a class assignment for which he wasn't quite prepared. He turned in an apple core.

After college, he painted houses for a living but continued his varied artistic ventures. Jim cut cabochons, designed and manufactured custom jewelry, made saddle silver, bronze sculpture and painted. He sold his cabochons on e-Bay and worked as a bench jeweler in several trade shops. In the mid 80s he opened his own jewelry business in Rogue River.

Bronze bowl with inlaid ring of Basanite

Jim has shown his work in Texas, South Carolina, Colorado, California, Maryland, Georgia and the Grants Pass Museum of Art Membership Show.

In 2011, Jim won first place in the Gemmys, cabochon division. The Gemmys was an international juried lapidary arts competition sponsored by Lapidary Journal / Jewelry Artist Magazine.

Pearadice

The thing about Jim is that you can't have a conversation with him without learning a great deal. He tosses off words like psilomelane (a type of manganese ore) and druzy (a super-fine crystalline structure found in mineral fractures). He also explained what a cabochon is. There are two styles of cutting gem stones. Precious gems like diamonds, rubies and sapphires are faceted. Semi-precious gems are made with a flat back and a domed top, or cabochon cut.

www.jimharmanbronzesculpture.com is a fun look at Jim's work. More examples of the art work of this talented artist can be seen there.

Jim is excited about his next adventure in bronze. Double-sided flat vases with multiple holes which are inset with cabochons so that each side is different. We are looking forward to this new venture. By the way, he still has the bronze apple core. ♦

We Love our Volunteers

Your Museum has several new volunteers. We know you have introduced yourself to them while you are visiting the exhibits. So of course, you recognize them and know how they became involved with GPMA.

Which volunteer:

1. Worked at the Nelson Atkins museum in Kansas?
2. Ran the Museum's gift shop for over 10 years?
3. Was a Peace Corps member about 20 years ago?
4. Owned a gallery before moving to Grants Pass?

Answers on page 6

Kirsten

Sharon

Clarisse

Paula

GPMA 2015 in Pictures

Paula is excited about winning a bid at the Black, White & the Blues

Artist Leni Weiner leads an interactive discussion during her exhibit

Maggie Montgomery poses again with Daniel Verner's Figurative Exhibit painting

Kids express their inner self with needle felting

Adiago Strings leaves so on First Fri

Nothing like a great drive in the country at the Golf for Art Tournament

Sip and Dip class participants show off their

s

Apland Auto Body paints GPMA's new Exhibition walls

2nd Friday Poetry night - 5th Anniversary

me pleasant airs
lay

creations

Art in the Garden, 2015

From Heron, you will recognize Gallery One entry way, courtesy of Ron Anderson

More Ways to Contribute

There are many ways to contribute to a non-profit organization. One is to participate in an event. You can be a sponsor, an attendee, or a volunteer participant. All are important. Here are some other ways: Have you thought of donating every month? Let's say you normally donate $100 per year. Instead of sending one check for $100, how about a monthly check for $10. At the end of the year you will have donated $120. (We'll even send you prestamped envelopes – just ask us). Soon you will be able to set up donations on line – and you can "subscribe" to a monthly contribution using your credit card. It's pretty painless and it means so much to us.

Another way is to sponsor a member through scholarships. You can see Cal Kenney inviting three of his scholarship recipients into "their Museum." Each year Cal pays for three new memberships AND the hanging fee for one piece of their art. This potentially can mean new members for the Museum and a great experience for the recipients. Cal is a long-time board member and the founder of Second Friday Poetry Night.

Cal with his Scholarship winners: Sheila Culbertson-Farley, Jeremiah Swanson and Hope Weaver

Perhaps you can think of some more creative ways of helping! ♦

Gallery One Featured Artists

Dec -

Karen O'Brien -- book signing;

and

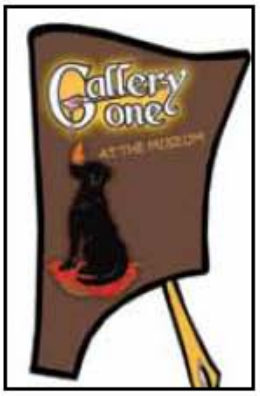
All Gallery One artists – "Small Things"

Feb -

Doug Iverson -- Abstract Watercolor on Yupo paper

Mar -

Marianne Strehler -- oil paintings



Gallery One, located below the Museum, provides a venue for artists in our community to exhibit and sell their exquisite art.

Answers to Volunteers' past: Kristen - 4. Galley, Sharon - 3. Peace Corps, Clarisse - 1. Nelson Atkins, Paula - 2. Gift Shop

Cubist Cub

by Judy Hoyle

[Judy Hoyle is an artist and writer in the Illinois Valley area. She will be contributing future articles to help remind us that their community also has an art presence - Ed]

The Museum's "Cubist Cub", by Alan Laurie, has been returned to its position in front of the Grants Pass Museum of Art, where it has been on permanent display for nearly 10 years. The fiberglass bear has greeted visitors, while also calling attention to the second-story Museum located on G Street.

Over time, the bear, one of dozens created for Evergreen Federal Bank's "Bearfest," had fallen into disrepair due to delighted children climbing all over it.

"Evergreen decided to step in and reinforce and re-fiberglass it and then have me repaint it," Laurie said. "The fiberglass completely covered the original painting and it gave me a blank 3D canvas again."

Laurie was asked to participate in "Bearfest" the first three years of the downtown Grants Pass promotion. In 2003, he painted one bear and the following two years, he did two bears each.

The theme he selected in 2004 was Picasso Bear and Cubist Cub. He embellished the cub by adding fiberglass shapes to create two faces and other sculptural features.

In 2005 he painted another mother and cub, giving them each fiberglass headpieces and more elaborate designs for Egyptian themed bears. Evergreen Federal Bank kept all the bears created that year to populate "The Bear Hotel" and Laurie's Egyptian cub sits in the lobby of that facility.

Alan Laurie with his renewed "Cubist Cub"

"Winter Solstice"

"Initially, my intention was to try to replicate Cubist Cub's original design, but as a result of doing the Egyptian bears, I felt compelled to redo the entire design and add more details. The painting is ten times as complicated as it was before," he said. Amazingly, he only used two small brushes to paint the entire piece. The piece was then clear-coated and reinstalled in time for the tourist season.

Laurie has been an artist as far back as he can remember. He graduated from Louisiana State University with a degree in fine arts and has made it his career. In addition to working as a fine artist, he's also worked as a festival poster artist, television courtroom artist, and political campaign graphic designer.

Laurie moved here from Seattle over 13 years ago. His graphic art skills are behind many familiar local logos. He's also designed many posters and t-shirts and is a co-editor and publisher of the quarterly "Takilma Common Ground."

Six months ago he completed a map for a National Park Service regional promotion: "Circle of Discovery."

His "Winter Solstice," an elaborate mandala, was in the winter issue of Cobra Lily, a regional online arts magazine, based in the Illinois Valley. It can be viewed at www.cobralily.org.

"I've been doing mandalas for years," Laurie said of the ritual symbol which represents the Universe. The symbol is common to both Hinduism and Buddhism. The basic form is a circle with a center point, contained within a square with an opening or "gate" on each side.

Laurie recently did a series of Rogue Valley landscapes with farm animals such as llamas and horses as focal points. Some of these paintings are currently being broadcast by local PBS station KSYS (Channel 8) as part of a new revolving presentation of local artists and photographers. ♦

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Josephine County Cultural Coalition

Oregon Arts Commission

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To enrich lives by offering art experiences that stimulate the senses, intrigue the intellect and bring joy to the spirit.

DEC		JAN		FEB		MAR	
11/20	Exhibit: Annual Membership Show thru 12/17	1/13	Life Sketching 7 pm	2/4	Volunteers meet 10:30 am	3/3	Volunteers meet 10:30 am
12/3	Volunteers meet 10:30 am	1/8	Poetry 7 pm	2/5	First Friday 5 pm	3/4	First Friday 5 pm
12/4	First Friday 5 pm	1/21	Board Meeting 5:30 pm	2/10	Life Sketching 7 pm	3/9	Life Sketching 7 pm
12/5	Child / Adult Workshop "Learn Anime"	1/13	*Exhibit:* Black, White & the Blues *thru 2/11*	2/12	Poetry 7 pm	3/11	Poetry 7 pm
12/9	Life Sketching 7 pm	1/15	*Third Friday Art & Spirits Night:* Zentangle with Cindyi Mac	2/13	*Black, White & the Blues*	3/17	Board Meeting 5:30 pm
12/11	Poetry 7 pm	1/16	*Karen O'Brian* Creating an art journal	2/15	*Third Friday Art & Spirits Night:* Judy Davidson Sip and Drip	3/29	*Exhibit:* Betty LaDuke "Oregon Harvest", *thru 5/27*
12/17	Board Meeting 5:30 pm	1/23	*Jan Lacy* Fun with clay	2/17	*Exhibit:* Permanent Collection, *thru 3/25*		
	Gallery One Artist: Karen O'Brien book; All GO artists, "Small Things"	1/24	*Sunday afternoon with Chuck Rund:* CBS Forcaster "Election Forcast"	2/18	Board Meeting 5:30 pm		*Gallery One Artist: Marianne Strehler -- oil paintings*
		1/30	*Jan Lacy* Fun with clay		*Gallery One Artist: Doug Iverson – Abstract Watercolor on Yupo paper*		

Special Thanks:

- **Jennifer Murphy Trust**
- **Ed Morey: Redwood Nursery**
- **Ford Family Foundation**
- **Four Way Community Foundation**
- **Carpenter Foundation**
- **Don & Carolyn Rice**
- **Wheeler Toyota**
- **GPMA Endowment Fund**

***Art Matters* is a publication of Grants Pass Museum of Art**

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