

# Some Like It Hot

## Summer Exhibit Opens at the Lafayette Gallery

By Andrea A. Firth



Three Girls in the Surf, Kauai by Judy Feins

The artists at the Lafayette Gallery are celebrating the imminent arrival of summer with their new exhibit entitled, *Some Like It Hot*. Using the heat of the season as inspiration, the artists have created art that reflects the contrasts of summer in Lamorinda from the white heat of the noon sun and yellow-brown grass on the hills to the cool, blue water of the pools and blue-green foliage of the pine trees. One of the best ways to experience the exhibit is to start with a stroll through the sculpture garden situated behind the gallery, stop to rest (and maybe share an ice cream cone) on the bench

outside the entrance, then find refuge from the heat in the air-conditioned environs of the gallery and enjoy the original artworks in the exhibit.

Painter Judy Feins' work entitled *Three Girls in the Surf, Kauai* displays a fun day at the beach in vibrant yellow, orange, blue, and green and echoes the freedom of childhood during a long, hot summer. Inspired by a group of children she saw playing, Judy explains, "They were so joyfully dancing in the waves, and the colors of their bathing suits and the water were so brilliant, I wanted to capture their exuberance." Judy is also exhibiting a large painting of the Lafayette Reservoir at dusk which highlights the warm, peach-colored light reflected in the water at that serene time of day. Artist JoAnn Lieberman is showing two new collages in the summer exhibit. JoAnn ventured into gourd making six years ago and recently transitioned to collage.

"When you learn a new skill, you start to look at the world differently," notes JoAnn. "Now I always think about texture." Her collage entitled *Summer Refuge* did not start with a preconceived idea but came together as she started to work with various materials.

Printmaker Sherry Smith Bell found the exhibit's theme of summer and heat liberating and creatively challenging. Sherry uses a combination printmaking technique, to achieve a three dimensional effect in her work. "My visual ideas use objects such as doors, windows and houses as metaphors for change," explains Sherry, and this thought process is evident in her exhibit piece entitled *Red Door*. Keeping in sync with summertime fun, she takes a more playful approach in her print entitled *Cowgirl* which depicts a smiling, young woman from the untamed west.

*Some Like It Hot* includes new works by all 23 members of the Lafayette Gallery in a variety of media including acrylics, collage, photography, jewelry, oils, ceramics, and printmaking. The gallery is located in a quiet, shady spot at 50 Lafayette Circle in the heart of Lafayette. *Some Like It Hot* opened June 5 and will run through Saturday, August 4th. Exhibit hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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