

First Friday at the Moraga Art Gallery May 21, 2008

By Donna Arganbright, Ceramic Artist and President of the Moraga Art Gallery



In an effort to reach out to interested people in the Lamorinda area, Moraga Art Gallery has started a series called First Friday which will be held as the name suggests, on the first Friday of each month at the Gallery from 7 to 9 p.m. The intent and emphasis of First Friday is to involve the public in our Gallery and to increase their knowledge of the Arts. We will offer informal talks and discussions about the various areas of art in which our talented artists or an invited artist, has expertise. Discussion and demonstration of the aesthetics and techniques involved in the disciplines of art ranging from painting, pottery and glass, to digital photography will be offered.

Our first two sessions in April and May focused on digital photography. They were given by Ken Young and John Diestler, both of whom are expert in digital photography and Photoshop.

On Friday, June 6th, local ceramic artist, Donna Arganbright, will demonstrate through slides and actual working in clay, how she cre-

ates her mugs, plates, bowls, vases and platters. Using the potters wheel, slab roller and extruder, she will show how she combines all three of these techniques in a variety of ways to create new and exciting work. She works in high fire porcelain and enjoys making ceramic pieces that family, friends and customers can use in their homes.

She has worked, exhibited and sold her pottery for many years and was a Middle School and High School Art Teacher in area schools. She will follow her demonstration by a hands-on session for those participants who wish to do so. Older children who have an interest in clay are welcome.

Following the demonstration, wine and light refreshments will be served.

Since the first Friday in July falls on the Fourth, we will not meet then. On the First Friday in August, which happens to be August 1st, Natalia Udaltsova will discuss her work as a painter. Painting and draw-

ing have always been fun for her.

They have been relaxing and therapeutic given all the possibilities of self-expression offered through line, color and images. She will give a slide-show presentation and do a short live portrait sketch.

The Moraga Art Gallery is located in the Rheem Shopping Center next to Longs. We are open Tuesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. As a cooperative of nineteen artists, we work in a range of mediums including painting, drawing, pottery, photography, glass, and jewelry.