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Local Silk Artist at Orchard Nursery As part of the Harvest Festival

By Cathy Tyson



Anna George with her silk artwear Photo provided

Lafayette artist/designer Anna George will be painting in public view, presenting her work, and fielding a few questions at Orchard Nursery's Lazy K Boutique on October 11 from 1:00 to 3:00, and again Oct 19 from 11:00 until 2:00. Shoppers will get a rare view of how she builds her richly colored, one-of-a-kind painted designs.

She creates wraps, scarves, shawls, lovely silk shawl-jackets, also couture silks for elegant wear. Ms. George donates one scarf for every ten purchased for women losing their hair due to cancer treatments.

"Sometimes it takes several days to produce one. There are layers of color which dry, are rendered fast, and then receive more paint. Like with fine art painting, I apply color until I have something satisfying. I use French paints made for silk, and fine Chinese silks. I'm self taught in silk painting, though I studied the fine arts in college and later sold my paintings and original decor for the home," said Ms. George.

"I want to be happy and productive, and I'm happy when I'm painting. It's been gratifying - the scarves have been very well received. And it's quite a pleasure when I'm able to witness the excitement," she continued.

She also offers a men's line of silk artwear, many of which are stone-washed. Ms George tumbles a heavier crepe with stones two times to produce an extreme softness, which has a matte look. She works in Charmeuse, China Silk, Habotai, and Silk Satin. She is also currently working on lingerie and Alpaca. For more information see her website, www.californiapaintedsilk.com.

Ms. George notes she's "all for expanding the arts" and hopes her demonstration will inspire when she appears twice as a part of Orchard Nursery's Harvest Festival.

The Festival which features music and garden themed activities has something fun for every weekend from October 5th through Halloween. On the schedule are musical groups from classical guitar to smooth jazz to a steel drum band, a rose expert, pie contest, home composting seminar and, of course, "primp your pumpkin" decorating class. Check out these events and many others every Saturday and Sunday throughout the month. Be sure not to miss arguably the largest collection of unique pumpkins around, scarecrows and farm animals. For a complete schedule go to www.orchardnursery.com.

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