

Experience Art This Summer at Local Galleries

By Sophie Braccini

Have an appreciation for art and the artists behind the work? If so, you're in luck this summer, with a wealth of opportunities to view, mix and mingle with a wide range of wonderful artists displaying their works in Lafayette, at the Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery, Lafayette Art Gallery and Klein Gallery, in Moraga at the Saint Mary's College Museum of Art and the Moraga Art Gallery, and in Orinda at Alison McCrady Fine Arts.

Described by clients as being on par with San Francisco art galleries, Jennifer Perlmutter was quite pleased with the excitement generated by the opening of the new art exhibit, "Belonging," which runs through July 19 in her Lafayette gallery. She is inviting art lovers to an artist talk with "Belonging" exhibitors Laura VanDuren and Carol Aust from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, June 21. "People like to hear about the artists and ask them questions," she says. After the artist talk and wine tasting, there will be an open floor discussion for anyone who would like to share a story or words about belonging. "We don't know for how long we're here; whatever we have to contribute, we should contribute it now," says Perlmutter.

Participation is part of the show itself. "Laura VanDuren's sculptures and installation explore stories about our perception of home, with work you can actually get inside," adds Perlmutter. "Visitors are invited to write on the inside of the installations, thus becoming part of the art." The gallery owner says that Carol Aust's work, acrylic on canvas and wood panels from her studio in Oakland, expresses the human need for

connection and belonging and the difficulty of achieving either.

"Every time I go into [Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery], I see something new and the art makes me feel happy and contented," says Lafayette resident Lucie Hird. "There is so much to see and the collages particularly have endless meaning in them. The gallery is different from anywhere else in Lafayette. It offers culture and originality. A place to express yourself. She adds that there have been group collaborative evenings where each person was involved in making a piece of art together, and also a collage evening, and several showings of other artists' work. "The benefits to the community are guaranteed," she says.

"It is important for me to explore what it means to belong to a community," says Perlmutter. "This is how this show was constructed; through sculpture and paintings, it explores identity, home and our relation to it."

In Orinda, every second Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. this summer, Allison McCrady, owner of Allison McCrady Fine Arts is expanding the confines of her gallery and inviting recognized local artists to mingle and show their work throughout Theatre Square.

"People love to meet the artists and get to experience their work in a more intimate way," says McCrady. "Every second Sunday this summer, about 10 local recognized artists will be present in Theatre Square (where McCrady has her gallery) with their work." The first of the series was on June 8, and the gallery owner says that despite the heat, the attendance was good and artists were happy with the results.



From left, Carol Aust leans close to one of Laura Van Duren's sculptures.

Photo Ohlen Alexander

"Among the artists present was contemporary photographer Anne Rabe who will soon be the featured artist in the gallery for the first time,"

says McCrady. Rabe is a Lafayette resident who presents her work on metal, wood or other media. "Anne has work on display at the San Jose

Art Museum," adds McCrady. An opening reception is scheduled June 20 at the gallery at 2 Theatre Square in Orinda.

Other Lamorinda Exhibitions to Visit This Summer

"Virtuosity Goes Viral" at the Lafayette Art Gallery with painter, Carla W Gelbaum jewelry designer, Karin Lechner, and ceramic artist David VanderJagt at 3420 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Suite A, Lafayette.

"Luminous - Nature Revealed and Reimagined," highlighting the often fleeting, yet immortalized, beauty of the natural world through floral photographs by resident artist Lucy Beck, and fruit and vegetable bowls and jewelry by guest artist Margaret Dorfman at the Moraga Art Gallery. The show runs through Aug. 9 at 522 Center Street in the Rheem Shopping Center.

"Orchestra of Time," which runs through Aug. 8 at the Klein Gallery in Lafayette, featuring Erik Bender and Jeslyn Cantrell. An Artist Reception, an evening of local art, live jazz, wine, food and happiness, is scheduled for Friday, June 20 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The gallery is located at 50 Lafayette Circle in Lafayette. (See story below)

"Dale Chihuly: Venetians," 67 works from the celebrated contemporary glass artist on loan from the George R. Stroemple Collection through July 20 at the Saint Mary's College Museum of Art, with three other new exhibitions. For information, call (925) 631-4379 or visit stmarys-ca.edu/museum.

'Orchestra of Time' Exhibit Opens at Klein Gallery

Reception with live music and wine tasting June 20

Submitted by Emily Van Engel



"Sheba" by Jeslyn Cantrell

Photo provided

Beginning this Friday, the Klein Gallery will present "Orchestra of Time," an exhibit that looks at the evolution of time. Particularly, the show looks at how art can serve as a snapshot of a moment in history. The theme of

time also speaks to the process behind artwork and the joy that artists experience while dedicating their time to their art.

The gallery will host a reception on Friday, June 20 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. with wine tasting plus live music by jazz trio Flanovo. The show will feature art by Bay Area artists Erik Bender, Jeslyn Cantrell, Tim Hancock, James Jarett, and Deni Kending. Paintings, sculpture, wood block prints, and a mural will be on display.

"Art can show how we move through time, as it captures perspectives and ways of seeing related to a particular time," said Carrie Klein, director of Klein Gallery. "It can feel lyrical, how we notice things changing over time."

The gallery is pleased to include two artists in this show who are educators in the Lamorinda community. Tim Hancock teaches youth art at The Art Room, a studio that shares the building with Klein Gallery and offers clay, painting and mixed media art classes to children and adults. Cantrell teaches art through Lafayette Partners in Education.

Cantrell's wood block prints point to the amount of time it takes to make art. Her art-making process is time consuming and labor intensive, as she carves into a wood block to create a print. Because of the fragility of the materials, she only gets a few prints from the wood block before discarding it.

The show includes figurative portraits and a mural on the gallery wall by Bender to capture a contemporary perspective. Bender also currently has a mural on display at a coffee shop in Martinez.

"There is something real about Erik's portraits that feels very here-and-now," said Klein. "We felt that his portraits and his mural work represent what's happening right now both socially and artistically."

Small-scale beetle sculptures by Kending take on the theme of the show most literally, as they include time-pieces, and some pieces of art even include music notes. Several of the beetles in her art are extinct, which also brings up the theme of time passing.

Klein Gallery is located in central Lafayette, at 50 Lafayette Circle off Mt. Diablo Boulevard. Since its opening in October 2013, the gallery has hosted regularly-occurring receptions aimed to support Lafayette's art community in a bigger way.

"Orchestra of Time" will be on display through Aug. 1. Gallery Hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, visit www.kleingallery.net.

Congratulations from Mom, Dad, Becky, and Dexter...



Catherine (Katie) Ware, Acalanes High School graduate Class of 2014, will be attending UCLA in the fall. Katie rowed for Oakland Strokes all four years and will be rowing for UCLA next year after rowing in Nationals at Lake Natoma last weekend.



Lafayette Motors
Independent service and repair for Mercedes Benz

JERRY FIGUEROA

Shop (925) 284-4852
Cell (510) 754-1942
lafayettmotors@gmail.com

3470 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette, CA 94549



Lafayette Motors
Independent service and repair for Jaguar

CARLOS "KIKO" CAICEDO

Shop (925) 284-4852
Cell (925) 285-0783
lafayettmotors@gmail.com

3470 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette, CA 94549



Reach 60,000+ in Lamorinda Advertise in Lamorinda Weekly Call 925-377-0977 today

We're happy with the results achieved by advertising in Lamorinda Weekly so far.
We expect to continue for another 13 weeks. It's a pleasure to work with you. Thanks. Bruce