PERSPECTIVE

BAY AREA ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION - JUNE, 2020 VOLUME 30 ISSUE 6
COVID, 2ND MONTH - NOSTALGIA CHEER EDITION # 2, PLUS MORE!!!!



Bay Area Artists' Association has been serving the Oregon Coast Bay Area Fine Arts Community since 1991. Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the month, at the Coos Art Museum. Meetings start at 6 p.m. Artists and arts patrons are welcome to join BAAA. "Perspective" is published monthly. The newsletter, monthly educational programs featuring artists and topics of interest to artists, and networking opportunities with other artists are benefits of BAAA membership. Annual membership is \$30 individual and \$40 family. For membership application, please contact: Wendy Burger 415-272-1894

President's Letter

BY Graham Wickham
I BROUGHT BACK ONE OF
MY OWN LETTERS AS
PRESIDENT FROM THE

JUNE, 2016 ISSUE
(HOPE YOU DON'T MIND)

ARTISTS CAN AGE

LIKE FINE WINE

It's inevitable. Days become months and months, years. Because we are the way we are, the years then turn in to moments and "it seems like only yesterday" becomes a catch phrase because, at times, that's just how it seems.

What does an artist do with the aging process? It depends on the artist. Quit? Some do. Try to do what you have always done? Some do that. But quit? NEVER. Keep changing, morphing and growing? Let's hope so. Take a look at 3 cases in point.

First is Claude Monet. Any survey of his works over his lifetime shows change and growth. But as he aged his sight began to deteriorate due to cataracts. At the turn of the 20th century cataracts were a more formidable enemy than now. The last thing Monet wanted was to lose his sight. But in that period between the deterioration and the operation on his eyes he did NOT stop working. I had the privilege, many years ago, of seeing the "Late Monet" exhibit at the Portland Art Museum, art from the period of his poor vision. But only his eyes had the poor vision. The inner painter's vision was there. Some of the works were so heavily impastoed it looked like cake frosting. Fantastic! His inner vision led him to do remarkable things. After the operation, his sight restored, what did he do? He continued on in this new direction without much of a look-back.

Then there is Henri Matisse. In his old age he was confined to bed, for the most part. He couldn't do much painting. So what DID he do? Like a child he took paper and scissors and did cutouts. Aw, the poor old guy. He was in his second childhood. Should have been in a home. Yet, his cutouts are some of the grandest and most inspired works of his life. You can't keep a good artist down.

The most recent example is of an American artist, Lennart Anderson. At age 87 he would be considered an "elder statesman" in the art world. Take it easy. Rest on his laurels and past reputation. Paint what you've always done. Right, Lennart? To top it off, he dealt with serious illness and macular degeneration. All the more reason to throw in the pro-verbial towel. But, in 2015, he mounted a show of his new work. Surprise for all; the shapes, the style, the vision were all new based on, his physical "limitations."

Among the BAAA membership I think of Liz Coke. Can't do oils anymore so she switched to acrylic. Turn out a work every few months? No, she hides herself in her studio for hours. I know. I've tried to reach her by phone and email, at times. Didn't get an answer for 2 days! She's just too busy in her studio. I tell ya, those 90+ year olds. They're hard to keep up with.

So an old dog CAN learn new tricks. It's the secret of pushing on successfully and not losing sight in the endless quest of creativity.

NEVER throw in the towel!

Here's a story reaching all the way back to **May of 2014.** At that time Jean Adamson was editor. The subject of this story was a presentation at CAM by the remarkable, long time member

Paulette Landers.

This article is a reminder to all of us of the value of re-inventing our art from time to time.

Ferment is good

Paulette, originally from Montreal, Canada, is totally immersed in her work and the world of art. Her bearing, enthusiasm, and the excitement in her presentation, about the need to grow in one's art-work, were contagious.

She told us that she recently realized the need to reinvent her work. A complete quilt was normally taking her 8 to 9 months to complete; she needed something that could be completed more quickly to restore excitement and spontaneity to her art. In addition, it was hard to build a coherent body of work with each piece taking so long to complete. It became a turning point for her.

Paulette reminded us she is still learning (as are most sincere artists.) But the goal of developing a new style (sailing uncharted waters) meant the style had to truly be her own – all in all, a tall order. The result: a song, which she knew well, inspired a series of **painted** quilts: thin randomly quilted panels mounted on internal frames. Her plan included a cruciform composition for each, using strong colors.



Paulette begins with a vision and an underpainting. Sometimes the underpainting even becomes the painting! Whatever she does, or whatever material she winds up using, or color she decides on, are all subordinated to her vision. She

said that if house paint was the answer she would even use that! She then displayed several works from the series and, while each was different, due to her vision and use of variations on the cruciform, there was unity and something wonderful to behold. There was appliqué (collage of cloth) and layering of pre-colored and dyed cloth She colors the cloth herself using her "secret" (spoken in a humorously conspiratorial tone) method. She continues until she reaches what she is

seeking in her vision.

I asked Paulette about the quilt stitching with ambling and unpredictable patterns, different in each panel. She uses a couple of different machines (one of them quite large) which allow her to pull and manipulate the stitching pattern as it comes



from the machine. So it is not a preset automatic stitch but something that becomes part of her vision.

Whether we work with fabric or not, Paula's presentation exhibited the value in both immersion and vision. May we all be inspired by her enthusiasm and excitement.

Submitted by Graham Wickham

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A FOND GOODBYE TO A FAVORITE ARTIST

We are sorry to have to let you know that Duffy Stender, wife of Veneita Stender, and father of Greg Stender, died at age 93 on the second of May. Duffy had been fighting illness for years, cared for by his loving family. For next month's issue we have invited Greg to do a write up about Duffy's, life, his love of art and love of his family. Greg is working on a Youtube video about Duffy and we hope to include the link to that video in July. The Stender family have been long time members of the Artist Loft Gallery.



(Reopening June 2 with limited hours)

LOOK OUT FOR THE **90'5**!!!

It had been suggested that we have BAAA artists send in what they've been doing during this enforced covid house arrest, so to speak. I had planned to do this in our **July** newsletter. But being only in my **70's** I was left behind, flat faced in the dust, by the **90's** !!!

My speed was surpassed by the **mighty BBB**. – yes our own **Beatific Betty Bangs**. At warp speed she rustled up a number of members and their art projects last month. So, for the **June issue**, see below the results **IN FULL COLOR**, along with some of the artists' own comments.

Betty wrote me, "I felt so good getting in touch with the other artists, my level of feeling connected has soared to new heights. That has been my reward."

First up – <u>CINDY PINNOCK</u>

(The following is from a text message between myself and Cindy – I think it says it all. Please note carefully the pictures of what she did to her garage door. THAT'S hard work and imagination.)

CP Did you get my email that Betty Bangs sent me?

GW I did. What are you, the Energizer Bunny art decorator?

CP LOL, and ADD Hyper funfun! And I'm doing my potting shed. Not done enough for pics.

GW You make me tired!

CP Lol so sorry. I need an adult beverage to slow down, lol.



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (just a regular painting)



Gardenware mosaics



Painted wooden bench



The amazing garage doors

THE TWO HERE ARE BY JUDY CALDWELL





(See below) About these rocks, Betty says "We go to the coast to Whiskey Run and find the round, smooth rocks, flat just like a canvas, for these. I paint them for the kids, and my friends for their gardens. My favorite ones are snakes because they catch your eye right away. Haven't done any

this time, but those are coming up...stay tuned."

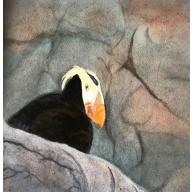


by **BETTY BANGS**



This above ad is a reminder that the gallery, operated by Betty and Judy is still in a holding

pattern



by *ARCHI DAVENPORT*

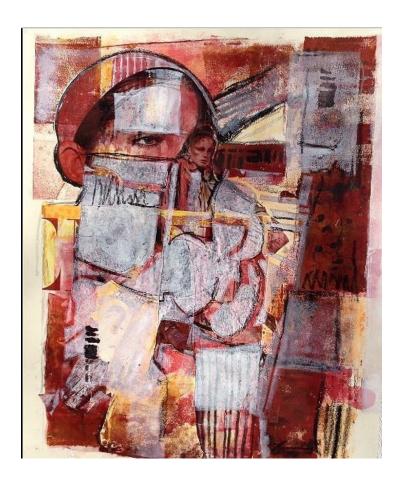


MOSAICS by *ROB BERRY*

Rob says "I was getting ready to do a demo at Gallery by the Bay which obviously is not happening. I had some issues with glass not gluing well to plywood, no matter what glue I use. It's like the glue is seeping into the wood. I'm now using thicker pine and oak which is also sturdier.









Two by **KIM KIMERLING**

below - A letter and some pictures to BAAA members from **PATTY BECKER**

"As you know, since having open heart surgery March 11, I have mostly just been in healing mode. I feel like my life is in slow motion. But, I am starting to get my strength and energy back and I notice that along with it, my creativity. While I haven't been doing much of my usual painting, when I first came home from the hospital a friend gave me a set of watercolor brush pens. (see photo below.) I have always loved the look of watercolor but never tried it.

It's been fun but trickier than what I'm used to and I now have even more respect for all you watercolor artists than I already had. But here is my first attempt. It's not finished. I was thinking of adding a bird in a birdhouse using acrylics and maybe some other details, for a mixed-media end result. My friend who gifted me with the pens hinted very strongly that she liked florals.







Four pictures of and about RICK FOX

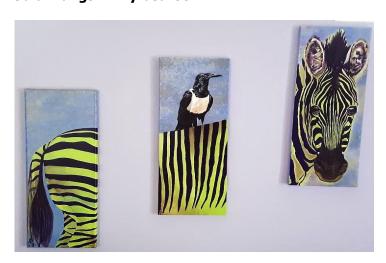
Most of us as artists go to a store to get our art supplies. Not Rick. He has to hunt for his materials. Here he is, going to HIS art supply store. The other three pictures are the results of these hunts.







(below by *LIZ SPONA*) Liz says "I had a grand opportunity to travel to South Africa in 2019. I was thrilled by the abundance and variety of wildlife in the varying environments of the veldt, the savanna, and the St. Lucia Wetlands. After a week at Zulu Nyala, we drove to Lesotho, a country in the interior of South Africa, bounded by the Southern Drakensberg Range, the highest point in South Africa. 'South Drakensberg Range' is a pastel, 9"x12," and typifies the barren, rugged environment where the nomadic Masoto people graze their sheep, goats and horseherds. 'Zebra' is an acrylic triptych from my photo reference. While the zebras I saw were of two species, none seen in South Africa were purple and green. This subspecies, of my imagination, I shall dub 'Equus lizianthus.' 'Zebra' hangs in my bedroom.









(above and left) Three works by JOAN GOODMAN-FOX

(below) <u>VICTORIA TIERNEY</u> - (our Artrage Lady!)
"First Layer: quiet peaceful tree growing in the countryside on the first of May'



Second Layer: 'round about midnight: wow, what's happening? This is getting wild and weird"

"Third Layer: around 1:30 in the morning - remembered that Katherine Chang Liu suggested I paint some self-portraits — well here I am 6 weeks into homebound — in a Picasso state of mind!"



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NEWSLETTER

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SHOW CHAIRS

Eden Hall Show, (Sept-Oct) Wendy Burger – Chair 415-272-1894

Evergreen Court Show, (March, April 2020) Liz Spona - Chair Jean Boynton - Co-Chair

2020 BMG Show (Nov-Dec) ?? - Chair

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