PERSPECTIVE

<u>BAY AREA ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION</u> - June, 2021 - Volume 31 Issue 6 Covid Edition # 14



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 \$15-30 individual and \$40 family. For membership application, please contact: Wendy Whitaker 415-272-1894



LAST DAYS OF SPRING ARE HERE

On a drive up highway 42 I saw beautiful dogwood blossoms glowing against dark conifers, something I always look forward to seeing each year. As a subject for my little watercolor class we painted a dogwood blossom in a vase. Perhaps next week will be butterflies.

A most welcome gadget was gifted to me. It is called "Super 8 Slides and Negatives All In One Film Scanner." It digitizes and saves old negatives or slides. Suddenly I have an enlarged library of references to paint from photos from that were either given away or lost or were starting to deteriorate.

This past week Greg and I enjoyed a visit from his brother Tom Howald,a retired professor from Franklin College in Indiana. He is interested in art ,and travels to Europe often to visit larger galleries there. He has been taking water-color lessons for about ten years and



agreed to allow me to share a couple of his works.



Next, a Big Thumbs Up to Liz Spona who spearheaded the Evergreen Show and some ever ready BAAA members, and her friends who helped hang the paintings, which I know is a big job. All those members who entered to make it such he a nice show are very much appreciated.

Also, Jim and Archi Davenport have graciously invited the BAAA membership to **use their home for our annual picnic on July 16**th, provided the State or County has no restrictions in place at that time. So mark your calendars for good food and fellowship. How lovely it will be to see everyone again.

The BAAA Board did not meet in person in May but we talked on the phone and agreed to hold the next in person meeting on Sunday the 13th of June at the Artist Loft Gallery.

Your President, Carol Howald

ARE BUBBLES RISING ?



When wine starts to ferment, the first sign is bubbles rising in the vat or tank. That means that the yeast and the grape sugar are having a party. It starts slowly, then goes to full fermentation when there's major action throughout the container.

One of our favorite "vintage wines, " if you will, is our own Bay Area Artists Association. In our case, due to the pandemic, there has been very little ferment since spring 2020. Winemakers call that a "stuck fermentation." Yes, for months we have only had our newsletters and some stories from the Tuesday Plein-airsters, Liz Spona, Shinan Barclay, and a few others. But as far as out and out activities (exhibits, meetings, etc.) virtually none. Even the BAAA Board was a little slow getting reorganized after their election, but thanks to its members, headed by president Carol Howald, meetings have been held and decisions (though limited) have been made.

Unfortunately, without the usual ferment, we have lost several members. When our revitalized "vintage wine" is ready sometime in the unknowable future will these lost members rejoin? We certainly hope so.

EXHIBITS AND SHOWS - 2021

Yet, bubbles ARE rising. The first annual BAAA exhibit of the year is the Evergreen Court exhibit, normally set for March and April this year will cover May and June, as Evergreen Court is now allowing limited visiting. (Mostly, the art is for those who live at the Court. The pandemic has been very hard for older people confined to care facilities and assisted living homes.) We are able to hold and share the show this year because of the enormous and dedicated drive of our Evergreen Court chair, Liz Spona. (Her co-chair Jean Boynton was out of town.) Liz was willing to start it up on her own. She sent BAAA members a number of emails and then assembled a work force that included stalwarts Judy Caldwell, Archi Davenport, yours truly, plus Liz's friends (but not BAAA members) Alex, and Susan.

Liz's efforts to make something happen are to be greatly congratulated by all of us. If you've seen Liz at work you know she goes all out. This is the first event we've had through BAAA in a year. In Liz's own words...

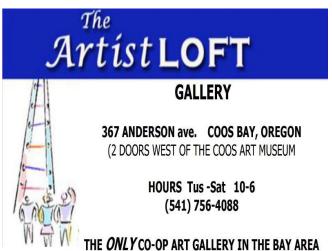
"Just a quick note to say Thank You for participating in the 2021 BAAA Annual Evergreen Court Show. Our numbers were low, but our hearts big as you sent and brought your submissions to the show."

And from us BAAA members -*THANKS, LIZ!!!!!!!!!!*

Now, on to more bubbles. Our well known member Sally Rolicheck, who has helped in starting and chairing past exhibits, worked with Dutch Mostert in fostering a show with Kristin of Black Market Gourmet, inviting local artists to submit maritime themed artwork for a show starting this July. (See *Calls to Artists*.) Why didn't BAAA chair this one? Because we have our own **regular spot** at BMG this **November and December**. And we can certainly hope things will have opened up well enough by then for a regular event this year at BMG.

WHAT ABOUT YOU AND THE BAAA BOARD?

Do you have ideas you want to offer to BAAA? Ideas involving our organization are, properly, sent to the Board so they can OK and clear events, etc. And don't forget we have excess funds and are waiting for member's suggestions on how to spend them. BAAA sponsorship is a boost for all of us and guarantees maximum participation, plus the best organization. Please contact president Carol Howald. Her contact information is on the back of the newsletter.



We can hope for more and more bubbles in the vat until we have a full ferment of shows, meetings, and more. And our "vintage wine" is unique, wouldn't you agree?

YOU'VE READ ABOUT IT -NOW, HERE IT IS

The 2021 BAAA Evergreen Show is up and running. If you follow all the normal Covid precautions as noted at Evergreen Court feel free to visit the show.

Liz Spona and her crew took in the art and hung the show on May 13. By the 15th labels were up. As anyone who has participated in running an exhibit like this there is a lot of pre-planning, hard work hanging it, and then the work of taking it down. So we offer a BIG thanks to all the workers – BAAA members Liz, Judy, Archi, and yours truly. But because no one else from BAAA volunteered, Liz drafted two close friends, Susan, and Alex to help. Here are a few views from the show...





(In above photo, why the missing painting? Deloris Beneke's "North Head Lighthouse" sold right away!! PS – 3 paintings have sold as of publication date!!!!)

A DEFINITE DIRTY DEAL

an editorial

(*An open letter to AAA Oregon/Idaho Via magazine*) I've been an AAA member for decades and always read your monthly magazine, *Via*. Your May-June Oregon/Idaho issue published its 2 page 'Weekender' column about what to do when visiting Coos Bay, Oregon. Thanks. It's always helpful to increase much needed tourism here, in this town where I live.

Among the covered 13 tourist destinations in the article were; Cape Arago State Park, Coos History Museum, Scoops Hand Made Ice Cream, and others. However there was one glaring omission – <u>THE COOS ART</u> <u>MUSEUM.</u>

You **did** cover Davy Jones Locker, a quaint quickie store located as you enter nearby Charleston. This seems a travesty given that you did not even mention Coos Art Museum. Did you know that the Museum is the ONLY art museum on the Oregon coast? Did you know that

the current Coos History Museum (mentioned in the article) was built in 2004, while the Coos Art Museum's present location (a huge, beautiful, two story, remodeled 1930's post office) was opened in 1984? Did you know the Museum is one of only very, very few Oregon art museums NOT connected with a college or university? Did you know the Museum has over 600 paintings and prints in its permanent collections, including works by Tom Hardy, Robert Kipness, Alexander Calder, Robert Rauschenberg, and Larry Rivers? Coos Bay is more than fishing, beer, and quick marts. In addition, there is also a lovely college campus (SWOCC) located amid a beautiful group of lakes. It's well worth visiting just for the atmosphere on campus and, with hiking trails very near by.

While your inclusion of Coos Bay in *Via* is valuable and appreciated, maybe in a future visit you can share some of our features that have to do with other interests. We welcome a future replay.



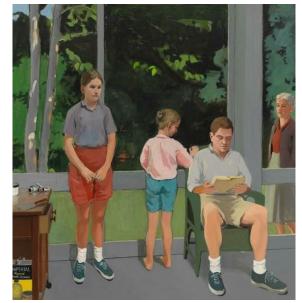
DO YOU KNOW THIS ARTIST?-FAIRFIELD PORTER

Born in Illinois, Fairfield Porter's father held a degree in architecture from Columbia University and designed the family homes in Winnetka, Illinois, and their vacation home on an island off the coast of Maine.

While a student at Harvard, Fairfield majored in fine arts for 2 years, then moved to New York to study at the Art Students League, where one of his teachers was Thomas Hart Benton. Benton's commitment to figurative painting had a lasting effect on Porter and he continued to produce realist work for the rest of his career. He would be both criticized and revered for continuing his representational style in the midst of the Abstract Expressionist movement. His painterly vision, which drew him to nature, and to an ability to **reveal the extraordinary in ordinary life**, was also indebted to, among others, the French painter Pierre Bonnard. Porter said once, "When I paint, I think that what would satisfy me is to express what Bonnard said Renoir told him: 'Make everything more beautiful.'"

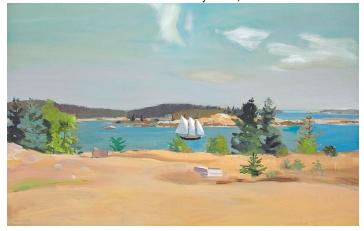


In 1932 Porter married Boston poet Anne Channing and they settled in New York. They had five children: John, Laurence, Richard, Katherine, and Elizabeth who often appear in his artwork. They struggled financially in New York during the wartime years but led a rich social life,



and became close friends with famous abstract artists Willem and Elaine de Kooning. As an art critic, Porter was one of the first people to recognize and purchase Willem's art. The Porters moved to the seaside town of Southampton on New York's Long Island in 1949. Their new seasonal home would become the inspiration for

many of Porter's landscape paintings over the next 25 years. As well, they divided their time between winters in Southampton, and summers in Maine (they also had a home in Manhattan for several years.)



At the same time, Porter was slowly establishing himself in the New York art world. As a bohemian he meshed easily with the New York School of intellectuals and Abstract Expressionist artists, but his representational and figurative paintings expressed something utterly different. While Porter continually expressed a deep



interest in abstraction and believed that artists like the de Koonings, and Jasper Johns were true modern masters, he held a different reality in his own paintings something closer to what he saw with his eyes, rather than just to formal experimentation. His art was included in six

annual group exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art from 1959 through 1968.

GALLERY BY THE BAY



2100 UNION ST NORTH BEND HOURS - BY APPOINTMENT ONLY JUDY CALDWELL Current Featured Artist 541-870-6389 541-808-3404

CALLS TO ARTISTS CALL TO ARTISTS -BLACK MARKET GOURMET

BMG and Dutch Mostert are sponsoring a **Maritime Themed** open show.

Here are the guidelines -

Original artwork with a maritime theme is limited to one piece per artist (or as space allows depending on the size of the work.)

Please include artist, title, price etc.

If artwork sells, 100% of the proceeds will be passed onto the artist (unless purchase is made via credit card and we will hold back the 3% processing fee)

Art work drop off at BMG is July 1 <u>after 1 p.m.</u> Artwork pick up date is August 31

(NOTE When dropping off artwork ask for time for pickup)

No reception is scheduled at this time, but we will keep regular business hours ...

Wednesday-Friday 1-6 p.m. or by appointment If you have questions call Kristin at BMG

541-269-0194 or email thebmg@msn.com

CALL TO ARTISTS -COASTAL LANDMARKS OF WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND CALIFORNIA

The state of Oregon is calling for artists from all over the US for art work focusing on specific, recognizable landscapes along the California, Oregon and Washington coastline, from the Mexican/California border to the Canadian border. (Images of rocks or waves do not satisfy the criteria for this exhibition. We are looking for artwork that focuses on distinct and identifiable landscapes and landmarks.) We are accepting painting, drawing and printmaking.

Entry Deadline: 6/19/21

Images - Minimum: 1, Maximum: 10 Entry Fee \$15.00 There are three cash awards offered to the top selections, chosen by the curators: \$250 for first place, \$200 for second place, \$150 for third place Questions/Concerns:

contact coastallandscapes@gmail.com



ART BY THE SEA

June 16 and July 21– Collage Group 1-3:00 \$6 (cash please) Please send an email request to join this session to Susan Lehman at studioblue@mycomspan. There is no specific instruction, just bring your own project, materials and ideas to share. The Collage Group will meet at the Langlois

Lions Club, located at 48135 Floras Lake Loop Road in Langlois. Each person will have a table of their own. Social distancing and masks required. Wipes and hand sanitizer will

be available. Maximum of 10 people.

ROB BERRY SHARES A PROJECT

Betty suggested that Rob send in a picture of a mosaic scheduled to adorn a neighbor's fence,



FOR MAY, THE PLEIN AIR GROUP GOES INDOORS TO EXPERIMENT WITH OIL PASTELS

photos and story by Archi Davenport

On Friday May 7th the Tuesday Plein Air Group gathered at Sarita Southgate's home for a short demonstration on oil pastels. Sarita showed us some of the various techniques to get started on our own creations. Everyone brought their own paper and ideas. At the end of 2 hours we had a critique of our work whether it was completed or not. It was very helpful and a learning experience was had by all.

Oil pastels are made from high quality pigment held together in a binding medium. There are several different companies who manufacture oil pastels, so their binding materials may vary. They can be applied to almost any surface. There are papers specifically designed for the medium, but they can be applied to; linen on board, wood, pastel paper, watercolor paper, over collages, and many more. The advantage of oil pastel over soft pastels is the lack of pigment dust in the air you breath, and that they are somewhat cleaner to work with.

Oil pastels have a short history when compared to other painting media such as 2,000 year-old encaustic, or 600 year-old oil painting. Sakura Cray-Pas of Japan started making the first oil pastels in 1925. The wax crayon was formulated with a mixture of paraffin, stearic acid, and coconut oil. While modern oil pastels are acid-free and non-yellowing and never crack, they also never dry.

One of the prime movers in oil pastels was Pablo Picasso. While he loved the Japanese oil pastels he wanted a professional grade and the French firm of Sennelier started producing them for him in 1949. Just mentioning Picasso's name helps us see why, with his style, he would be excited about oil pastels. Look at many of his paintings in the 30's and 40's and you see flat and strongly colored works abounding.

Being oil and wax based they can be diluted by a thinning solvent. (See Wendy's work.) While some use paint thinner, it's very slow to dry, and can leave oily stains. Using VM&P naptha(not a brand name and also known as camp fuel/white gas) instead is a real alternative. Not only does it not stain, it dries very, very quickly. On the down side the fumes are a bit much (paint thinner is less aggressive that way) but using good ventilation will take care of that. With the problem of never drying (which is true) most artists end up framing matting, and using glass with their oil pastel work. However, if you coat the image with Krylon Kamar spray varnish (use ventilation) once each day for four days (allowing overnight dry) they will be so well protected they don't need matting or glass. If using paper, mount your finished sprayed painting on a heavy backing, like mat board. You can also work right on artist board which won't need mounting.



JOAN AND WENDY AT WORK



A CLOSEUP ON JOAN



HER FINISHED PRODUCT



SARITA AT WORK



SARITA'S OTHER ABSTRACT



SALLY ENJOYING OIL PASTEL



WENDY USES THINNER ...



AND HER FINISHED LANDSCAPE THE FINAL ART

THE FINAL ARTWORKS FROM THE GROUP

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SHOW CHAIRS

Eden Hall Show, DATE ? Wendy Whitaker – Chair 415-272-1894

Evergreen Court Show, MARCH, APRIL Liz Spona - Chair Jean Boynton - Co-Chair

BMG Show (Nov-Dec) Chair ??

BAAA

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