Artscape
March / April 2018

Exciting Exhibits and special events

Felice House and "Shock of the New West"

Western Art is often thought of as depicting cowboys, horses, Indians and landscapes with buttes, canyons and cactus. Two upcoming exhibits will definitely not be what you would expect to see as "western art". Both of these exhibits will be filled with surprises. The "Shock of the New West" will showcase a new and different look at western art while the art of Felice House shows strong images of women where you would expect to see men. Don't miss these two exhibitions opening on March 2nd.

Joan Cawthorn Solo Exhibit

One of the best things about winning "Best of Show" at a members exhibit is the opportunity for the artist to then have a solo show at TCA. Joan is a mixed media artist who is a master of creating cohesive, vibrant compositions. Joan's winning piece, "Barrio Impression", was purchased at the opening night of the Members' Juried Exhibit, but much more of her wonderful work will be on display from March 23rd through April 15th in The Studio Gallery.

2017 Master's Meed Winner

We're pleased to announce this year's winner of the Master Meed Award is Jerry Bowkowski. Jerry's name and the year of the award will be included in the permanent plaque that hangs in the entrance to the Smith Gallery. This award has been given annually since 1976 to the artist receiving the most popular votes by visitors during the exhibition. Stop and look at the plaque and you'll recognize the names of many of the past winners such as Mortimer Wilson, Barbara Borgwardt, Fred Collins, Karol Honeycutt, and dozens of other talented artists that were "The People's Choice" as their favorite work in the exhibition.

Congratulations to the Arizona Aqueous & Earth Award Winners

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Title of Work</th>
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<tr>
<td>Diane Meyer</td>
<td>Dreaming Cat</td>
<td>Best of Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heidi Hogdon</td>
<td>Up in Smoke</td>
<td>Award of Excellence</td>
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<td>Christine Alfery</td>
<td>On the Road Again</td>
<td>Ursula Suess Abstract Award</td>
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<td>Kimberly Harris</td>
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<td>Sherry Matlack</td>
<td>Twigs V</td>
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<td>Shirley Kleppe</td>
<td>What a Riot</td>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Zahn</td>
<td>Virtual Humanity 2</td>
<td>Best of Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Esin Akyanat Avci</td>
<td>The Flow 2</td>
<td>Award of Excellence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Bayless</td>
<td>Untitled 2</td>
<td>Award of Merit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neal Galloway</td>
<td>Where Did We come From? Where Are We Going?</td>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dana Waller</td>
<td>Carpe Diem</td>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
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congratulations Jerry Bowkowski

March 23 - April 15
I was taking an art class in photography some twenty years ago when digital cameras were the stuff of science fiction. We were experimenting with filters in the darkroom and a classmate produced a gorgeous mother-and-child print tinted with a lavender hue. Seeing it, our instructor grimaced. If we wanted our art to be taken seriously in the “real” world, she insisted, we must avoid making it feminine.

I was familiar with gender-discrimination such as “Don't run like a girl,” or “Don't throw like a girl.” Maybe, “Don't create art like a girl” should not have come as a surprise.

Being a painter, I wondered what it meant to paint like a girl. Did all the women in Western history, who flourished in the art world despite the heavy barriers to entry, make it in simply by copying their male counterparts? The answer is an emphatic No! It would be difficult, for instance, to characterize the art of twentieth-century icon Georgia O'Keefe as stereotypically masculine. The same can be said of artists through the centuries.

A characteristic appearing to separate female artists from their male counterparts is the manner in which women are portrayed on their canvases—dynamic, determined participants in their worlds, rather than objects, passive nudes or allegorical figures. As a student, I was captivated by the work Judith and her Maidservant with the Head of Holofernes by Artemisia Gentileschi circa 1625. While the topic is gruesome, it is a striking image of heroic women taking charge.

And what can be more of a statement than the self-portrait of a woman as active artist rather than languid model? There are more of these than I imagined—self-portraits by artists such as trailblazer Caterina van Hemessen, a Flemish painter in 1548, or Italian Sofonisba Anguissola in 1556, or French Elisabeth Vigée LeBrun, portraitist to Marie Antoinette, who made a business of selling self-portraits. Frida Kahlo proved more recently that an artist can be feminine and taken seriously.

While female artists are no exception, sadly, women continue to self-censor their work, wondering if it will be considered worthy based on their gender. I doubt my photography instructor of long ago was the last to question the validity of feminine art.

On the upside, the numbers of women, fearlessly casting their efforts into the art world, increase continually. Here in Tubac, we have the privilege of showing Felice House in the Master Artist Gallery in March. You can hear her speak on the topic, “Reimagining the Western with Female Leads,” on March 1.

Hailing from Austin, Texas, Felice states that she “strives, through her portraits of women, to provide a counterpoint to the passive female representations found in art historical traditions...and empower her audience...to change their preconceived notions of gender and power.” (www.felicehouse.com)

As you view the work of artists contemporary or otherwise, in Tubac or elsewhere, I invite you to examine your biases, to scrutinize the lens through which you judge the quality, or even the legitimacy, of a piece of art whether it is someone else’s or your own.
What's On the Calendar...

Adult Education Opportunities

Arts Speak  March 3 & March 22

Note that Felice House will be the guest presenter on Saturday, March 3rd, not Thursday, March 1st. Dr. Rubin Naiman will be here on March 22nd, back to the regular Thursday evening time, to speak about "The Art of Dreams". Presenters in this series encourage audience participation with questions and comments. Free for members, $8 suggested donation for guests. This series is held in The Studio Gallery at 5pm.. Hope to see you there!

Learn & Create

Go to (www.tubacartworkshops.com) to learn more about the following upcoming workshops:

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<th>Instructor</th>
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<td>Scratchboard</td>
<td>Rick Wheeler</td>
<td>Saturday &amp; Sunday Feb 24 &amp; 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Line &amp; Shine: Advanced Watercolor&quot;</td>
<td>Barbara Borgwardt</td>
<td>Saturday, Mar 10</td>
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<td>&quot;Drawing for Pleasure&quot;</td>
<td>Bobb Vann</td>
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Open Studio Preview

Through March 18th

Open Studio Tour posters with the image of "The Village" by Barbara Kuzara are available here at TCA along with some posters from prior years. This year's Open Studio Tour includes 65 artists at various locations throughout the Santa Cruz Valley welcoming visitors to the tour on March 16th, 17th and 18th. Be sure to mark this weekend in March to visit the studios of working artists from Sahuarita to Rio Rico and see where and how they create. Tell your visitors, neighbors and friends that this annual Open Studio Tour is a "not to be missed" opportunity.

We have Open Studio Tour posters with image of "The Village" by Barbara Kuzara available here at TCA along with some posters from prior years. Come by and see the variety of both 2D and 3D work by participating artists in this year’s tour and plan your three days visits to their studios.

This year's Open Studio Tour Catalog and Gallery Guide will be available the last week of February at TCA and in various locations in Tucson, GV and beyond. Many Tubac galleries will be open Friday night, March 16th for Gallery Night with refreshments and raffle prizes.

Business & Artist member news

Big Horn Galleries to Celebrate Grand Opening in New Tubac Location

Now located in view of the art center, in La Entrada, Building K, right behind Tumacookery, is the new location for Big Horn Galleries. Formerly at 37 Tubac Road, the grand opening at this new space is planned during Art Walk on March 10 & 11th. Be sure and stop by to see this beautiful new space and wonderful art.

"MODERN CONCEPTS"

A two day exhibition of new works of Tubac Village Artists Bruce Baughman, Virginia Hall, and Barbara Kuzara March 24th-25th at the Bruce Baughman Gallery, 19 Tubac Rd. Opening Reception Saturday March 24th from 5-8 p.m. Exhibition continues on Sunday March 25th from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m
Performing Arts

WHAT? "ART"
You still don't have your tickets to see

Come on & join us!

Our play, "ART", is cleverly funny and provocatively smart!
(And only a little bit naughty & slightly shocking ...honest!)

Tubac Civic Theatre's production of "ART" opens February 25, 2018 at 7:30 pm at the Tubac Center of the Arts.

Or come to our Matinee performance at 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 25th.

To buy tickets call TCA at 520-398-2371

See it here! And we will see you there!

Go to www.tubacarts.org for a full description for the season performances. Individual tickets are $30 for members, $35 for non-members.