

HARLINGEN ART FORUM

Issue: February 2007

Saturday, February 17, 2007

Milagros - Miracles

During March D'Arte Centre will feature MILAGROS an exhibition of three dimensional works from Harlingen Art Forum members and selected invited artists.

Each piece in the exhibition will be the artists' personal interpretation of miracles granted or miracles requested in their lives. While the theme is not necessarily religiously oriented the main idea comes from the Hispanic practice of attaching small offerings of metal or other materials to the outer surface of religious icons or statues. These small offerings can be as basic as the pewter depiction of an arm or a leg attached with the implied supplication for perhaps the healing of a broken limb, to ornate worked silver hearts or crowns hearkening to the joy at having received an especially wondrous love or honor or promotion in ones life.

The Milagros of Mexico and Central America have differed somewhat from their Spanish counterpoints in being almost ubiquitous in their use. They appear outside of religious sites festooning doorways, picture frames, gates and even particular roadside trees and prominent rocks and boulders. This societal use is seen as part of the underlying framework of a people who hold their religious beliefs close to their everyday lives.

Perhaps in the North American Anglo culture the closest material of a similar nature is the iconography of the bumper sticker. There one sees the full gambit of emotion from the joyous announcement of a child's good grades to the doomsday pronouncement of the end-of-times-unless-you-vote-for-my-candidate.

The Milagros of D'Arte Centre will go on display beginning March 3rd. The Exhibition Opening and Artist Reception will be held in conjunction with the Jackson Street Market Days beginning at 5:30 pm on Saturday March 3rd.

Harlingen Art Forum Membership Directory

The 2007 HAF Membership Directory and Informational Booklet is now available. Members attending the February meeting will receive the booklet at the meeting. Members may pick up the booklet anytime by dropping by D'Arte Centre. This years booklet includes D'Arte Centre consignment artist information, the Constitution and By Laws of the Harlingen Art Forum and of course, the membership directory information. Please check off your name on the member list as you pick up your copy.

HARLINGEN ART FORUM MEETING IS MONDAY February 26th 6 PM AT D'ARTE CENTRE

The February regular meeting will be held at 6 pm February 26th at D'Arte Centre.

Curtis Walther, the photographer and owner of the newly opened Epiphany Photo and Imaging will be the featured speaker.

Among the many services provided by Curtis at Epiphany are those of particular interest to HAF Members. Curtis will discuss his studios capabilities in the production of giclee prints, fine art note cards, digital imaging and others.

Refreshments will be served prior to the short business meeting and don't forget to bring a few dollars for the raffle prizes.

SPECIAL ITEMS OF INTEREST:

There are 115 members of the Harlingen Art Forum as of February 2007

Over \$7,000 of art was sold by Harlingen Art Forum members at the recent Pharr Spring Classic Fine Arts Show and Sale.

Creative Conversations

The Harlingen Art Forum and the Cameron County Creative Alliance are partnering to host an Emerging Arts Leader Creative Conversation on March 1st at D'Arte Centre. The event will take place at 6 pm and is designed to bring together local emerging arts leaders to discuss challenges specific to their age group and experience and issues regarding the arts in their communities. Regional Arts Leaders from museums, galleries, educational institutions and the general arts community will attend. Please feel free to come and join in this Creative Conversation.

Oil Painters of America

From the Oil Painters of America Website

Oil Painters of America was founded in 1991 by Shirl Smithson primarily to focus attention on the lasting value of fine drawing, color, composition and the appreciation of light. As a beginner or a master painter, the feeling of tremendous satisfaction that came from capturing that special moment, realistically and spiritually, was a bond that united us all.

Another strong motivation was the observation that traditional drawing and painting skills were not being taught in the colleges and universities. OPA, with Shirl leading the way, became the voice for renewed understanding and appreciation of representational art. Through newspaper articles, radio talk shows and numerous magazine features, OPA's mission was presented with many examples of outstanding artwork.

Fortunately, the message was heard as evidenced by the increased attendance by collectors and the general public at the major art shows and galleries throughout the country. Large museums such as the Art Institute of Chicago have assembled exhibitions by traditional artists like Mary Cassat and Edgar Degas. They have opened their doors to sellout crowds.

Oil Painters of America continues to grow and gain respect as an organization that values and supports its members. Our main focus is unchanged. We are here to provide the forum in which you can display your art in regional and national competitions. Through our newsletters we will inform you about current art events and future exhibitions throughout the country. OPA provides the network of fellow artists and experienced profes-

sionals that can assist you in your quest for painting excellence. In addition, we will continue to support the education process through scholarships, workshops and exhibitions of art from today's masters.

The goal of Oil Painters of America is to be instrumental in fostering interest in the beauty of representational painting. You are encouraged to participate in developing public awareness by creating excellent paintings and exhibiting in national and regional OPA competitions.

ELIGIBILITY: All Artists working in the oil medium. All subjects, in any representational style, will be considered. Original work only. Copies from other artists or published material will not be accepted. Each member will receive newsletters and one color catalog from the National Show.

Associate Members must be juried in by the Board with slides or photos. Individuals then become eligible to jury for all regional shows in their area and national shows.

Signature Membership is conferred by the Board upon individuals who consistently demonstrate high quality work and have participated in three National OPA Shows. Participation does not have to be consecutive.

Master Signature Membership is conferred by the OPA Board of Directors, according to the exceptional merit of work and accomplishment in the field of art.

Supporting Membership is for individuals/organizations and for OPA member artists interested in providing additional support to OPA. Individuals who have not obtained the Associate or Signature status through the current membership process will not be eligible to participate in shows

unless juried into another membership category.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW APPLICANTS

Annual dues check for \$60.00

Two 35-mm slides or photographs (5" x 7" or smaller) with name, title, and size on each

For additional information:

<http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/>

Dreaming of the Big Apple?

Think you have what it takes to make it there?

Here's your chance !

"Art Link - June 2007" call for entries -- The Rhonda Schaller Studio in New York, NY announces a call to artists for "Art Link - June 2007". Open to all artists all media. All accepted artists receive 12 month's gallery representation, and published in catalogue. Jurors: Rhonda Schaller, Gallery owner and Director; & guest Curatorial. Entry deadline: March 15, 2007. \$45 USD first 3 images, \$5 each additional image submitted. For more information, visit http://rhondaschallerchelsea.com/art_link_net_work.htm or send SASE to: Rhonda Schaller Studio, 547 West 27th Street, New York, NY 10001. Questions? Contact Rhonda Schaller - Gallery Director at info@rhondaschallerchelsea.com or call 212 967-1338.

Not Quite Ready for Prime Time but Still Dreaming of a Big City? Try the Big D!

"Artscape 2007" call for booth entries -- The Dallas Arboretum (Dallas, Texas) announces a call to

artists for "Artscape 2007". This two-day art fair will be held September 22 & 23, 2007 at the Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Garden. For an application, artists can visit <http://dallasarboretum.org> or send a SASE to: Dallas Arboretum Education Dept., 8617 Garland Rd., Dallas, TX 75218. Deadline for applications: March 16, 2007. \$20.00 jury fee, \$250.00 booth fee. Questions? Please contact Amy Winkelmeyer at awinkelmeyer@dallasarboretum.org or 214-515-6539.

Not sure you're ready to run your own booth, but still want a taste of the Big D?

"All Media Juried Texas Visual Arts Association 2007 National Exhibition" The Texas Visual Arts Association announces a call to artists for its 2007 National Exhibition, held May 19 - July 8, 2007 at the Irving Arts Center in Irving, Texas. \$4,000.00 (USD) in cash and awards plus a color catalog. Juror: Andrea Karnes, Curator of the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth. Open to all living artists 17 and over residing in the U.S. Work must have been completed within the last two years & not have been exhibited in a Dallas area juried exhibition in 2006 or 2007. 3-D limited to 50 lbs and all art limited to 60" in each direction. Complicated pieces to be installed by the artist or his/her agent. Non-Members: \$12 per entry, maximum of 4 entries. TVAA Members: 3 entries for \$30, 4 for \$35. Deadline: March 21, 2007. For details, visit http://www.tvaa.org/national/2007/national_show_2007_press_release.htm

Download prospectus (PDF format): http://www.tvaa.org/national/2007/2007_national_pro04.pdf or send a SAS to: TVAA National 2007, PO Box 140003, Irving, TX 75014-0003. No oversized envelopes. Questions? Please contact Betsy Romeo, Texas Visual Arts Association National Exhibition Chair at ev-eristrome@juno.com

Beachcombers 2007

Planning and implementation stages are well under way for the Harlingen Art Forum's Premier Show Beachcombers. The 48th edition of the show will be held Saturday and Sunday, July 28th and 29th at the South Padre Island Convention Center.

This event is the oldest continuously operating Fine Art Show in Texas and represents the largest expenditure and revenue production for the Harlingen Art Forum. Participation from local and national artists and attendance in the thousands representing all of North America and much of Central America makes this show a unique experience in the valley and Texas in general.

If you were an exhibiting artist in 2006 and are interested in retaining your booth space you need to complete your application prior to March 15th. All information has been distributed, if you don't have yours or need help with the registration call Vivian Martin (956) 330-8594 or Duane Beard (956) 533-8723 as soon as possible.

If you are interested in having a booth but you were not an exhibiting artist in 2006 the open

registration information will be available on the Harlingen Art Forum website after March 15th. Don't delay after that date as spaces are both limited and highly sought after.

All members of the Harlingen Art Forum will be enlisted and encouraged to assist with Beachcombers activities. This event subsidizes the D'Arte Centre Gallery, the HAF Scholarship Programs and the general operation of the Forum. Everyone's participation keeps HAF dues structure so affordable.

INTERESTING PLACES TO VISIT ON AND OFF THE WEB

<http://WWW.TVAA.ORG/>

The Texas Visual Arts Association website

<http://www.artlex.com/>

I bet you are still MEANDERING here. What a fascinating website, deserved repeat billing!

Seventh Level Gallery in Harlingen

Up Commerce Street at 527, on the West side near the tracks and the long abandoned two room jail is the unusual gallery Seventh Level. This gallery of young and exciting artists offers some cutting edge glimpses of the psyche of the artists as they begin their public lives. Much of the art is raw and all encompassing with features both representational and abstract. Mixed Media and three dimensional pieces often incorporate found

objects and technological artifacts once on the high performance silicon must have list and now relegated to quaint mechanical device status. The shared studio and exhibit space occupying a large open space behind the front room gallery is as liable to be filled with youthful laughter as with paint fumes. The front gallery is a mix of traditional and non-traditional display and retail sales of the stock and paraphernalia of the modern young urban artist.

The Seventh Level Gallery is open most afternoons and can be open by special appointment.

Calendar of Events

Check for updates on the calendar at WWW.HARLINGENARTFORUM.COM

March 1 to March 3

FESTIBA (Festival of International Books and Arts) Celebrate and Experience Arts and Ideas at The University of Texas-Pan American during its first Festival of International Books and Arts, dubbed FESTIBA.

FESTIBA will celebrate the arts and humanities side of the University as well as encourage literacy, and broaden cultural awareness through books, poetry, drama, lectures, musical and dance concerts, art exhibits, theater performances and much more.

For more information information, call the College of Arts and Humanities at 956-381-2175. Location: The University of Texas - Pan American; 1201 W University Dr; Edinburg, TX

Thursday March 1, 2007
Creative Conversations at D'Arte Centre – see page one

March 2nd 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

McAllen First Friday Art Walk
Nuevo Santander Gallery; 717 N Main St

Jac-Lin's Florist; 722 N Main St

Douglas Clark; 700 N Main St
Espana; 701 N Main St Visit

with the ever popular artist, Robert Vina.

McAllen Public Library ; 601 N Main St

S. Klein Gallery; 521 N Main St

Niu Urban Living by Casa Antigua; 920 N.

Main St

Art House; 1009 Laurel

The Loft; 501 W Business 83

Fiorella Restaurant; 1306 N 15th St

Santa Anita Gallery; 1500 Pecan

<http://www.mcallenartwalk.com> Location: Downtown; McAllen, TX

March 3 6pm

2nd Annual Night of Culture: History, Herstory and Heritage exhibit and food tasting event brings Valley female artists together for a unique visual, musical and literary experience. The event features readings from "Tales Told at Midnight Along the Rio Grande" by Valley Byliners (cover art by HAF member

Susan Tarrant!)

Mariachi Music by all-women mariachi group Mariachi Luna Azteca

"Women of Taste 2007"

Opening of Exhibit "Between Myth and Reality: The Image of Women" featuring local women artists – See Member News below

Free to the public

Brownsville Heritage Complex; 1325 E. Washington; Brownsville, TX

March 3 to March 31

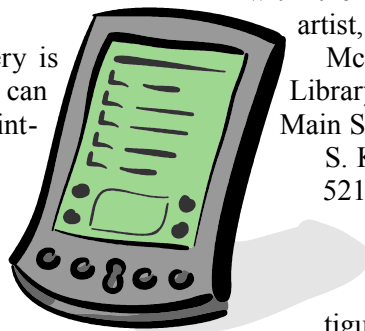
Between Myth and Reality: The Image of Women

Exhibit features the work of local women artists depicting the image of women in folklore, myth and everyday life. Free for BHA members-Included with General Admission <http://www.brownsvillehistory.org> Location: Brownsville Heritage Complex; 1325 E. Washington; Brownsville, TX

Fri March 9, 2007 - Thur May 31, Vaquero: Genesis of the Texas Cowboy Photography exhibit from the Witliff Gallery of Southwestern and Mexican Photography in San Marcos.

Vaquero: Genesis of a Texas Cowboy is a collection of 60 photographs by Bill Witliff, the creator of the Lonesome Dove television series. The sepia-toned images from the Witliff Gallery of Southwestern and Mexican Photography in San Marcos, Texas highlight the old ranching way of life, once commonplace in Texas. The last of the vaqueros are depicted with crisp accuracy and are the best of the 5,000 photos Witliff has taken over a period of three years.

The Brownsville Historical Association has planned a series of public and educational programs to coincide with Vaquero: Genesis of a Texas Cowboy. A cooking demonstration, a musical presentation featuring classic rancheras and boleros, and workshops on traditional ranching techniques such as cattle roping will be featured.



The exhibit will open March 9, 2007. <http://www.brownsvillehistory.org>

Thursday March 22, 2007 6:00 PM Clark Art for Habitat

Artwork by Kirk Clark and Anne Clark-Lawson thru April 22, 2007

The Loft 501 W. Bus 83 McAllen, TX 78501 Opening reception Thursday, March 22, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

All proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Saturday March 24, 2007 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Sunday Mar 25 12 pm - 5 pm

40th Annual Flower Show sponsored by Harlingen Area Council of Garden Clubs. Plants, fresh flower arrangements, designs and much more. Plants will be for sale both days. It is a great educational outing for the entire family, so please come and enjoy. Guest speaker for both days. Area garden clubs will be judged in categories from horticultural to designs. Admission is free to the public, but will accept donations. For info, call Lucy Hilliard at 956-421-2039. Location: Harlingen Arts & Heritage Museum; 2425 Boxwood St; Harlingen, TX

Friday March 30, 2007 - Sunday April 1, 2007

Pharr HUB Phestival 2007 The 3-day Pharr HUB Phestival this year promises to be bigger and better with something for everyone to enjoy. Some of the main attractions for the Phestival are a FREE Downtown Concert on Saturday night, a FREE Health & Fun Fair, Social Wine Taster, FREE Teen Sock-Hop, Pharr History Exhibit, and the trademark event of the 3rd Annual World's First Barbacoa Cook-Off during the Los Caminos Del Rio Day on Sunday.

The City of Pharr prides itself on Celebrating Our Heritage and invites YOU to join us in this year's jubilant cultural celebration of food, music, fun and heritage. Visit our website periodically for the latest updates on the 3rd Annual - Pharr HUB Phestival and Schedule of Events coming soon.

Location: Downtown; Pharr, TX

March 26th HAF Meeting - 6pm at D'Arte Centre

Member news

Celeste De Luna will be a participating artist in the exhibit Between Myth and Reality: The Image of Women at the Brownsville Heritage Complex during March, see calendar above

Bernice Coleman donated artwork to the Ronald McDonald Charity Wild Game Dinner and this donation was auctioned for a record price to benefit the charity's good cause.

Patsy Fletcher represented the HAF and acted as expert judge at the Youth Art Exhibit at the recent South Texas Youth Stock Show.

Myrilla Sparhawk, Shelia Bistrow, Vivian Martin, Shirley Sondock, Ilse Drawe, Lana Marie Paris, Jerry Eaton, John Haden, Lewis Levine, Bobi Stegora-Bina and Alice Lassner exhibited their art in the HAF booth at the Pharr Spring Classic. Upcoming opportunities for you to exhibit and sell your work include the HAF booth at RIOFEST in late April. Sign up at the February Meeting to be included. You will need to be prepared to assist in the operation of the booth during the RIOFEST show.

These booth exhibitions are a great way to broaden your exposure to an even wider audience than that at D'Arte Centre. You need not current exhibit at D'Arte Centre. You do need to be a member in good standing of the Harlingen Art Forum.

Other HAF members exhibiting in their own booths at the Pharr Spring Classic included

Duane Beard and Ben Moran, Virginia Shuey, Ann Moncus, Hortensia Ramos, Linda Shreeve, Bernice Coleman, Juanita Gibson, Jan Le Bleu, Peg Kendall, Virginia Carubia, Patty Withington, Gail Lybbert, Georgia Funk.

In addition to attempting to sit her own booth **Patty Withington** ran the Whole Show! WOW Thanx for a great show Patty, everyone be sure and ask Patty about the bear that mysteriously appeared in her booth - seems like a recurring theme, eh Patty?

Nancy Algrim and Curtis Whatley of Black Iris Studio are the current online Featured Artists at:

www.HarlingenArtForum.com

If you haven't checked out our own web pages lately, please do.

If you'd like to be the Online Featured Artist please prepare 3 to 5 digital images of your work and contact forumcontact@harlingenartforum.com

We know you are all busy doing many things, please send an email to forumcontact@harlingenartforum.com

and tell us so we can include your accomplishments here.