

HARLINGEN ART FORUM

Issue: November 2007

Saturday, November 24, 2007

Birder's Choice

The Birder's Choice exhibit drew many artists and an excellent representation of all the Valley bird species. Many visitors to the D'Arte Centre Gallery cast their votes and the winners were announced at the reception on Saturday Nov 17th.

First Place : Marge Ford for Reddish Egret On the Lookout, watercolor and handmade paper collage.

Second Place: Dina Saldina for El Paisano, acrylic

Third Place: Myrilla Sparhawk for Waiting for Dinner, pastel

Thanks to all the artists who exhibited their magnificent pieces and thanks to all the Gallery visitors for casting their votes!

D'Arte Centre Gallery Hours Change

To better serve the needs of the Gallery Volunteers and to align with the Jackson Street Historic District Businesses the Board of the Harlingen Art Forum

voted to change the Gallery Hours. The D'Arte Centre Gallery will now be open Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 5 pm

Gallery Volunteer instructions have been revamped and are printed at the volunteer desk, please check them over next time you are sitting the gallery. Thanks again to every artist who takes their turn and keeps D'Arte Centre an open vibrant part of the Historic Jackson Street District.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

The Historic Jackson Street merchants are publicizing a Holiday Rendezvous Open House for Thursday November 29th from 5 'til 8 pm. In addition to D'Arte Centre other merchants hosting the event include The White Lion, Hi-Lites, Antiques Emporium, Alexandre's Fine Jewlery, Java Cafe, Paperie & Co., The Gift Connection/ Flowers by Jesse, Tony Schaub Art Studio, That Lime Green Store, Nip 'N Tuck Draperies, Roberts Jewlery and Rustica.

Please be sure and stop by D'Arte Centre for a small refreshment, to see the Christmas Craft Bazaar and then check out the other merchants/

Beachcomber 2008

This year the Jury Committee is announcing a Mascot Contest. In past years Beachcombers has adopted Pelicans (2007 by Lynda Haman), Sea Turtles (2006 by Virginia Eggert), Tropical Fish (2005 by Dena Levine). For 2008 the committee is soliciting art work representative of South Padre Island and the Beachcombers over all theme.

The contest is open to HAF members and 2007 participating Beachcomber Art Show Exhibitors. The prize will be either a year's paid membership in HAF including a year's Gallery Hanging Fee, or a \$100 credit toward the artists Beachcomber 2008 booth fee.

Artwork should be simple and clearly focused on a main theme. The art will be used for online display in an area approx 2 inches by 2 inches and in print and other media presentations. Submissions will be accepted electronically and should be formatted as JPG images. By submitting the artist agrees to assign Harlingen Art Forum first electronic and first printing rights to the image. Contest Deadline is January 15th, the decision of the judges is final. Submit art work to

Forumcontact@Harlingenartforum.com

Harlingen Art Forum

2007-2009

President: Myrilla Sparhawk
Past President: Lewis Levine
Vice President: Duane Beard
Secretary: Robin Cate
Treasurer: Linda Shreeve
Member At Large: Ann Moncus

Next Meeting is 6pm November 26th, 2007 at D'Arte Centre

Don Christiansen will present the program. See the attached article reprinted from the Valley Morning Star.

Slice of Life from The Valley Morning Star

Artistic contribution: Don Christiansen



Don Christiansen's artistic contribution to The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College is a tribute to border life.

The wire mesh, cement and broken mosaic tile work called "Tlacoc" and "The Blue God" was made last year in an art studio at Rusteberg Hall but unveiled earlier this week at the university's dedication of the George Truan Sculpture Garden across from the campus bookstore on Gorgas Drive.

"My sculpture instructor, George Lorio, asked if I could leave it there to give an example of how the work could be done and to inspire to make larger pieces," said Christiansen, 40, a San Benito native.

He said the work is derived from his family and border roots.

Christiansen's mother is from Mexico, and he has an interest in border issues and what he called its curiosities. Tlacoc is the Aztec god of fertility and rain.

Christiansen said he is pleased his

artwork can be observed by the public.

"I only saw it on the pedestal today," Christiansen said after the dedication ceremony on Monday. "I hadn't even seen it out there. It is pretty nice and all."

Sculpting is not the only way he creates art.

Christiansen also likes to weld with metals and paint with oils on canvas. He even does some ceramic work on occasion.

"You kind of inherit creativity from your parents," he said. "They have always been creative."

Christiansen credited university fine arts instructors Lorio, Carlos Gomez and Nancy Slight with inspiring him and his artwork. Gomez and Slight knew the sculpture garden's namesake Truan, who was part of the Texas Southmost College Art Department from September 1974 up until his death from cancer at age 47 in September 1992.

"All those guys, they really shouldn't almost be in the Valley," Christiansen said. "They should be in New York or somewhere bigger teaching art in the public eye."

Christiansen graduated from San Benito High School and attended TSC before moving to San Antonio. For two decades he did work throughout Texas and the Rio Grande Valley opening EyeMasters and LensCrafters stores.

He eventually moved back to the Valley and settled in Harlingen, something he knew he would always do. And this summer, he graduated from UTB/TSC with a

studio art degree.

"I come from Mexican-American ties and for me to get far away from it, you lose out on a lot of culture," Christiansen said. "A lot of my family's in Mexico and it's more accessible to go across and visit and stay with them."

He hopes his sculpture garden work will be the foundation in his desire to be a professional artist. But Christiansen said he wants to do other work, too.

He is currently applying to an occupational therapy program and is also considering starting a master's degree in art.

For more information on Christiansen's art, visit www.christiansenfineart.com

Open Studio Nights

Convivial and entertaining Open Studio Nights are a continuing success at D'Arte Centre. Open to members and the public, artists are encouraged to bring a piece in progress or an idea to explore. A diverse group of artists and art appreciators have gathered for previous nights. Upcoming Open Studios are:

Dec. 14, 2007 6:30 to 9:30 pm

Jan. 11, 2008

Feb. 8, 2008

Mar. 14, 2008

April. 11, 2008

May 9, 2008

June 13, 2008

Bring some artwork to work on and a refreshment to share. Talk, make art, have fun... Free and open to the public, potluck refreshments, donations gratefully accepted.

Senior Art Exhibit

HAF Member Audrey Cisneros is exhibiting her work, along with other UTB/TSC senior artists, through Nov 29th at Rustenburg Art Gallery, 80 Fort Brown in Brownsville.

"Pastel National 2008" call for entries -- The Wichita Center for the Arts (Wichita, KS) announces a call to artists for the "Pastel National 2008" exhibit, held March 14 - May 18, 2008. Awards: \$7500.00. Juror: G. Daniel Massad. Open to all artists living and working in North America. Each entry must be an original pastel drawing, wholly designed and executed by the artist. Entry Fee: \$30. For more information, visit <http://wcfta.com/Gallery/gallery.html> or send a SASE to: The Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central, Wichita, KS 67206. Deadline: December 10, 2007. Questions? Contact Brian Hinkle at juried_exhibition_prospectus@wcfta.com or call (316) 634-2787.

"The Five Senses" call for entries -- Torpedo Factory Art Center/ Target Gallery in Alexandria, Virginia announces a call to artists for "The Five Senses", March 6 - April 6, 2008. Cash awards for best in show. Juror: F. Lennox Campello. Artwork must incorporate two or more senses (touch, taste, see, smell, hear). The physicality of this exhibition aims to engage and stimulate the viewer through works that address all aspects of human sensation. Open to all artists nationally and internationally. Deadline: December 10, 2007. \$30 per application/ 3 entries per application/ \$3 add. fee per slide. Download prospectus (PDF format) or send a SASE to: Target Gallery, 105 North Union St.,

Alexandria, VA 22314. Questions? Please contact the Target Gallery at targetgallery@torpedofactory.org or call 703-838-4565x4.

"Body of Work: The Human Form in Contemporary Art" -- The Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center (Cincinnati, Ohio) announces a call to artists for "Body of Work: The Human Form in Contemporary Art", January 25 - February 22, 2008. Open to all. Students and professionals are encouraged to enter. \$10 per work submitted. Juried by a committee of professional and academic advisors. Prospectus: <http://www.manifestgallery.org/body/prospectus-body.pdf>. Deadline: December 12, 2007. Questions? Please contact Jason Franz at jason@manifestgallery.org or call 513-861-3638.

"New Mexico Feminist Art Competitions" call for entries -- Through the Flower announces a call for feminist art in all media including digital and video from artists age 18-39 who reside in New Mexico. Works submitted should contain female-centered content or focus on women's experiences or gender issues. The "New Mexico Feminist Art Competitions", will be displayed March 3 - May 30, 2008 at the Through the Flower gallery (Belen, New Mexico) and website. Awards: Two \$500 prizes and two solo exhibits. Juror: Judy Chicago. \$25 for three works. Deadline: December 14, 2007. For more info, visit <http://www.throughtheflower.org>. Questions? Please contact Susannah Rodee at info@throughtheflower.org or call 505-864-4080.

"Abstract EXPOsure Online Juried Exhibition" call to artists -- Artists are invited to enter the "Abstract EXPOsure Online Juried Exhibition" (www.abstractexposure.com). The exhibit is open to international participants and runs January 1 to March 31, 2008. Abstract artists only! Best in Show and Merit Awards. Best in Show winner receives \$200 cash award. \$30 for up to four images, \$5 for each additional image. Apply online at <http://www.abstractexposure.com/prospectus.html>. Deadline: December 15, 2007. Questions? Please contact Christina Nelson at info@abstractexposure.com

"Englewood Arts National Juried Art Show" -- Englewood Arts announces a call to artists for the "Englewood Arts National Juried Art Show", held April 2008 at Hampden Hall in Englewood, CO. Best of Show, 2 Awards of Excellence. Jurors: Carlos Fresquez, Bonnie Ferrill Roman, Jennifer Ito. Open to all artists residing in the United States. Two-dimensional entries must be original oil, watercolor, egg tempera, pastel, acrylic, mixed media or graphics by the artist. Three-dimensional work is limited to 3'x3'x3' and cannot exceed 100 lbs. \$25 entry fee. Download prospectus: <http://englewoodarts.org/programs.html>. Deadline: December 15, 2007. Questions? Contact Janet Moore at janet.moore@englewoodarts.org.

"40th Annual Visual Arts Exhibition" call for entries -- The Visual Arts Society of Texas announces a call to artists for the "40th Annual Visual Arts Exhibition", held April 10 - May 29, 2008 at the Meadows Gallery, Cen-

ter for the Visual Arts in Denton, TX. Awards: \$1000 BOS; \$11,000+ cash/merchandise. Juror: Nic Nicosia, photographer. Open to all artists in the US. 2D/3D up to 3 entries; slides/digital. No installations. Full-color Catalog, \$35.00 non-members. For more information, visit <http://www.vastarts.org/Exhibitions.html> or send a SASE to: PO Box 1281, Denton, TX 76202. Deadline: December 21, 2007. Questions? Please contact Lynne Cagle Cox, President at VASTpresident@verizon.net or call 469.648.0114.

"Salon 2008" -- ArtDesignCo gallery announces a call to artists for "Salon 2008". Exhibit opening on January 12th. Open to all artists worldwide. Only original work. Categories: Portraits & Figure, Still life, Landscape. Medium: Painting, Drawing, Sculpture. Styles: Academic, Contemporary, Abstract. Send slides, CD or jpegs/tiffs, up to five artworks (no less than three). Entry Fee: \$25. Deadline: December 21, 2007. For more information, visit <http://artdesignco.com/events.asp>

"The Altered Landscape Photography Competition" call for entries -- Newspace Center for Photography announces a call to photographers for "The Altered Landscape Photography Competition", held February 8-27, 2008 in Portland, OR. The competition is open to photographers using any type of photographic process, color or black & white, traditional or computer generated/manipulated images. No restrictions on the date of the image(s). Submit images that you feel depict an "altered landscape". From simple and subtle ways like gardens, power lines and billboards to the more obvious like bridges, power plants and factories the impact of humankind is almost

everywhere we turn. Juror: Chris Bennett, Executive Director. Deadline: December 28, 2007. \$5 per image. Enter as many images as you want. Prospectus: <http://www.newspacephoto.org/callforentries>. Questions? Please contact Chris Bennett at chris@newspacephoto.org or call 503-963-1935.

The Matchup Prize -- Matchup.com announces a call to artists for The Matchup Prize. Cash prizes + commission waivers. Fine art and craftwork. All items accepted for display on the site are eligible and automatically entered in the competition. There is no cost for item submission. Deadline: Dec. 31, 2007. Details: http://matchup.com/faq.php#The_Matchup_Prize_What_is_it? Questions? Contact J. Potasznik at info@matchup.com.

"Artists & Photographers Wanted: Free Online Gallery" -- A Singular Creation is proud to

bring you our new **free gallery**, which will allow you to be able to create your own personal gallery and share it with the world at no cost and hardly any effort. This new gallery will make it possible for you to quickly and easily upload your images, create albums and manage your gallery. All users will be able to rate images, add comments and post topics for critique. Now you will be able to not only show your art, but discuss your art and share your opinions with others on their art. To view the new gallery: <http://asingularcreation.com/Gallery/>. To register, follow this link: <http://asingularcreation.com/Forums>. Deadline: Dec. 31, 2007. To join our free newsletter mailing list of art contests and opportunities for artists and photographers:

<http://asingularcreation.com/newsletter.htm>. Questions? Contact Joe Barrouk at singular@asingularcreation.com.

"WSG Inaugural Exhibition" call for entries -- Whistle Stop Gallery announces a call to artists for the "WSG Inaugural Exhibition", held online May 16 - October 25, 2008. Awards will include Best of Show, Awards of Excellence, and Exhibiting Artists. Juror: Joseph Langley. Open to The subject of the show is transportation. This exhibition is open to all persons able to communicate in English and able to pay in U.S. funds. \$10 per artwork, maximum of 5 works. Submissions must be Postmarked December 31, 2007. For prospectus, visit <http://www.whistlestop-gallery.com/go/exhib/exh1.html> or send a SASE to: Whistle Stop Gallery, Care of Joseph Langley, 17 Junction Drive PMB 266, Glen Carbon, IL 62034. Questions? Please contact Joseph Langley at admin@whistlestop-gallery.com.

Calendar of Events

November 26, 2007: Harlingen Art Forum meeting at 6:00pm

November 26-29: Set up Christmas Craft Bazaar items in gallery in time for Holiday Rendezvous Open House on Nov 29th, 2007

December 1, 2007: Market Days in downtown Harlingen.

December 14, 2007: Open Studio Night 6:30-9:30 pm: