



Sketches

August 2007 Newsletter

Special Issue

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Art in the Redwoods Judges Announced for Fine Art Show

One of the many reasons for artists to enter their best works into the Art in the Redwoods Fine Art Exhibit is the opportunity of showing their talents to the owner or manager of a gallery. Over the years many of the winners of this show have gone on to have shows in other galleries because their work has caught the attention of a judge or visitor.

One of this year's judges is Bill Zimmer, owner and manager of the William Zimmer Gallery in Mendocino. Anyone who has attended shows or stopped by to visit the big building at the corners of Kasten and Ukiah Streets will understand what an honor it is for us to have him come here to judge our show. Bill Zimmer has been a trend-setter and expert on local art for over thirty years. He has organized over 20 other successful shows around the country so he knows what it takes to pick art that others want to buy.



Bill Zimmer will be joined in the job of judging the over 400 artworks by Ann Savageau (left) of Davis and The Sea Ranch. Ann has her M.F.A. in Textiles from Wayne State University with additional study at the Gesamthochschule in Kassel, Germany, and is currently teaching at University of California Davis. Her field of expertise is fiber arts and the extension of that concept. She has shown her work in fiber, wood, stone, and bone around the world, and was twice part of the environmental shows here at Gualala Arts. Ann's work often takes natural objects, changes them in some fundamental way to carry her statement to the discerning eye. However her many years in the art scene have enlightened and diversified her view of art. As she says, "I have no preference for any particular medium or style or for

abstract over representational art. What draws my attention is an artist who has her/his own unique and compelling vision that causes me to see the world in a fresh way. I ask myself, "Does the artist say something new, unique, compelling? Or is this something I have seen countless times?" Beauty and good craftsmanship, although they can be important, aren't enough to hold my attention or gain my respect and admiration."

The third judge will be Cheri Ibes, a sculpture- and installation-artist who works with castoff and everyday materials. She has primarily exhibited her large-scale work at the Old Arsenal Complex in Benicia, California. She is currently in the process of opening a downtown Sacramento venue called Block. In 2006, Cheri and Ravel Buckley developed an innovative program in conjunction with Snowline Hospice Thrift Store in Placerville, to divert materials destined for landfill to regional artists working with found objects. An exhibition at Arts Benicia Gallery entitled "What Comes Around," was part of this project.



Cheri Ibes lives and works in the Sierra foothills near Coloma.

The three judges will show some of their own works and explain their reasons for picking the winners at 6 p.m. in the JAMI amphitheater on Friday, August 17 during the Champagne Preview Opening of the Fine Art Exhibit. Doors to the art show open at 4:30 p.m.