

**Roger Plowe and Meg Oldman (glass art)**  
**Anne Kessler (pastels)**

Sketches 9

Opening Reception: Saturday, October 4, 2008, 5:00 p.m.  
Exhibit remains through October 29  
Dolphin Gallery

threw myself body and soul into the "back to the land" movement. Even in a rural setting I found a way to live art, and music, at which I also excelled as a child. I spent the next 10 years as a professional musician conducting both choruses and orchestras. Then, still seeking adventure, I moved to London where I studied finance and database engineering.

"My seemingly boundless energy reached its limit in 1984 when I collapsed and was diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome, an illness that would be with me for the next 20 years. The first 2 years I spent almost entirely in bed trying to assess where my true happiness could be found. One day, a friend came by to wash my dishes and she brought with her a set of watercolors. "While you are just lying here, why don't you paint?" she said.

"Too weak to get up, day after day, I started constructing paintings in my head once again. As I concentrated on the energy that would make me well, I started seeing the world as a web of light and color. I found that I ached to once again be part of the slow timelessness of the redwoods and feel my connection with the earth. I felt it was essential to both my health and happiness. I moved my limited life to a small cabin on the Garcia River in Mendocino County. The river became my healer and my teacher as day after day my strength grew. When I first tried pastels, I fell in love with the intensity of the pigments. I found that color could act as a bridge straight to the soul and could take me to a place where there were no words.

"Blessedly, over many years, my health is restored, and my healing has shown me my life's work as an impressionist and a colorist. My new studio is still on the banks of the Garcia River.

### **More about Meg Oldman**

Meg Oldman has been creating beautiful sand carved crystal and glass art for over twenty years. She uses both

representational and abstract designs to communicate in a language of emotion and empathy.

Through her development of distinctive etching and carving techniques, Meg creates a broad spectrum of artwork in glass and crystal. Her work includes architectural scale installations, finely detailed crystal vases, kiln-slumped bowls, illuminations, and a small



line of fused crystal jewelry. Meg carves her designs using pressurized sand, balancing the deeply carved areas with lightly accented techniques for balance and depth.

Meg explores the power of cultural symbols and images from nature, and creates synergy between the two in her designs. She brings harmony and balance into homes and offices through her elegant designs. A recently completed project for 800 J Street, in downtown Sacramento, includes 737 square feet of etched glass, as well as several elements in steel. She worked closely with architects and the Sacramento Municipal Art Commission to bring this art project to fruition. The overall design invokes the soft movement and flow of the delta, as well as the Sacramento and American Rivers, coursing through the area.

Meg's exhibit for this show includes crystal vases with botanical designs, as well as fused sculptures. Fusing is the process by which glass is layered and fired to shape in a glass kiln.