May 2008

www.OaklandArt.org

Rita Sklar

My mother was an oil painter, but she painting stopped when I was born. She bought me an oil painting set at the age of 11, and I enjoyed painting. However, I didn't get back to painting until about 12 years ago when I took my first class in watercolors at Studio One.

I grew up in New Jersey to immigrant parents who fled the Holocaust in Germany. After college I ioined the Peace Corps and worked in Senegal, in West Africa for two years. When I returned, I worked for the Anti Poverty program in NYC. There I met my husband Joseph at a meeting of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. After we married, we moved to California where he had studied for a master's degree at Stanford.

Most of my work has been with non-profit organizations in the Bay Area where I worked in philanthropy, managing Kaiser Permanente's Contributions Program. I was the Executive Director of a family foundation, but

OAA Member Profile

stopped working when Joseph took a teaching exchange position in Spain for a year. I took watercolor classes from a master painter, and learned Spanish. That's when I really started to paint well.

Returning to work as a consultant after our year in Spain, I continued to paint and took classes at Merritt College. For the last few years I had the opportunity to take workshops

Inside this issue:

Rita Sklar	1-2
Calendar	2
Arlene Risi Streich	2
News and Notes	3
Minutes of annual Mtg.	3
Chamber Show Rules	4
Satellite show matrix	5
OAA Show Entry Form	5



Continued Page 2

Rita Sklar

with some of the leading agua media artists of our time. Exploring new techniques and materials has been very exciting.

After my series of paintings of Spain, I focused on wild birds. My interest in wildlife made me aware of the decline in bird and animal populations, and I started a series of paintings of vanishing species, using maps to indicate from where they are vanishing. After a trip to Namibia in southern Africa. I included vanishing African animals in the vanishing series as well. I also started a Mother Love series of animals and birds with their young. I had a show of my wildlife paintings at the Oakland Zoo in 2007.

Most recently, I completed a series celebrating diversity in Oakland. These paintings are currently being shown in the Dimond area, at the library, cafes and bakery. In May, they will be shown at Z Café on Broadway. In June they will be at my Open Stu-Please come by and dios. see them at 3826 Fruitvale

continued from page 1

Avenue, in Oakland on Saturday and Sunday, June 7 & 8 and June 14 &15 from 11 am to 5 pm.

I have been active in the California Watercolor Association and was juried in to the S.F. Women Artists and the East Bay Women Artists. paintings can be seen regularly at the Solano Grill, on Solano Avenue in Albany as well as the Cornerstone Café in San Leandro. Please visit m y website at: www.ritasklar.com.

Arlene Risi Streich to Judge May CC Show

Arlene Risi Streich holds a B.F.A. (painting) and a B.A.ED from the California College of Arts & Crafts (now CCA). She has taught art in the Oakland Public Schools. drawing/painting and fashion illustration at Diablo Valley College as well as being a supervisor for the Cal State East Bay student teach-

ers in art program. Her paintings and jewelry have been shown in numerous art exhibits around the country and she continues to stay active and productive, her vision evolving with each new work.

Editors note: learn more about Arlene at:

www.astiglassdesign.com



Mark your calendar:

May 16, July 18, September 12, November 14 and January 16, 2009. These are the upcoming dates for Oakland Chamber the shows. Dates are to pick up artwork from the prior May 23, 2008 3pm

show as well as enter work for the new show. Rules for the May 16th show are published on page 4.

Board

meeting in the Learning Center at the Oakland Museum of California. All members are encouraged to attend. Please note that this is a week ahead of the usual date!

MAY 2008 PAGE 3

Notes and other news

- Please note that the May Board Meeting will be held a week earlier than usual (3 PM on May 23rd) due to a scheduling conflict at the museum.
- The **2008 Handbook & Membership Roster** is out, if you did not receive your copy at the annual luncheon or by mail, please contact Ginger Papania at (510) 336-9544.
- The OAA **Small Format Show** is now set for the Rockridge Library during the month of December 2008. Details to follow.
- Marie Guelld will be showing oil and acrylic paintings at the Frank Bette Center during June at the corner of Lincoln and Paru streets in Alameda.
- S. Newman has a show during May at Sweet Inspirations — 2239 Market Street in SF.

- John Mallon will have his work on display during June at **Expressions Gallery—**2035 Ashby Ave. in Berkeley.
- Annette Brisco has work showing at the Alameda Main Library during May—1550 Oak Street in Alameda.
- Seven active artists invite a few of you to join them at the Kensington Recreation Center, Wednesdays 9:30am-1:30pm. \$36/month. Excellent light and space, congenial group, lunch & sharing between 12:30-1:30. Call Stan Cohen for further information: 510-533-3003.
- Note the new OAA entry form on page 5. Please use this new style form for the May 16th Chamber Show.
- Contact the editor as follows with any corrections and suggestions:

Rick Nelson

1584 Webb Lane Walnut Creek

94595

rixingm@gmail.com (925) 256-6849

• Thanks to all the members who helped with this months newsletter, including:

Bobbe Anderson
Jim Coy
Pat Dahlberg
Gladys Eaton
Marie Guelld
Tina Nelson
Ginger Papania
Shirley Schmalfuss
Rita Sklar

OAA Annual Lunch and Meeting Tina Nelson

The OAA annual luncheon was held April 24th at the Berkley yacht club, hosted by June and Jim Coy. After a delicious lunch, Norma Yaglijian introduced our speaker Lori Fogerty who is the executive director of the Oakland Museum.

Lori spoke of plans underway at the museum to promote their image as well as their 2 million objects of art. She told us that this would be accomplished in three phases, one beginning in June to renovate the art and history galleries. The remaining work will begin in the fall with reinstallation of the interpretive science and education space and relocation of the gift shop making everything more accessible to the public.

Past president Bobbie Anderson then thanked retiring members of the board, exhibit co-coordinators, and past com-

mittee chairman for all their work.

New president Marie Guelld introduced the incoming board and gave special gifts to executive board members: Bobbie Anderson, Stan Cohen, and Gladys Eaton, for their many years of work.

The luncheon ended at 1:45. The next meeting will be at 3 PM, May 23, 2008 in the Learning Center of the Oakland Museum.

OAKLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SHOW

May 16, 2008

Paintings (all Media), Drawings, Photography, Collage, Monoprints, etchings, woodcuts

Exhibit Rules

CHAIR: John Mallon

RECEIVING: Friday, May 16, 2008 from 10 AM until 12 noon at the Presbyterian Church, 4101 Park Blvd.,

Oakland. Enter parking lot from Hampel Street.

JUROR: Arlene Streich

ACCEPTED WORKS: Pick up at the Presbyterian Church on Friday July 18th, 2008 between 10 AM and 12

noon.

ENTRIES:

Entries will be two dimensional; 16"x 20" mini. and 36"x 36" max. Only 1 entry accepted per member.

Artwork depicting iconic scenes of San Francisco are not appropriate for this venue! If entered, artwork in this category may be rejected at the sole discretion of the show chairman.

Because only 7 "large" (i.e. over 24"X30") works can be displayed in the show space, only the first 7 "large" pieces will be accepted, unless specifically allowed by the Show Chair.

Works restricted to original work – no class work or copies.

Nudes and political statements are not accepted (venue requirement).

All work must be for sale.

The Chamber reserves the right to reject any work from the show for any reason.

Any work shown at a Chamber of Commerce Show **prior to** March 2005 may be shown again at this show. Any work having won a cash award in any OAA show is not eligible to receive another cash award but may receive a merit award.

To be entered as a single work, any grouping of 2 or more works must be mounted within a single frame which meets the overall size requirements.

ENTRY FEE: \$8.00 per entry.

FRAMING:

No wide (may not exceed 3") or elaborate frames will be accepted.

Mats must be clean and well cut.

Frames must be clean, sturdy and no protruding screw eyes or hangers will be allowed.

Works larger than 24" x 30" (if covered) must be under plastic instead of glass.

LABELS: Must be filled out completely and affixed to the upper left hand corner on the back of the entry.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY!

AWARDS: First award \$100; Second award \$50; Third award \$25. Merit awards are given at the discretion of the Juror.

INSURANCE: A waiver must be signed on receiving day.

SALES:

All sales made during the show and/or 30days following the close of the show (if the work was seen by the buyer at the show) will be handled by the Treasurer (Shirley Schmalfuss 510 654-2867).

OAA policy is that no change will be made in the price (in connection with this show) after the work is accepted.

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MAY 2008 PAGE 6

The method of painting is the natural growth out of a need. I want to express my feelings rather than illustrate them. -

Jackson Pollock



