



The Gallery

The Newsletter of the Valley Art Association

Jan./Feb. 2012

A nonprofit organization promoting art in the community since 1966

2022 Main St.
P.O. Box 333
Forest Grove, OR
97116

503.357.3703
www.valleyart.org

Valley Art is dedicated to supporting working artists and encouraging beginning artists, while bringing out the artist within us all by exhibiting exceptional artwork and offering art classes for the entire community at affordable prices.

Valley Art general meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. All Valley Art members, and community members, who would like to attend are invited.



January and February Featured Artists: E.J. Baeza | Michel Hersen | Les Dougherty

E.J. Baeza and his wife, Kathy McCarthy, moved from California to Oregon in June of 2006 in order to begin a new life and livelihood. Kathy became a jewelry designer and E.J. decided to pursue his creative passions for painting, photography, videography and music. Kathy and E.J. decided to call their new art company Midlife Crisis Studios. In order to differentiate his fine art photography from other photographers' work, E.J. has developed a technique he calls "Renderization." He takes his conventional and digital photographic images and applies a unique combination of digital filters to create images that have a more rendered look than conventional photography. E.J. has exhibited his conventional and "renderized" images at Valley Art Gallery and in other gallery environments in the greater Portland area.

For the upcoming January/February show, E.J. will exhibit a mix of his rendered works with some of his latest black and white works. The digitally processed images reflect his love for nature's flora and the black and whites are a study of the regions "Out Buildings" surrounded by the beautiful agricultural fields. These black and white images feature the gentle contrast between the rigid lines of the buildings set against the fresh, crisp skies and landscapes of autumn in farm country.



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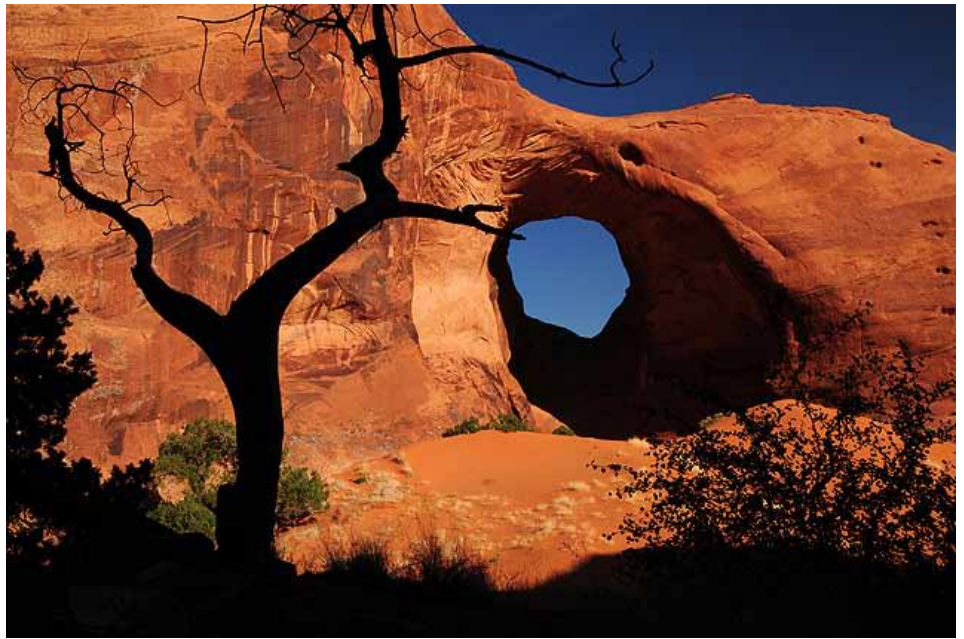
Michel Hersen's photography of the West, Northwest, and Southwest is inspired by his knowledge of Hudson River School painting. His objective is to present the viewer with a tableau permeated by inner light, taking advantage of 21st century artistic vision. He uses a clear compositional framework, luminosity and coloration.

Hersen is a field contributor to Nature Photographer and a member of the North American Nature Photography Association.

He has work permanently on display at the Hallie Ford Museum in Salem and Pacific University in Forest Grove, and his landscape, nature and wildlife photographs have appeared in Shutterbug, Nature Photographer, Pacific Magazine, Camping Life, the Oregonian and many other publications. You may have seen his photo of the Portland Japanese Garden in autumn, which serves as the cover shot for a Providence Home Services brochure. It also hangs in Portland City Hall.

Most recently, Oregon Road Trippers chose his shot of the Santiam Pass in autumn as Photo of the Week (Sept. 19-15) and "First Snow on the Salmon River" was picked for Nov. 21-27.

A third-place winner in the Landscape Category for the 2011 "Catch the Color Wooden Shoe Tulip Photo Contest," examples of Hersen's work can be seen at Photographybymichel.net.



Les Dougherty

Resting snug along the rolling foothills of the Tillamook forest, Les Dougherty's workshop springs to life amongst the trees. Working with a gentle and metered pace, Les fires up his lathe, begins to shape a piece of maple slowly and methodically, grinding down and encouraging the form of a bowl from what had been a square block.

This process between maker and material is just one interaction the artist maintains between himself and his surroundings.

With his medium of choice just outside his front door, the process of working and shaping wood runs full circle at Northwoods Figured Woods. Les grew up with, and around, wood. Having weathered the downturn of the contracting business in 2008, he re-oriented

and decided to focus on doing what he likes most: working with the enchanting and beautiful grain and figure of the Pacific Northwest hardwoods.

He is well known for his work with big leaf maples. Skilled in hollow-forms, bowls, end grain cutting boards, and flatware, Les likes to work with each piece on an individual basis, letting the wood "decide" what to become. Paying attention to the fine grain, figure, and spalt* of the pieces Les works with bring him joy – especially when they reveal their form upon the lathe.

Along with the lathe, he holds special regard for his saws, which are a favorite instrument in his toolkit. His attention to detail is what sets his work apart from others. His appreciation for wood was fostered and supported by his father, a fellow woodworker and cane enthusiast.

Les cares deeply about his medium, and is spiritually connected with his creations. This connectedness serves to inform, and educate his growth as an artist, and

how he explores his relationship with the wood.

Please join us on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012, at the Valley Art Gallery, 2022 Main St., Forest Grove, when we will welcome our three artists at a special reception from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. The receptions almost always feature some very special treats and the receptions are free and open to everyone (not just Valley Art members).

Please come and join us for this special event and share the joy of fine art at the beginning of this brand new year.

*Spalt: From www.finewoodworking.com – an article by Sara Robinson

Any product associated with rot and decay is likely to have an image problem. Spalted wood is no exception: You're more likely to find it in your firewood pile than in your local lumberyard.

However, a growing number of woodworkers are looking past the decay and discovering the beauties of spalted wood. These include colors not normally found in wood, contrasting light and dark colors adjacent to each other and, most notably, brown and black lines running

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through the wood. Unique to spalted wood, these lines can range from one or two running down a board to something resembling contour lines drawn by a drunken mapmaker.

Spalting wood is a lot like growing plants. With the right amounts of food, water, and heat, you should end up with good results, but success is by no means guaranteed. Rather like home cooking, every result is likely to be slightly different.

First, pick your wood. Maple, birch, and beech are ideal, as their pale colors act as a blank canvas. Due to its hardness, maple is especially good because areas that receive too much spalting won't turn as soft as, say, a piece of aspen.

Air-dried wood comes already laden with dormant spores of different fungi, so there is no need to introduce more spores. Kiln-dried wood is more hit-and-miss because steam sterilizing will kill all the spores, but regular kiln-drying may kill only some of them. In either case, to be on the safe side, you'll need to obtain fungal spores, either by collecting them out in the woods or checking your firewood pile for spalted wood. If the piece is too small to make anything out of, you can cut the wood and use the sawdust or shavings for your spalting experiments.

The ideal conditions for spalting are darkness with around 80% humidity and 80 ° F temperatures. To achieve these conditions, you can place the wood in either a plastic bag (but don't seal it, because the fungi require oxygen) or a plastic storage bin. These bins are not airtight and they come in a variety of sizes.

If you use a plastic container, it's advisable to pack some sort of filler around the wood to help prevent moisture loss. Vermiculite, a

dry, flaky soil additive available at garden-supply centers, is a relatively clean material.

Lay dampened boards in the container and place pieces of fungi in contact with them. Then cover the boards with more damp vermiculite and put a loose lid on the container. Finally, break the fungi into small pieces and place them on the wood. The board does not need to be covered completely; however, the more places you stick some spores, especially on the end grain, the quicker the piece will spalt. Place the bin somewhere warm and dark, and wait.

The amount of time it takes for a piece of wood to start spalting will vary by species, fungi, temperature, and the size of the piece. Because moving the wood slows the spalting, it is best to place a few small sample pieces of wood in the container at the start of the experiment. Starting at six weeks, remove a block every two weeks to check it for softness and color. If you like what you have, remove the board from the bin or bag. If not, wait another two weeks and check again. Air-dry the wood before you use it. The fungi will continue to colonize the wood until the moisture drops below 20%.

Elf Workshop draws huge audience

With around 300 art projects completed in a single day, The Elf Workshop on December 3rd during the Holiday in Grove event was a huge success.

Participants quickly filled the room and worked on gifts for the holidays. Projects included ornaments, photo albums, calendars,

trinket boxes, photo frames, puzzles and more.

Parents and instructors helped kids of all ages, with most of the projects completed within the first few hours. Event organizers scrambled to find more supplies to keep the workshop running until the Holiday in the Grove Light Parade at 5:00.

Thank you to everyone involved, and we are happy to see such a great opportunity for the community and the kids during the holiday season.

Remembering Carlene Meedom ...

Valley Art has lost a longtime artist and friend. Carlene Meedom passed away on August 3, 2011. She will be remembered for her wonderful paintings of cows and horses and scenes of eastern Oregon.

Carlene was among many local budding artists who took lessons from Sharon Engel in the 1980s. This group stayed together with Sharon for almost 10 years. At this point, many in the group went out and became "plein air" painters. They ventured out and painted the nearby countryside on a regular basis. Carlene also enjoyed yearly trips with friends to the Baker area and other points in central and eastern Oregon. These trips to paint stimulated much of the work she brought into Valley Art.

This painting group made up the nucleus of the artist group "Local Colour." The group is still together and meets every Thursday to paint. In earlier years Carlene was a doll maker. These dolls were beautiful and had great detail. She was meticulous with all of her projects. Carlene was fun-loving, kind and a dear friend. We will all miss her.

Members' enthusiasm makes Annual Artist Event possible

It still amazes me every time I stop and consider that Valley Art is completely volunteer operated. Each volunteer covering each task is there because of an appreciation for both art and public service. I think that's what makes the Annual Artist Event (AAE) truly amazing. The grand November event that welcomes and celebrates the members who are so important to Valley Art also celebrates the volunteers making it all happen.

This year, with a goal of reaching out across ages and interests in our community, the gallery held a variety of themed celebrations during the AAE. In addition, Valley Art got to show off its new art hanging system. Not only does the system provide a very professional gallery look, it will save countless hours in the task of hanging new artwork.

Whether you visited with us during the opening members' reception, during the ArtTWEET, community night, Chamber of Commerce mixer or on the delightful concluding Family Day, we're glad you came by and hope you're proud of what your modest membership fee contributes to make possible.

And to the host of volunteers lending a hand during the AAE-- there were 42 of them!-- our sincere thanks. All of you are truly amazing and you've once again pulled together another wonderful, delightful, successful AAE. Thank you all!

- Brenda Somes, AAE chair

Dearest Annual Artist Event Volunteers,

*The work is completed.
The brushes are washed.
And now it's time to step back and consider
the caring, the creativity,
the hours poured out
by you.*

*On behalf of Valley Art and the Annual Artist Event,
thank you!*



Thank you to our November mailing party of Linda Wilke, Jeannette Saucy, David Saucy Jr., Cliff Kennedy, Jack Howard, Pat Howard, Ruth Holznagel, Bob Holznagel, Nedra Hathaway, Jerry Rauscher, John Welch, Joan Bolen, Merrie French, Bob Oetke and Karen Oetke.

Valley Art needs volunteers. Do you have a skill or time to share?
Call 503-357-3703 for more information and a call back. E-mail office@valleyart.org. Thank you!



Sign up for Classes at the Valley Art front desk or contact the class instructor directly.

You can also contact Christiana Mayer for more information at education@valleyart.org

Kids Classes

Moms and Me

Wednesdays 10:30 am- noon

January 4th - March 7th

Cost \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members or nine class series: 9 classes: \$85 members/\$100 non-members.

This class will consist of mothers and children playing in different mediums. It's an opportunity for mothers and their kids to come to get creative together! Activities will include finger painting portraits, pictures with stamps, abstract water painting, and colorful fruit blocks.

Portraits Through Art and Time

Wednesdays 4-5pm

January 4th - March 7th

Cost \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members or nine class series: 9 classes: \$85 members/\$100 non-members.

Each week students will learn about a new art movement, ranging from Impressionist to Cubism to Pop Art. Nicole will highlight an artist from each movement whose work will be the inspiration for the students' paintings.

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Students will then create three different drawings based on the artist's work that was studied and then choose one to turn into a painting.

Children's Pottery

Saturdays, January 14 & 21

10:30am to 12:00pm Ages: 6 - 12

Cost: \$24.00 per child

Call Christine Hurayt at 503-501-7589 or email crizzylu@aol.com for more information.

Let's make snowflakes to decorate our windows! Children will build with coils and learn to attach them to each other to form snowflakes. They will return the following Saturday to paint and add glitter and a ribbon to their decorations.

Saturdays, January 28 & Feb. 4

Time: 10:30am to 12:00pm Ages:

6 - 12 Cost: 24.00 per child

Call Christine Hurayt at 503-501-7589 or email crizzylu@aol.com for more information.

We will build heart shaped picture frames and have them ready in time for Valentines Day. The following Saturday the little artists will paint their frames, add embellishments and photographs! Please bring a few photos for framing.

Beading Classes

All Beading Classes taught by Lanai Kinsky. For more info go to:

www.lanaikinsky.com/calendar.php

Bugle Band

Part One: January 12 6 - 9 p.m.

Part Two: January 19 6 - 9pm

Intermediate | Cost: \$28.00

Class Fee \$18, Kit Fee \$10. Learn the ladder stitch, basic brick stitch and how to attach fire polish beads to an edge while making this classy band. Colors:

Sapphire, blush, black.

Sorento

Part One | January 12 | 6 - 9 p.m.

Part Two | January 19 | 6 - 9 p.m.

Intermediate Level | Cost: \$57.00

\$25 class fee total for two days, plus \$32 supply fee. Three colors to choose from. Use right angle weave and peyote to weave this charming bracelet. This is a two day class.

Nifty Needles

Thursday, January 26, 2012

Thursday, February 2, 2012

Thursday, February 23, 2012

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. All levels Cost:

\$3.00

Bead, knit, or crochet with a group of women! Bring cookies or a snack to share, if you want to. \$3 per class or \$28 per year for members - \$43 per year for non-members.

Country Garden

Thursday, February 16, 2012 6 - 9 p.m.

All levels Cost: \$30.00

\$15 class fee and \$15 kit fee. There will be a variety of colors to choose from. Bead a country garden you can wear all year long. Learn needle and thread techniques to weave in a variety of beads for a full garden effect. Beginners welcome, needle and thread experience of some sort.

Graceful Pearls

February 19, 2012 6 - 9 p.m.

All levels Cost: \$31.00

\$15 class fee and \$16 kit fee. There will be a variety of colors to choose from. Learn the Chevron stitch using Swarovski pearls and high luster 11 seed beads. This necklace sits in a perfect circle around your neck. Learn to make earrings.

Adult Pottery

Enter the classroom from the back entrance on class night. Sign up with a gallery sitter at the front desk. You can email pottery@valleyart.org or call Christine at 503-501-7589 for more information.

Intermediate to Advanced Adult Pottery

**Tuesdays from 6:30pm - 9:30pm
January 17 - March 6**

Cost is \$99 for members/\$109 for non-members
Clay is \$13.00 per bag/Tool kits available for \$15.00

Please wear old clothing to this class, or bring an apron. You must bring an old towel for clean up. We will make pottery through week 5 or 6 and glaze/decorate our pottery weeks 7 & 8.

Beginning to Intermediate Adult Pottery

**Thursdays from 6:30pm - 9:30pm
January 19 - March 8**

Cost is \$99 for members
\$109 for non-members
Clay is \$13.00 per bag/Tool kits available for \$15.00

Please wear old clothing to this class, or bring an apron. You must bring an old towel for clean up. We will make pottery through week 3 or 4 and glaze/decorate our pottery weeks 5 & 6.

Short Session: Beginning Pottery for Teens and Adults

**Saturdays, 2:00pm-4:30pm.
January 21st - Feb. 25th**
Cost is \$70.00 for members and \$80.00 for non-members.

Please wear old clothing to this class, or

bring an apron. You must bring an old towel for clean up. Tool kits are available for \$15.00 & clay is \$13.00 per bag. We will make pottery through week 3 or 4 and glaze/decorate our pottery weeks 5 & 6.

Continuing Classes

Quilting Studio: (101)

Times: Fridays 9am-1:30pm
Cost: \$28-year /\$43-year non-members

Description: This is an ongoing class and may be joined at any time. All levels, from beginning to advanced are welcome. This is the time to do your own work, get expert advice on a special project and meet with other local quilters. Come join the fun.

Needlework Studio: (102)

Times: Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am
Cost: \$28 year/ \$43-year non-members

Hardanger embroidery is a delicate form of openwork which originated in the Hardanger region of Norway hundreds of years ago. This is an ongoing class and may be joined at anytime. All levels from beginning to advanced are welcome. Each person works on their own project.

Wood Carving:

AM: (112) PM (113)
Instructor: Jeff Harness - hasjeffh@hotmail.com
Times: Mondays 9-12am or 1-4pm
Cost: \$12 Members/\$27 non-Members

Open carving class for all levels. Bring your own project and join this group. Every Monday from 9-12am.

Watercolor Studio: (110)

Times: Tuesdays 11am-1pm
Costs: 6 classes: \$85 members/\$100 non-members
Per session: \$15 members/\$20 non
Instructor: JanSu Hirst jansu@time-forhealing.org

Open to all levels to learn watercolor techniques. Learn art basics such as color mixing and drawing skills as you learn about preparing your paper for watercolor, brush handling, and a wide range of techniques. Tuesdays, 11am-1pm. Supply list available at sign up.

Silk Workshop: (A481)

Instructor: JanSu Hirst jansu@time-forhealing.org
Times: by Appointment
Cost: \$55.00 members/\$70.00 non

Learn the techniques used in silk painting and experience the thrill of the silk paint flowing across silk. Supplies are furnished for a 5' scarf and a 16" X 20" piece. Patterns are available or bring your own sketches.

Forest Grove Camera Club

Wednesdays (Except 1st Wed.) 7:30pm
Contact:
Carol Berget cberget@msn.com
Cost: \$25 Annual
\$5 Students | \$10 Associate

The Forest Grove Camera Club is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and the Columbia Council of Camera Clubs. The club participates in a variety of competitions, evaluations and provides programs as well as field trips.

Art Club:

Times: Most Tuesdays at 6:30
Contact: Barb Helvi Smith helvismith@gmail.com or 503-349-4043

Free club open to anyone interested in art. Networking and fun!

Scan this Quick Response
code with your smart phone!



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Upcoming Shows Include:

March-April 2012

KoKa Filipovic - Mixed Media
Barbara Paanakker - Abstracts
Recycled Garden Art

May-June 2012

Susan Currington - Acrylic Floral/Fauna!
Bonnie Bennett - Spring Flowers
Isabella Soul'e-Porcelain Pottery

July-August 2012

To be announced...
Chalk Art Festival Coming in September!

With all of our new space, opportunities to show will be offered to three (or four) artists when possible.
Remember on the first Wednesday of the every month the gallery is open until 8 p.m.