

PMA Newsletter 2016-1

## Exhibitions: Arastu, Berry, Dicruttalo, Friedman, Salter

The new year opened with five exhibitions: paintings based on Arabic calligraphy by Salma Arastu; prints that focus on flora, fauna and endangered species by Tim Berry; sculpture in steel and bronze by Albert Dicruttalo; intaglio prints on handmade paper by Betty Friedman; and portraits in oils and pastels by Linda Salter (closed March 20).

The Arastu and Berry exhibitions close on April 10. The Dicruttalo and Friedman exhibitions close May 15.

When the Berry and Arastu exhibitions are de-installed (in the Decker and South galleries), the walls will be patched, painted and covered in artwork from the San Mateo County schools for the annual SamTrans "Art Takes a Bus Ride" competition. The big event—judging, awards and reception—will be a one-day event on Sunday, May 1. The winning image is then enlarged and applied to a SamTrans bus—watch for it!

What's coming next? Watch for the announcement card: Exhibitions of paintings by Rod Titus and Fortune Sitole open May 8. Both painters specialize in images of communities they know well: the Mills Estate in the case of Titus, South African villages in the case of Sitole.

Silicon Valley Open Studios is scheduled for May 14 and 15, an excellent time (11–5) to visit PMA's 30 working studios for professional visual artists.



"Celebrations of Calligraphy" by Salma Arastu





"Felix Culpa" by Tim Berry



"Intaglio Compositions on Handmade Paper" by Betty Friedman



"In Sight - Insight" by Linda Salter



Arabella Decker



"Sunset" by Aarabella Decker

Arabella Decker, one of the key original members of the Museum Working Committee which evolved into the Museum Board, died unexpectedly at her home in Florida in January. She was a dear friend for many, many years, and I am still grieving.

To give you an idea of Arabella's history of support, she wrote a personal check for \$5,000 to start a bank account when we received our 501(c)3 from the IRS, and her family foundation—the O.P. Decker Memorial Foundation—has donated nearly \$500,000 (basically, our operating budget during our Belmont years) since 2004. I had to talk her into letting us name the Decker Galleries accordingly.

Arabella lived on Montara Mountain for many

years, and was also a key supporter of the Coastal Arts League in Half Moon Bay. CAL is planning a special event in Arabella's memory on Saturday, May 14, from 11 to 5.

We discussed a memorial for Arabella at the February meeting of the Governing Board and decided to designate PMA's South Gallery "Arabella's Gallery." We will inaugurate it with an exhibition of her paintings; the timing is uncertain—we are working on locating and arranging to borrow artwork from collectors in the Bay Area. I have one, and so does Board member Kim Nelson, so that is a start.

Thank you for understanding.

Ruth Waters, Founder & Executive Director

**Touring PMA** PMA's Art Access program offers docent-led tours for the mobility-impaired and visitors with other disabilities during hours that the Museum is closed to the general public (Mondays and Tuesday afternoons).

Tours for small groups may be arranged at other times by making a reservation for a docent: **peninsulamuseum@gmail.com** 

Custom tours that include a short, hands-on art project for up to 15 children can also be arranged. For a field trip of this nature, contact our Education Department at peninsula.museum.edu@gmail.com. Sixteen of the Museum's 30 studios are on the main floor; the other 14 are upstairs and can be toured by special arrangement if stairs are a problem (sorry, no elevator, but we do have ADA access).

Regular hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 11 to 5. Admission to the Museum is always free. •

### **Museum Studios**

In the beginning, about half of the PMA studio artists moved up from the 1870 Art Center in Belmont. They had been "1870" from 1985 until closure in June of 2012, 27 years of identity in the Peninsula's cultural community.

And so it was that the name "Peninsula Art Institute" was created to give the "old" artists and the "new" artists a shared identity.

After three years in Burlingame, the studio artists have become an important department of the Museum, and the PAI name has created confusion in the community.

Henceforth, the working studios are collectively known as Museum Studios or Peninsula Museum of Art Studios, and the gallery across the Courtyard that they manage is the Studios Gallery. •

# SCHEDULED EXHIBITIONS

**Jan. 17 – April 10** Tim Berry, paintings, Decker A & B Galleries

Salma Arastu, paintings, South Gallery

**Feb. 28 – May 15** Betty Friedman, prints, North Gallery Albert Dicruttalo, sculpture, East Gallery

**March 24 – May 1 Project 6**, Studios Gallery

May 1 SamTrans' "Art Takes a Bus Ride," Decker A & B Galleries and South Gallery

**May 5 – 22** Studio Artists, Studios Gallery

**May 8 – July 10** Rod Titus, paintings, Decker A & B Galleries

Fortune Sitole, mixed media paintings, South Gallery

**May 14, 15** Silicon Valley Open Studios, 30 artists' studios

**May 26 – July 3** Cheryl Coon, sculpture, Studios Gallery

## Peninsula Museum of Art

### **Governing Board**

Chair: Ruth Waters Patty Jones Ronnie Goldfield Kim McCool Nelson

#### **Advisers**

Ronald Burgess Jerry Emanuel

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Website Designer Werner Glinka	

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**Artist Talks** What's the backstory? Why did the artist choose this medium, that style? What experiences fed this idea, these images?

Artists communicate. Many (not all) are willing to share their creative lives with us. After all, they are visual, not necessarily verbal, or they wouldn't be artists.

This winter we have presented four of our Museum exhibitors in Artist Talks: Tim Berry on Feb. 11, Salma Arastu on March 6, Albert Dicruttalo on March 13, and Betty Friedman on March 20.

There will be more, on an irregular basis. Notices go out to our email database, and our events are covered regularly and reliably in the *San Mateo County Times* (Bonny Zanardi) and the *Daily Journal* (Susan Cohn).

**How YOU Can Help!** The Peninsula Museum of Art needs your help to survive and thrive. Here are some ways you can support your local art museum:

**Car Donations:** Call the Center for Car Donations **541-647-5744**. They do all the work, PMA gets the donation, YOU get the tax deduction.

**eScrip:** Shop Locally at participating local grocers and drug stores or dine out with eScrip—patronize local merchants who give back!

**Write a Check:** PMA is a 501©3 non-profit, so every donation is totally tax-deductible (as specified by law).

**Volunteer:** On the Reception Desk, managing Special Events, assisting the children's art class instructors in Leonardo's Studios, or helping with community outreach.



Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage **PAID** Permit No. 10 Belmont, CA

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# Leonardo's Studio

## Art Labs for Kids

Leonardo's Studio is a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) based art program for children. As "art scientists," children have fun learning while exploring the creative process through experimentation. Our new program kicks off with two pilot sessions that began on March 7 and 11:

### Color: It's more than you think!

3rd, 4th and 5th graders (six consecutive Monday afternoons)

### Art + Math = Wow!

5th, 6th and 7th graders (six consecutive Friday afternoons)

Program director Ellen Chong, credentialed and experienced in the field of children's art, taught the art education concepts curriculum at Notre Dame de Namur University for 14 years.

Bookmark our website at

www.peninsulamuseum.org and watch for updates and opportunities as we grow our program!



From 101: Exit onto Millbrae Avenue and turn left at El Camino Real. Turn left at Trousdale (second light), and turn right into the parking lot.

From 280: Exit onto Trousdale (from south, follow signs). Take Trousdale all the way down, cross El Camino Real, and turn right into the parking lot.