

Sanchez Art Center and CSM Eve. Oil Painting Class

Coastside Invitational

Sanchez Art Center, Pacifica from Jan. 15 - Feb. 14, 2010

The Evening Oil Painting class at The College of San Mateo consists of painters ranging from beginners who have never touched a brush before to highly skilled experienced painters of many years. The work in this show is from ten advanced painters. You can see that, besides being technically proficient, they have all achieved the ultimate goal of any artist...the creation of powerful, highly personal and authentic work. It is such an honor for me, as their teacher, to be part of this process. Art making is soul making, and the product of art is really the by product of that journey. - Rebecca Alex

"The defining function of the artist is to cherish consciousness." Max Eastman



Sanchez Art Center Coastside Invitational Painters from CSM Eve. Oil Painting Class, 2009

Gary Crispino

Soap Lake, Oil on Canvas

24" x 36", 2009

\$ 850.00

I was born in Gilroy California and soon after moved to Los Angeles with my mother, father and two sisters. At a young age my mother use to take me to my uncle's house who was a house painter and artist and that gave me inspiration to start sketching. My mother thought my sketches were good as mothers do and had asked my uncle to teach me a few things about oil painting. So he tried to give me a few lessons, which he didn't seem too happy about. He mainly spoke Italian and his English was poor so you can imagine I didn't get much out of it other than frustration. When I was seven my parents divorced and we moved back to Gilroy California to live with my father, grandparents and two sisters. My had cousins got me in the jewelry business and I graduated from the Gemological Institute of America and have been enjoying a good career in the jewelry business. I learned to appreciate the beauty of colored stones and jewelry, which has had a major influence for my appreciation of fine art. I am currently enrolled at the College of San Mateo in the painting department. My instructor Rebecca Alex has been a great teacher, inspiration and motivator to me. The style that I strive for is to be loose, lively and personal expression. I would like the viewer to see some energy in the painting and brushstrokes. Thank you for letting us share our paintings with you.



John Sines

Dawn Still Life, Oil on Canvas

24" x 32", 2009

\$2,500.--

John has studied with Master painters Rebecca Alex, Brigitte Curt, Jim Smythe and Brian Blood. Inspired by William Turner, Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Rembrandt. Primarily focused on impressionistic representations through a "painterly" approach, studying how light defines shapes, color, distance and time. This painting captures the dawn light dancing and defining the dimension and chroma of its objects, as the light cascades through and among the various objects. As the light intensifies, details are obscured and the color shifts from cool hues to warm embracing colors, while shadows suddenly appear, representing the beginning of the day's transitions.



Gail Mintz

Zebras on the Maasai Mara, Oil on Canvas

24" x 30", 2009

NFS

For many years I have been interested in photography and traveling. Following my retirement in 1998, I took a 4 hour watercolor class and was happy to learn that I could express myself with a brush as well as with a camera. I have since experimented with multiple medium- including oil, acrylic, colored pencil, charcoal and mosaic- and various styles from abstract to realistic.

Like the oil painting, *Zebras on the Maasai Mara*, many of my works are inspired by mental or digital pictures I have taken during my visits to over 50 countries. I love that my images of people, animals and scenery keep my memories vivid. Each picture is a small part of a much larger story I hope that the viewer can enjoy the captured moment and recognize within it my respect for the beauty of mother nature and the universality of human nature.



Diane Hsia

Grand Canyon, Oil on Canvas

18" x 24", 2009

\$400. —

As a child, I would always stare at the sky, with clouds floating in the day and stars glowing in the night, & play in the green grass fields speckled with wild flowers. Just wonder how the Mother Nature can create such a beauty....

While standing in front of the magnificent Grand Canyon, the endless peaks and white ribbon-like stream flowing down at the far depth, it brings me nothing but huge, in peace and serenity. I feel like a piece of sand that can be blown into the air and disappear in the canyon at anytime with no trace.

That is amazing....



Erica Herbert

Sydney, Oil on Canvas

16" x 20", 2009

NFS

Erica Herbert was born and raised in San Francisco, currently living on the peninsula. She started studying art in high school. Her career began in charcoal sketching, and moved into photography in the early 1990s. In 2000, she began painting in oils. She continued her studies under Rebecca Alex at CSM, where she improved on her techniques and started portraits.



Alison Greenspan

Beside Me, Oil on Canvas

20" x 16", 2008

NFS

I most often paint from my imagination, without a preconceived idea of what I will paint. I begin with random, expressive lines, and lightly rub off and draw again until I have a faint network of lines and shapes before me. I look forward to the moment when bit of line or shape suggests something to me and I begin to interact with the painting. My goal isn't to make each canvas a finished painting; I just paint and hope someday I might call myself a painter. I'm stubborn about finding my own way to do this and, even if I'm often unsuccessful, I enjoy the struggle. I'm so appreciative of our teacher, Rebecca Alex, for her instruction, encouragement and wonderful ability to help each of us paint in our own way.



Ginny Heenan

Emerald, Oil on Canvas

20" x 24", 2009

\$ 1,200. —

I believe the life journey we are all on affords us endless opportunities to grow, to change, and to become. It is an ongoing process that speaks to the cyclical nature of our lives and our interconnection. We become one thing, and then we endeavor to become something else. This sacred circle of life, death, and transformation speaks through my work and can be observed directly, figuratively or symbolically within the imagery



Vivien Chow

Into my Soul, Oil on Canvas

40" x 30", 2009

\$1,250. –

Art comes in many forms. Creating a painting is like an adventure, starting with picking your medium, colors and forms. Art is an expression and exploration of the artist's ideas, feelings and mood, therefore, no two will ever be the same.

To create a captivating experience, I like to use oil for my abstract paintings. Each color creates vivid forms and each brush varies to invoke my mood. People should interpret and enjoy the painting on their own but focus on the mood, the personality and overall feeling of the painting.



Margaret Chen

Universality, Oil on Canvas

40" x 30", 2009

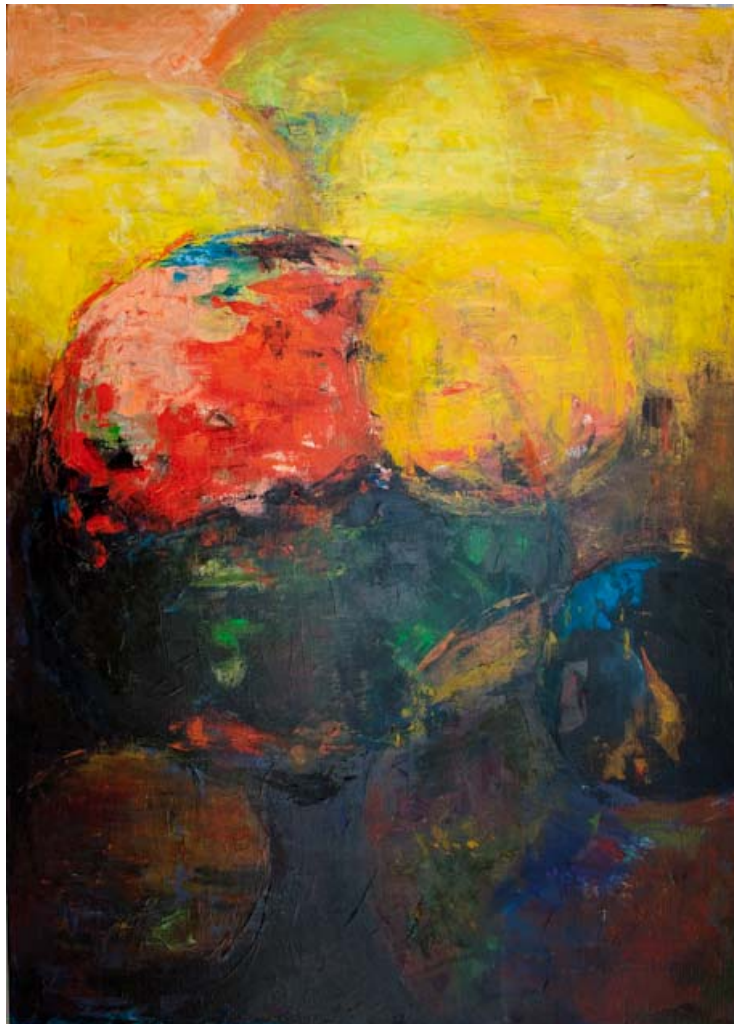
\$ 1,500. (no frame), \$1,800. (with frame)

Art has been an incredible learning experience that I can never seem to get enough of. As a child, I began with chalk because that was all I could afford. Since then, I have worked with watercolor, paint, oil, and most recently computer-generated artwork. For many years I was a mother and housewife. It has been only five years since I went back to painting but I feel I am at the peak of my art career and my life-long experience is shining through.

My medium has changed through the years - I've had the opportunity to work with watercolor, window display, digital art, and most recently I made a return to oil painting. Due to my opportunity to explore several different mediums of art, my most recent oil paintings have really blossomed into an organic expression of the artist I truly am because now I have free range to explore and implement the tools and techniques from past experiences. For most of my artwork, I use both brushes and palette knives to create uneven surfaces and textures.

My paintings are recognized for their dramatic color palette and powerful handling of abstract forms. I believe my work radiates a focused energy that is frequently stirring and cheerful, sometimes dark and mysterious.

I am also starting to paint portraits. To be able to capture the spirit of the subject with light and shadow, color and texture is fascinating.—



Joanne Ellison

Impressions of Growth, Oil and Oil Bar on Canvas

36" x 36", 2009

\$ 1,200.

Loving color and texture, I often proceed with "what if--" hoping to find my own original symbols both conscious and unconscious. In the process I see what is working to satisfy more formal artistic issues. This work is part of a series abstracted from luminescent paintings of lilies. The shapes were formed with oil bars, brushed paint and sprayed with turpentine for texture. Accidental effects as they occurred preceded the analyzing and subsequently created an expression of unfolding and growth.



Rebecca Alex

Hart Lake at Sunrise, High Sierra; Oil on Canvas

30" x 30", 2009

\$ 1,200. —

Lately I've become very interested in light, especially how the quality of light defines a place and our responses to it. This painting, *Sunrise at Hart Lake, High Sierra* is a memory of a very special place and time that I shared with my family. The early morning sunlight captures for me the essence of the place, the joy I felt at being there with my loved ones, the fresh smell of the trees and lake and the anticipation of the day to come.





Gary Crispino



John Sines



Margaret Chen



Erica Herbert



Ginny Heenan



Connie Lee



Alison Greenspan and Rebecca Alex