



SPRING 2015

YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL ARTS & CULTURE IN THE METHOW VALLEY.
ART GROWS HERE.

Paula Christen

FEATURED ARTIST: PAULA CHRISTEN

IN THIS ISSUE: PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS EDUCATION • EXHIBITS & MORE



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SPRING 2015



Amanda Jackson Mott
executive director
Methow Arts Alliance

With this issue of ART Magazine I encourage you to have a conversation with nature. The themes of renewal, exploration and awareness are emphasized throughout these pages. For many of us making a choice to live or visit the Methow Valley is tied directly to these themes. Many have told me that they are here to experience a life that is more genuine, to take time to indulge in the outdoors and to connect to the people around them.

Artists Laura Gunnip and Robin Doggett of Door No. 3 Print & Book Art Studio describe what may be on many of our minds, how, "spring brings signs of renewal that are heartening after the wild fires moved through our area last summer." Spring exposes mushroom varieties like morels and Arrowleaf Balsam Root flowers turning our hillsides yellow. Their 2015 calendar explores what it means to inhabit a wild, natural landscape and look at the signs of renewal for each month. Find their artwork and descriptions for March through May on page 15.

Reading through the following pages, you'll also find innovative ways to immerse yourself in spring such as learning a new skill through an art workshop, engaging in the interaction of public art and nature or attending an event. I urge you to do something new this spring. For Poetry Month in April why not explore William Stafford's River Poems described on the opposite page. Or attend or volunteer for an event such as Pipestone's Music Days in May that showcases our local talents, or the whimsical Wig Party held at TwispWorks in March. You'll find all events and workshops in our calendar on pages 4 and 5.

Need suggestions? As always please call me with questions. I wish you a happy spring!



ART Magazine cover shot of Danbert Nobacon
in Fall '13. Photo by Sol Gutierrez

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METHOW ARTS

Methow Arts Alliance
109 Second Avenue, PO Box 723
Twisp, WA 98856
509.997.4004
www.MethowValleyArts.org

METHOW ARTS ALLIANCE is a non profit organization founded in 1983 that enriches the lives of our community through a variety of diverse art programs.

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ART MAGAZINE connects audiences with the work of our many resident and visiting artists and the organizations that provide a breadth of arts programming. It is a celebration of the vision, genius and creativity that abound in the Methow Valley and beyond. To receive this publication in the mail, please become a member of one or more of our collaborating Arts Partner organizations. Thank you for supporting a rich and varied arts community.

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www.methowarts.org
509.997.4004

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Visit our **WEBSITE AND ARTS CALENDAR**
www.MethowArts.org

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www.cascadiamusic.org



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www.twispinfo.com



Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Fest
Winthrop Music Association
509.997.3837
www.winthropbluesfestival.com



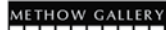
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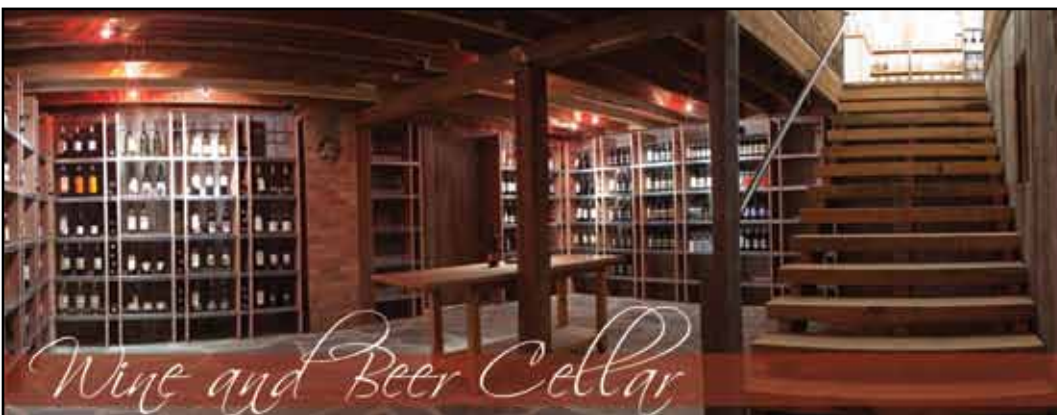
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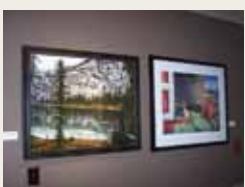
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Spring Wildflowers



The Gallery



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WHAT THE RIVER SAYS: THE METHOW RIVER POEM PLAQUES OF WILLIAM STAFFORD

By magazine contributor Subhaga Crystal Bacon, Executive Director - Methow Valley Community School

ASK ME

*Some time, when the river is ice ask me
mistakes I have made. Ask me whether
what I have done is my life. Others
have come in their slow way into
my thought, and some have tried to help
or to hurt: ask me what difference
their strongest love or hate has made.
I will listen to what you say.
You and I can turn and look
at the silent river and wait. We know
the current is there, hidden; and there
are comings and goings from miles away
that hold the stillness exactly before us.
What the river says, that is what I say.*

-William Stafford

Spring is almost upon us! All that has been buried throughout the frozen winter months is waiting to burst forth: bulb flowers, bird song, new grass. Out of the fertile, moist earth, our renewal comes forward as we move toward the spring equinox later this month. April is poetry month, and what a great month it is to celebrate these songs of our souls.

Our Valley is a great place for spring pilgrimages. One way to enjoy both poetry and nature is to visit the "Methow River Poems" plaques by the poet William Stafford that meander along the river from Pateros to Winthrop. The Forest Service approached Stafford in 1992, a year before his death, to write a series of poems that would reflect the landscape and spirit of the North Cascades. Stafford has long been associated with the expansiveness of nature and of the human spirit. A lifelong pacifist, Stafford's relaxed and conversational poetics reflect his embodiment as a human being. Writing of a late night flat tire in the mountains of California when the only traffic that passed in the dark was a flock of Hells' Angels, his daughter described her father's "studied slouch," a relaxation of his body that innately communicated his inner cool. Neither predator nor prey, his Being emanated composure and utter peace with the world.

Which brings us to the River Poems. Asked by the Forest Service to write poems that might serve as meditative plaques along the Methow, Stafford followed his own "hidden river" to produce seventeen poems, seven of which were originally selected for plaques. Two or three of these are in the area of the Pass. To keep your pilgrimage close to home, here's a meditation on the four that are nearer at hand.

My favorite of the bunch is the sonnet "Ask Me," which adorns the plaque located roughly behind Trails End Books in Winthrop. Like "Traveling," this poem explores a paradox. It begins with an invitation, "Ask me," and then in stanza two, after the questions one might pose, he says "I will listen to what you say." But in the end, it's the frozen river that speaks with its hidden currents that "hold the stillness exactly before us. What the river says, that is what I say."

(Read Bacon's full article @ methowarts.org/staffordpoems)



Methow residents Curtis Edwards and his wife Sheela McLean placed the Stafford poems on the river in 1993-94 while working for the Forest Service. "It started as interpretive signs about the river (Respect the River program) and developed into the companion signs when we went looking for some truly inspiring writing," says Edwards. "The Methow River poems were some of the last he wrote." Edwards has recently repaired and replaced several of the plaques throughout the valley.

Hear recordings and see a video of the poems read by NPR's Garrison Keillor, read full article, view photographs and explore our public art map to find out the locations of the Stafford plaques in the Methow Valley online @ methowarts.org/staffordpoems. info@methowartsalliance.org, 509.997.4004

METHOW VALLEY PUBLIC ART MAP
CONNECTING YOU TO ART
→ UPDATES ONLINE AND
IN FUTURE PUBLICATIONS
WWW.METHOWARTS.ORG

26. TWISP
Steve Love will install his latest piece in spring 2014 at the Twisp Ponds site.

31. ENTRO
TwispWorks is proud to host several spheres by the late Bernard Hoesy, including, Entro. Steel and concrete.

LEGEND:
MOSAICS & INSTALLATIONS
PAINTING
POEMS/PROSE
SCULPTURE

ARTIST LIST:
1. A Valley Like This - William Stafford
2. Silver Star - William Stafford
3. Transitions - Mazama Kiosk - Barry Stromberger
4. Flora & Fauna of the Methow - Bruce Morrison, Jim Neupert, and MV Elementary School students
5. Where We Are - William Stafford
6. The War of the Frogs and Cranes - Richard Seyer
7. Wildland Firefighter Memorial - Barry Stromberger
8. Ask Me - William Stafford
9. Town Trailhead Kiosk - Jessica Dietz
10. Winter in the Methow - Tori Karpenko and Liberty Bell High School students
11. Wait for Me - Bruce Morrison
12. Our Forests, Fire, and Recovery - Laura Rudd, Kathleen Briley, and MV Elementary students
13. Sean McCabe Memorial - Tara Gregg and Barry Stromberger
14. Positive Graffiti - LBHS students under direction of Sean McCabe
15. LBHS Entry Sign - Bruce Morrison and Jim Neupert
16. Cougar Tapestry - WAC, Unknown Artist
17. Botanical Prints - WAC, Unknown Artist
18. Seasons of the Methow - Dierdre Cassidy, Janet Esley, and 5th & 6th grade
19. Seed to Table - Nicole Ringgold and MV elementary students
20. Fishy Pillars - Janie Lewis. Assisted by 5th & 6th grade
21. The Methow - Bruce Morrison and Jim Neupert
22. Is this Feeling about the West Real? - William Stafford
23. Bringing Home the Bacon/Salmon - Dan Brown
24. Father Flood - Bruce Morrison
25. Blue Heron and Smolt - Coral Bradburn
26. Twisp - Steve Love
27. Grandfather Flood - Bruce Morrison
28. Children Taking Water to Herbs - Richard Seyer
29. Seasons of the Methow - Kate Jones
30. Fish Grow on Trees - Nicole Ringgold
31. Entro - Bernard Hoesy
32. Round and Round - Bernard Hoesy
33. Wedgeshed - Laurie Kain
34. Home: Past and Present - David Joel
35. From the Wild People - William Stafford
36. Time for Serenity, Anyone? - William Stafford

[METHOW ARTS] PUBLIC ART BECKONS US TO EXPLORE OUR ARTISTS OUTDOORS

Public art is popping up in full force in the valley. Check out the newly announced sculpture in the Rip Rap '15 Public Art Project which will be commissioned and installed this summer on page 16.

Our public art map (shown left) is available online @ methowarts.org/publicart-map. Find local artists' creations through full photographs, articles and artist webpages. Look for QR Codes on artpieces to learn more about artists. Find different types of public art by the color codes. For example poetry such as William Stafford's River Poems is in yellow, sculpture is in orange. Need help? Email us @ info@methowartsalliance.org, 509.997.4004

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It's easy. If you have a smartphone download an app like Redlaser to scan. Point your phone at the QR code above and it takes you to...WHAT? The first person to post the correct answer on our facebook page gets a free ticket to our April 18th Los de Abajo show. You'll find more of these codes on our public art pieces throughout the valley. Be ready for more prizes and scavenger hunts to come. So get prepared! If you need help with the app or have questions, email us info@methowartsalliance.org, 509.997.4004

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SPRING ART CALENDAR

EVENTS/CLASSES/EXHIBITS

Classes/artist opportunities **ORANGE**, Exhibits **BLUE**.
More information online at www.methowarts.org

ONGOING CLASSES

Preschool/PreK Dance Session
Wednesdays thru Apr 1, 3:30-4pm
\$50/10 Classes. The Merc. 509.997.PLAY

Line Dancing
Mondays, 6 pm, Lessons at 6:30pm
\$4. Twisp Grange. 509.429.2064.

Story Time for Kids
Tuesdays, 1:30pm @ Twisp Library
Wednesdays, 1:30pm @ Winthrop Library
Twisp: 509.997.4681, Winthrop: 509.996.2685

Spinners and Weavers
Thursdays, 1pm
Meet and spin/weave. 137 Old Twisp Hwy.
509.997.5666

Fix Your Gear Nights at eqpd
First Thursdays of each month, 5-8pm
Bring your sports gear for a free and quick fix up!
eqpd at TwispWorks. eqpdgear@gmail.com

Improv
Thursdays, 5:30pm
Practice at the Interpretive Center at TwispWorks.
509.341.4900

MARCH

Arts & Heritage Day in Olympia
Wed, Mar 4
Talk with your legislators about the impact of art in
your community. Olympia, WA, www.methowarts.org.

Queen of the West Columbia
Thurs, Mar 5, 5:30pm
Soup & Presentation: Lewis & Clark History by Bill Hot-
tell. \$5. North Cascades Basecamp. 509.996.2334

Life Drawing Series
Thurs, Mar 5, 12, 19, & 26, 6-8pm
4 Classes with live models, all levels welcome.
\$80. Register: Confluence Gallery, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

Winthrop Balloon Festival
Fri-Sun, Mar 6, 7am launch
Balloons float above the skies of Winthrop. Nighttime
Balloon glow on Sat. Winthrop, WA.
winthropwashington.com

Children's Theater: As You Like It
Mar 6-15, Thurs, Fri and Sat, 7pm; Sun, 2pm
\$15/adults, \$5/kids. "Pay What You Can Night",
Thurs, Mar 12, 7pm. See article. The Merc Playhouse.
509.997.PLAY, www.mercplayhouse.org

Exhibit XX XY
Mar 7-Apr 11, Opening reception Mar 7, 4-8pm
Celebrating International Women's day. Confluence
Gallery, Twisp, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

**Fine Art Photography:
How to Make a Living Making Extraordinary Images**
Sun, Mar 8, 1-5pm
Photoshop digital editing methods and advanced Art
Business marketing technique \$150. Register: Conflu-
ence Gallery, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

Children's Art Party: Pastel Drawing
Mon, Mar 9, 12:30 - 4:30pm
Make things look 3D with art educator Margaret
Kingston. \$35. Grades 1-5. Register: Confluence Gallery,
509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

Children's Art Party: Model Houses
Tues, Mar 10, 10-2pm
Architecture, plan, build with Art Educator Margaret
Kingston. \$35. Grades 1-5. Register: Confluence Gallery,
509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

Blue Bell Café
Wed, Mar 11, 5-8pm
Dinner and student art auction benefitting Methow
Valley Community School. \$35 reserved/\$40 at
door/\$60 premier seating. Twisp River Pub. Contact
methowvalleycommunityschool@gmail.com

Children's Art Party: The Birds
Thurs, Mar 19, 12:30-4:30pm
Drawing and painting feathered friends with Art Educa-
tor Dierdre Cassidy. \$35. Grades 1-5. Register: Conflu-
ence Gallery, 509.997.2787, confluencegallery.com

Conflagration and Transformation: A Perfect Storm
Thurs, Mar 19, 7pm
\$10 donation. Methow Valley Interpretive Center pre-
sentation. At the Merc Playhouse. Carolyn Schmekel,
mvinterpretivecenter@methownet.com

Children's Art Party: Celebrate Spring!
Fri, Mar 20, 12:30-4:30pm
Mixed media projects with Art Educator Margaret
Kingston. \$35. Grades 1-5. Register: Confluence Gallery,
509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

Gypsy!
Fri-Sat, Mar 20-21; Thurs-Sat, Mar 26-28, 8pm; Sun,
Mar 29, 3pm
\$12, \$40/family of 4. Musical by Methow Valley
Theater. Methow Valley Community Center, Twisp.
509.429.0454, methowvalleytheater.com

Keyboard Confections
Sat, Mar 21, 7pm
\$15. Cascadia Presents from Methow and Okanogan
Valleys. See Article. 509.997.0222,
www.cascadiamusic.org

Wig Party
Sat, Mar 21, 7pm
Don your best wig and shake your thing. See article.
TwispWorks, 509.997.3300.



*Life Drawing Series starts March 5th
at Confluence Gallery.*

**Book Making
Nights at Door
No. 3 with Laura
Gunnip
and Robin
Doggett.**
Thursdays, Mar 26
& Apr 2, 5-7pm
Stitch a Coptic
Binding book.
\$30/one night,
\$45/both nights.
doorno.3twisp@gmail.com,
509.449.1081

Spring Reader's Theater
Mar 27 & 28
By donation. See article. The Merc Playhouse. 509.997.
PLAY, www.mercplayhouse.org

Interlaced
Sat, Mar 28, 3-8pm
Culler Studio: Fiber Arts and Jewelry Show, "Interlaced"
at TwispWorks. Sara Ashford, cullerstudio@gmail.com



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Felting Workshops @ TwispWorks
Beginners Intro to Wet Felting
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Advanced Beginners Nuno Felting
June 13, 10am-4pm



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APRIL 18

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ART Magazine cover shot of Danbert Nobacon in Fall '13. Photo by Sol Gutierrez

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The Art of Letterpress Printing with Laura Gunnip and Robin Doggett

Sun, Mar, 29, 10-2pm
Create prints and cards using antique wooden type and blocks carved with your own design. \$75. Door No. 3 Print & Book Art Studio, doorno.3twisp@gmail.com, 509.449.1081

APRIL

Spring Reader's Theater

Fri & Sat, April 17 & 18
The Merc Playhouse. 509.997.PLAY, www.mercplayhouse.org

Los De Abajo

Sat, April 18, 7pm
From Mexico City - funk guitar, hip-hop, Latin dance, accordion, trumpet and saxophone. See Article. \$5-\$18. Methow Arts(.org), 509.997.4004, info@methowartsalliance.org, www.methowarts.org

Shifting Baselines: The New Normal

Apr 18-May 23, Opening Reception: Sat, Apr 18, 4-8pm
Free. Artists representation of the world then and now. Confluence Gallery, 509.997.2787

Exhibit and Reception: Awakening

April 22-May 18, Artist reception, Sat Apr 25, 5-7pm
Coop gallery artists present artworks celebrating spring. See article. Winthrop Gallery, 509.996.3925, www.winthropgallery.com



Los de Abajo travels from Mexico City to perform in Okanogan schools and in Winthrop April 18.

Adult Pottery Class with Jim Neupert

Mon & Wed starts Apr 20, 5:30-8:30pm
Students learn hand building, wheel techniques, decorating and glaze methods. \$260/16 classes. 509.429.9475, jimneupert@gmail.com

Kids Pottery Class with Jim Neupert

Tuesdays starts Apr 21, 3-5pm
Students learn hand building, decorating and glazing. \$85/6 classes, materials included. Ages: 7-12. 509.429.9475, jimneupert@gmail.com

Trashion Show 2015

Tues, Apr 25, 7-10pm, doors open at 6.
Ages 13+. \$15. VIP Seating \$35. Confluence Gallery, Twisp, 509.997.2787, confluencegallery.com

MAY

Pen the Play Writing Contest Deadline

Fri, May 1, 12pm
\$100 entrance fee, \$1000 first prize, production of play. 509.429-0454, methowvalleytheater.com

Children's Art Party: Leather Bracelets for Mother's Day

Fri, May 1, 10-2pm
Create a beautiful leather bracelet for mom with art educator Joanne Marracci. \$35. Grades 1-5. Register: Confluence Gallery, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

Winthrop 49er Days

Fri-Sun, May 8-10
Celebrate historic Winthrop's western and horse tradition. Winthrop. info@winthropwashington.com

Beginners Intro to Wet Felting

Tues, May 12-14, 6-9pm
Learn the fundamentals of the ancient Middle Eastern craft of merging fine wool fibers into wearables and two dimensional items such as jewelry and decorative art. \$150. La Fabrica/Jae Cremin, jaecremin@gmail.com, 509.341.4149

Immerse Yourself in the Process with Diana Sanford

Sat-Sun, May 16-17, 9:30-5pm
Experiential painting and drawing workshop. See article. Register: Confluence Gallery, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com

Shakespeare's Macbeth

May 16, 7pm
\$15/adults, \$5/children, 20% discount on both May performances. See article. The Merc Playhouse. 509.997.PLAY, www.mercplayhouse.org

Roaring 20's Dinner & Auction: Puttin' on the Ritz

Sat, May 16, 5pm
Benefit for Little Star Montessori School. Reservations/info: 509.996.2801

Poetry in Wood and Paint: New Works by Laura Karcher, Carol McMillan and Patty Yates

May 20-June 22, Reception, Sat May 23, 5 to 7pm
Wood, paints and ink. See article. Winthrop Gallery, 237 Riverside Ave, 509.996.3925
www.winthropgallery.com

William Inge's Picnic

May 22, 23, 7pm
\$15/adults, \$5/children, 20% discount on both May performances. See article. The Merc Playhouse. 509.997.PLAY, www.mercplayhouse.org

Twisp Art Walk

Sat, May 23 4-8pm
Artist receptions, music, street activities, performance art, food and more. Downtown Twisp, WA. www.methowarts.org/twispwalk15

Methow Valley Rodeo

Sat & Sun, May 23-24, 1pm
Rodeo Grounds, Winthrop, WA. 509.996.2125, info@winthropwashington.com

Pipestone Music Days

Sat, May 23, 7pm & Sun, May 24, 1pm
Pipestone Orchestra and Student Recitals. See Article. Methow Valley Community Center. 509.997.0222, www.cascadiamusic.org

Piano Recital

Sun, May 31, 1pm
Free. The piano students of Dr. Lynette Westendorf featured. At the Merc Playhouse, Twisp, WA.

Methow Gallery features the work of many local artists including Laura Karcher, artwork shown on right whose work includes metal, wood and paper. Right, Levity Scale.



WINTHROP 49ER DAYS

A celebration of our rich western and horse history.

FRI-SUN, MAY 8 -10

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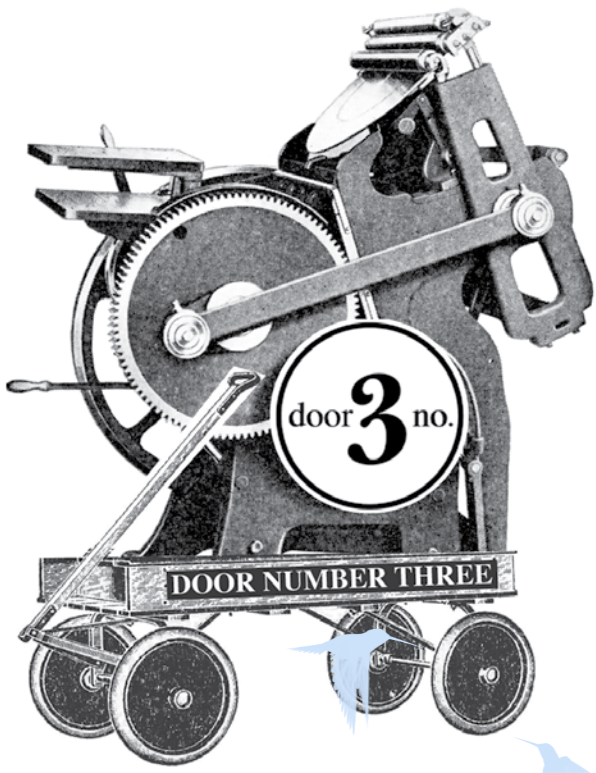
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Hold the presses! **DOOR NO. 3 IS MOVING**

Door No. 3 Print & Book Art Studio is excited to announce a relocation to TwispWorks starting this May. Since 2008, Door No. 3 has inhabited a treasured location at the Methow Valley Community Center in Room number 3. Just across from the Twisp Library, community members have learned printmaking techniques, artists have exhibited, and studio founders Laura Gunnip and Robin Doggett have created local artisan printed goods for sale.

As the studio enters its seventh year, plans for the future are underway. Demand for the studio's handmade items has been on the rise creating the need for additional space. The revitalization of TwispWorks' North Warehouse Building will create new studio space for Door No. 3 and other local artists and businesses. Come visit the new location during the upcoming Twisp Art Walk on Saturday, May 23.

CONTACT: Door No. 3 Print & Book Art Studio on Facebook, doorno.3twisp@gmail.com.

[WINTHROP GALLERY]

AWAKENING

April and May are months that mark the retreat of snow in the Methow and the beginning of a new cycle of wildflowers, re-turning birds and leafing trees and bushes. The dominant color changes from white to brown to green in the blink of an eye. Join the artists of the Winthrop Gallery in a celebration of this transformation as represented in paintings, photography, drawings, ceramics, textiles and more.

DATES: Exhibit, Apr 22- May 18, Reception, Sat Apr 25, 5-7pm. Refreshments will be served. LOCATION: Winthrop Gallery, 237 Riverside Ave, downtown Winthrop. Every day, 10am-5pm. CONTACT: 509.996.3925, www.winthropgallery.com

*Join the exhibit artists at a reception held on Saturday, April 25, 5-7pm.
Sparrow, Kathy Meyers*



[THE MERC PLAYHOUSE]

SPRING READER'S THEATER PRODUCTIONS

Come see your friends and neighbors take to the boards with readings for two weekends this spring at The Merc.

March brings the contemporary play Circle Mirror Transformation by Annie Baker. Centered on the drama classes a group of wildly different-from-each-other folks are taking at a community center in their town, the play is funny, poignant and heartfelt. The play opened Off-Broadway in 2009 and received the Obie Award for Best New American Play. This reading is directed by The Merc's Artistic Director, Ki Gottberg.

April ushers in an evening of spirited and sassy One Acts chosen and directed by Laurelle Walsh, last season's director of the hit show Over the River and Through the Woods. A group of corporate-types get really childish and two lonely neighbors of a certain age find some common ground. These and other surprises await you at The Merc in these fab and frisky bite-size theatre pieces.

DATES: Mar 27, 28 and Apr 17, 18, 7pm. Admission by donation. LOCATION/CONTACT: Merc Playhouse, 101 South Glover Street, Twisp, info@mercplayhouse.org, 509.997.7529



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Los De Abajo was championed by David Byrne of the Talking Heads and signed to his label. April 18th, 7pm.

[METHOW ARTS]

LOS DE ABAJO

Mexico City-based Los de Abajo has built a distinctive fusion of regional music and rhythms with powerful lyrics focused on political and social activism. Their name loosely translates as “The Underdogs”, as the group believes that social change

“Signed by former talking head David Byrne, ..the band is as distinctive as ever!” (The Guardian)

comes “from below”, from the grassroots. They manage to mix Latin sounds (cumbia, salsa, rumba) with

ska, rap, rock, reggae, funk and electro in order to serve up a fruit salad of vocals and instruments.

The Guardian describes them as “...distinctive as ever, thanks to their energy, experimentation and ability to constantly and effortlessly change direction. The 10-piece lineup of this rousing fusion band from Mexico City delivers...with funk guitar and shifts to hip-hop before their excellent singer Tania Melo takes over with a Latin dance workout backed by accordion, trumpet and saxophone. Elsewhere, they switch from stomping brass on Mexican Underdogs to the cool, drifting ballad Mexicano – again with added hip-hop. Recommended!”

Los de Abajo was championed early on by former-Talking Head, David Byrne, who signed them to his label, Luaka Bop. Their second album won a BBC award. Recently they have added Balkan styles and hip hop to their already-diverse palette, and collaborating with artists from many countries and genres, as well as working with top tier producers and studios.

DATE: April 18th, 7pm. LOCATION: Dance floor only, limited seating. The Winthrop Barn, Winthrop, WA. TICKETS: \$15 advance, \$18 door, ages 5-14/\$5. brownpapertickets.com, Riverside Printing, Nectar Skincare in Winthrop, Methow Arts in Twisp. CONTACT: Methow Arts, 509.997.4004, info@methowartsalliance.org, www.methowarts.org



Exhibit XX-XY explores gender in today's world. Stardust's Ferment, Gordon Wood

[CONFLUENCE GALLERY]

XX-XY

Exhibit and Opening Reception

Does a single chromosome really make that much of a difference between the sexes? Is there more to the obvious physical differences between us, or are there deeper, more fundamental underlying characteristics forever inherent in our genders? These four characters attempt to delineate the sexes in such a simple way, yet, defining the sexes in reality is far from simple. A show about men and women, bodies, flesh, attitudes, and changing roles of the two sexes in society is bound to bring some uncomfortable moments to the more sensitive viewer and this exhibition will be no exception. But how could it be any other way?

The Confluence gallery invited all artists, regardless of gender, to explore gender in today's world. The XX XY exhibit will provoke you to ask yourself: “Y,” does it matter?


Exhibit curators: Nicole Ringgold, Joanne Marracci, Vern White and Matt Armbrust. This event coincides with International Women's Day.

DATE: Exhibit, Mar 7-Apr 11; Opening Reception Sat, Mar 7, 4-8pm. CONTACT: Confluence Gallery, Twisp, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com


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Paula Christen: A conversation with nature.

By Marcy Stamper

Photography by Stephen Mitchell

For most artists, at least part of the impulse to create is to say something to the world. But for watercolorist Paula Christen, painting is not a one-way communication, but an opening to a dialogue.

So while Christen incorporates details that welcome the viewer into her paintings, she is careful not to crowd out the viewer's own associations. "I don't want to put in so much that the other person can't add to it from their imagination," she said. "It's like a conversation—each person brings their own experience."



"Painting is my happy place—where I go to feel better," says Paula. Above, *Catching the Light*.

It's almost as if Christen sees her paintings as animate beings that can hold their own. Before she declares a painting is finished, Christen will put a makeshift frame around it and bring it from her studio into her house. "The painting and I have coffee together, and I consider how much more it needs to say what I had to say."

But Christen doesn't want to create the visual equivalent of the person who won't let anyone else get a word in edgewise. "I'm careful to avoid overkill," she said. "It's not every hair on the dog, not another leaf on the tree."

Christen's people are similarly imprecise. "My rule is, no face, no fingers, no feet—I just want a human shape," she said. "I tell my students they're supposed to be good storytellers and to entertain. They're not a witness at a murder."

Although virtually everything Christen paints is rooted in nature, she usually includes a suggestion of the human imprint on the environment, whether it's a fence line, farm equipment, or even a dog.

Those elements function on more than one level. The viewer can imagine meandering along a path, literally entering the world of the painting. But that path is also a compositional element, guiding the viewer from one focal point to another.

"People like stories," she said. "They want to own the painting—and they want to own the story." Christen recalled a woman who was looking at her painting of a farm scene. The woman told her it reminded her of collecting eggs, still warm from the hens, on her grandmother's farm when she was six. "Even though there were no chickens in that painting, it pulled that out of her memory and made that connection for her," said Christen.

While many people think some artists create to exorcise demons or cope with sorrow, these are the emotions Christen does not to express through her art. "Painting is my happy place—where I go to feel better," she said. "I wouldn't drag that much of a downer into my painting—it doesn't belong there."

Christen also wants her art be a place of relaxation for others. When she paints skiers, for example, she depicts people enjoying being in nature and communicating with each other.

"You can't have a phone to your ear—you have to hold the ski pole," she said.

Looking around her Winthrop studio, you can imagine accompanying Christen on a tour of familiar and exotic places as the seasons change. There are simple, daily scenes of outdoor cafés, farmers' markets, haying, and fishing, as well as paintings that transport you to alpine lakes or to a bluff overlooking the Mediterranean. "Wherever I'm at—if I know I have time to look around—I can usually find something to paint," she said.

Christen has a life-long connection with nature, shaped by childhood of hiking, camping and skiing. She went to high school in Entiat, where there were just 26 students in her graduating class and no art program.

So college was an indulgence, a place to soak up virtually every type of art—from charcoal drawing and ceramics to painting and printmaking. She ended up specializing in oil and acrylic painting.

Christen spent four summers during college working in a remote fire lookout in the North Cascades. "That was the best job ever," she said. "There was incredible beauty—it's like your own tree house."

It was also an intensive education in light and weather. "There were the most amazing sunrises and sunsets and storms. I learned real fear and respect for lightning—to be there in the cloud and have it happen," she said. "From the time you wake up to the time you go to bed, it's just you and the scenery."

After college, the demands of making a living turned into a 20-year hiatus from art. She picked art up again when she and a friend ran a screen-printing business and people wanted logos and designs for t-shirts.



Paula outside of her Winthrop studio.

She also dabbled in watercolor but, without a good foundation, found it discouraging. Everything changed when she enrolled in a class, where the teacher was laughing and having fun as he painted. Christen realized watercolors didn't have to be hard.

Since then, Christen has found a way to express in watercolor what she couldn't in oils or acrylics. Her paintings have an evanescent, translucent quality, but the colors are lush and there are frequent flashes of vibrancy.

Christen is not afraid to define edges or play with stark contrasts. "The thing that says sun is great shadows—as big as you can make them, as long as you can," said Christen, pointing to a sun-washed scene on the southern coast of England.

Christen swears by value sketches, quick pencil drawings that help her plan areas of light and dark and determine the focal point and composition. While planning is important in most painting—with the possible exception of abstract



Paula offers private and semi-private workshops in her studio.

expressionism—it is essential with watercolors, where you can't simply paint over something that didn't work.

Christen said her students are often intimidated by the value sketch and want to move straight to color. "Color is fun—the hero," Christen admits, "but it's the shapes and values that do the hard work in your painting."

Christen often uses a simple palette of just three colors, which she mixes to achieve different shades and values. In her studio, she has a chart blending every blue and yellow pigment she had to see how many greens she could make. Among the 56 swatches, you can find the first cottonwood leaves in spring and the deep shadows of pine branches at the end of the day. Her task is finding a way to make all the greens in a landscape interesting, she said.

Christen ordinarily paints on dry paper, but when she wants soft, fuzzy edges and minimal detail, she uses the wet-on-wet technique. That technique served her well for a late-winter scene called *Seed Catalog Season*, where even the reflected puddles on the muddy road look inviting.

Christen loves to travel and has taken watercolor workshops all over Europe. Even closer to home, she always finds a new perspective on a familiar landscape. "I'll be thinking, 'How would I paint that, how would I merge those two colors reflecting off the Columbia?'" she said. "I have to remind myself to drive."

While some artists feel publicity and marketing divert them from the core of their work, Christen sees her website, blog and newsletter as more ways of telling her story. "I find the whole thing, start to finish, fascinating," she said. "This is my business—I like the whole spiral—it's fascinating; it's mine."

Christen is fundamentally generous about her art. Even when she makes a presentation about her painting, she wants to know, "How do I make this about them, even though it's about me? How



does this relate to you and the world you live in?"

She also specializes in teaching people who have always wanted to paint but never had the time, or who put their painting aside years ago. In just four hours, her students learn to produce the whole array of colors from three basic pigments and walk out with a finished, framed watercolor. "It's what I wish somebody had done for me," she said.

"I want people to know that, no matter when you gave it up, if you have the slightest desire to do whatever brought you that joy, it's never too late," she said.

Christen takes profound pleasure in creating something unique. "There will never be another painting like this," she said. "This is the best I bring to the world. When I'm gone, people will say, 'She painted. She did this.'"

She allows herself to indulge a little fantasy. "What would the world be like if everybody did what they love? Every job should bring you that much joy."

Christen has been featured in many local and regional exhibits. Her paintings of ski trails were featured in Cross Country Skier magazine, including her inviting scene of a skier and his dog that was chosen for the cover of the January/February 2014 issue.

Contact Paula for commissions or classes: 509.996.2598, paula@paulachristen.com

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[CONFLUENCE GALLERY]
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This two-part 4-hour class provides instruction in advanced artistic editing methods and techniques using creative applications of Photoshop digital editing tools, as well as, basic and advanced Art Business marketing techniques. Required materials are a laptop with Photoshop CS or Elements. DVD with course outline will be provided.

Level: Beginners-advanced, ages 16 +. Artists of all mediums.

DATE: Sun, Mar 8, 1-5pm. FEE: \$150. LOCATION/CONTACT: Confluence Gallery, Twisp, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com, www.thomasdodd.com



Brainstorming, Thomas Dodd



[CASCADIA AND PIPESTONE]
PIPESTONE MUSIC DAYS

Pipestone Music Days Weekend promises to be another showcase of our local musical talent. Conducted by Tara Kaiyala Weaver, the Pipestone Orchestra performs Saturday, May 23 at 7pm in the Methow Valley Community Center Gym and features music by Mahler, Dvorak, Mozart and Beethoven, along with other special surprises of the evening.



Tara Kaiyala Weaver conducts Pipestone Music Days this May for her 4th year.

Weaver says, "We continue to bring the performance quality of this wonderful community group of musicians to ever-higher levels through rigorous weekly preparation of this great repertoire. My job is to bring out the music and capability that these musicians already have within them, bring it into full light, and in full respect of the composers whose music we perform."

True to Cascadia's mission of providing educational as well as performance opportunities for musicians of all ages and instruments, several musicians will be featured as soloists with the orchestra including Matt Armbrust, violin, and David Konigsmark, french horn.

The evening also features the Pipestone Youth Orchestra, described by Weaver as "small, but mighty!" This fine group of highly motivated young musicians continues to put on performances which thrill audiences.

Pipestone Music Days continues with student recitals on Sunday, May 24. Beginning at 1pm, students perform solos and small ensembles on guitar, piano, violin, viola and cello.

Teachers at the Pipestone School of Music are proud of the hard work and dedication each student has put in this year. Co-founders Pam and Terry Hunt feel that along with diligent practice, the encouragement of the valley's growing musical community has contributed to the remarkable progress of the students this year.

DATE: May 23, 7pm and May 24, 1pm. LOCATION: Methow Valley Community Center, Twisp. CONTACT: Cascadia. For information about the Pipestone School of Music, events or private lessons, call 509.997.0222. Pipestone School of Music is the educational branch of Cascadia.

[WINTHROP, WA]

METHOW VALLEY RODEO

The Methow Valley Rodeo is produced by the Methow Valley Horsemen, a group of men and women from the Methow Valley who are committed to continuing the tradition of small community rodeo. We produce two rodeos each year, on Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend. This is small town rodeo at its finest. Bring the family, some lawn chairs and your camera and prepare to have the time of your life!

DATES: May 23, 24. LOCATION: Winthrop, WA. Read more online @ methowarts.org.

(Vintage rodeo graphic, anonymous artist)



(Stardust's Ferment by Gordon Wood)

CONFLUENCE GALLERY

SPRING EXHIBITS & EVENTS

MAR 7 - APR 11: XX XY

APR 18 - MAY 23: SHIFTING BASELINES:
 THE NEW NORMAL

APR 25: TRASHION SHOW

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[WINTHROP GALLERY]

POETRY IN WOOD AND PAINT:

New Work From Laura Karcher, Carol McMillan

and Patty Yates



Top, Spring Tree Roots, Carol McMillan

In this show at the Winthrop Gallery, artists Laura Karcher, Carol McMillan and Patty Yates explore the relationship of visual art to poetry.

"I plan to pair paintings and poems for this show," Carol explains. "I see that the flow of the grain in wood is like the flow of words in a poem, and, of course, the flow of paint on paper/canvas. Visual and 3-D art are poetry in other media."

"I think we all have poetry in our artist soul," says Patty. "I'm thinking of the poetry in a line. For my beginning there is a pen and ink drawing. What develops from there is my poetry."

"I believe there is always poetry involved when I work with something as naturally beautiful as wood," says Laura. "You see it in

the grain and you sense it as you work the wood. The poetry is in the wood, my job is to reveal it."

DATES: Exhibit, May 20-June 22; Reception, Sat, May 23, 5-7pm. Refreshments will be served. LOCATION: Winthrop Gallery, 237 Riverside Ave, downtown Winthrop. Every day, 10am-5pm. CONTACT: 509.996.3925, www.winthropgallery.com



TWISPPWORKS CONTINUES ITS LABOR OF LOVE

TwispWorks continues its labor of love, transforming an 86-year old historic ranger station into a center for community and creative enterprise. Planned improvements this spring include the interior completion and occupancy of the Bernard Hosey Founders Building (known as the North Warehouse or the fire cache building), and aesthetic and landscaping improvements to attract and welcome the public to Twisp and TwispWorks.



New construction at TwispWorks. Photo by Angela Ang.

The former fire cache building, dubbed the Bernard Hosey Founders Building after the well-known sculptor and early supporter of TwispWorks, will house a total of seven rentable units, which represents another seven or more jobs on campus, and a common space with a shared kitchen. The first occupants are expected in March and April; the first floor will house the return of Methow Valley Ceramic Art Center, the expansion of printmaking studio Door No. 3, and local educator Bo Thrasher's flexible classroom space. The building will also welcome local community radio station KTRT.

"Being more accessible has made it easier to do more interviews, which was one of our goals," says Don Ashford, KTRT general manager. "Hardly a day goes by without someone coming in for an interview."

Landscaping will begin around the exterior of the completed Bernard Hosey Founders Building this spring, and the first public Open House will be held during Art Walk on Memorial Day weekend. [Read full article online @ methowarts.org/hot-topics]

Other improvements planned for the near future include utility and infrastructure upgrades in the campus' open bays to create more rentable space. Visit TwispWorks at www.twispworks.org to learn more.

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[TWISPPWORKS]

ECONOMIC VITALITY & YOU

Economic recovery is a hot topic in the Methow these days. Last summer's fires wreaked havoc on many businesses. But the issue of a healthy economy for our community is not new—we all want to see living wage jobs, successful businesses and thriving downtowns.

With last summer's natural disaster as a catalyst, the Twisp and Winthrop Chambers of Commerce and TwispWorks have teamed up to lead the creation of an economic development plan for the Methow Valley.

A planning team, led by Amy Stork (executive director of TwispWorks and president of the Twisp Chamber) and Julie Muyliaert (vice president of the Winthrop Chamber), will direct data analysis, sector-specific forums and public meetings towards answering the question: What does economic vitality look like for the Methow Valley?

From there, the team will reach out to the community through focus groups with key individuals in various industries, as well as through a number of community-wide forums. Participants will discuss how to diversify the economy here to create year-round jobs; how to educate our workforce; and how to give businesses tools to start and grow.

By early summer, the team will develop a set of recommendations for programs that help create jobs, support businesses and attract visitors.

Read full article online @ methowarts.org/hot-topics

CONTACT: Amy Stork, Executive Director at TwispWorks, 509.997.3300, astork@twispworks.org

(Photo: Advocates from the region meet with Representative Brad Hawkins in Olympia after testifying in support of funding for economic recovery from the Carlton Complex wildfires.)

[THE MERC PLAYHOUSE]

CLASSICS SERIES IN MAY

SHAKESPEARE'S MACBETH

SAT, MAY 16, 7PM

Directed by Annie Lareau

Seattle Shakespeare Company's 90-minute touring productions maintain the beauty of Shakespeare's language and introduce these dynamic stories in fresh, accessible productions touring across Washington State. Small-cast ensembles play multiple parts with quick changes and distinctive character choices that make for a showcase of great acting.

Great Deals on The Classics During May



The Merc Playhouse
101 S Glover Street, Twisp, WA 98856

In this taut, pared-down version of Macbeth, Shakespeare tells a tale of murder and dark ambition. A ruthless lord seizes power with the help of his scheming wife and a trio of supernatural witches. Urged on by eerie prophecies and ambitious desire, Macbeth slices through kinsmen, friend and foe in a bloody climb to power at any cost. Terri Weagant will play MacBeth. Weagant performed at The Merc last year in the memorable The Amish Project and will be joined by a cast of other top-notch professional actors from Seattle, this is sure to be a fabulous evening of high drama. One night only, don't miss it!

WILLIAM INGE'S PICNIC

FRI & SAT, MAY 22, 23, 7PM

Directed by Ki Gottberg

The American playwright Inge (Bus Stop, Splendor in the Grass) wrote this award-winning realistic play capturing 1950's small town USA, spiked with the social mores and pressures that were shaping the country at the time and sparking the beginning of the sexual revolution of the 1960's. When a former football hero, Hal, shows up on the freight train that passes through the center of town, everyone feels the hot breath of time in a new way. The mother of Madge, the "prettiest girl in town" encourages her daughter to "land" the rich boy Alan, although Madge's heart is suddenly pulled in a new direction. Madge's tomboy younger sister, Millie, has completely different ideas about what would be fun to do tonight. And everyone is supposed to leave soon to the town picnic, on this, the last night of summer. Come revel in the fun, charm and drama of this ultimately heart-wrenching show, performed by acting students from Seattle University touring to the Merc. If you enjoyed The Imaginary Invalid last year from the same gang, don't miss Picnic.

TICKETS: To individual shows, \$15/adults, \$5/children. Available at the door or online at mercplayhouse.org. For discount, 20% off regular ticket prices when you buy tickets to both May productions. LOCATION/CONTACT: Merc Playhouse, 101 South Glover Street, Twisp, info@mercplayhouse.org, 509.997.7529

20% OFF REGULAR TICKET PRICES WHEN YOU BUY TICKETS TO BOTH MAY PRODUCTIONS. DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE THROUGH EMAIL, PHONE OR AT DOOR ON MAY 16TH:

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[CONFLUENCE GALLERY]

SHIFTING BASELINES: THE NEW NORMAL

Our world is under constant change. One human tendency, however, is a short sightedness of the severity of this change. Both environmentally and socially, we see the world through the eyes of a single generation. While we reminisce of the “good old days”, pass down family knowledge and tradition, the majority of us only really see what’s right in front of us. Our baseline for “normal” has shifted to our current viewpoint.

Artists have been asked to submit work about the world, then and now, wildlife, plants and our human population that reflects on personal, cultural and/or environmental change – what was, what is, and what could be.

Exhibit curators: Dan Brown/Jennifer Molesworth/Michael Azzano.

Also showing in the Loovre: Methow Arts’ 6th grade Student Collage and Poetry Exhibit. See article.

DATE: Exhibit, April 18-May 23; Opening Reception Sat, Apr 18, 4-8pm. LOCATION/CONTACT: Confluence Gallery, Twisp, 509.997.2787, www.confluencegallery.com



The Confluence Exhibit coincides with their popular Trashion Show on April 25. *Feeling the Forest*, Terra Holcomb



[TWISPPWORKS]

WIG PARTY AT TWISPPWORKS

Celebrate the beginning of spring under the “wig top” at TwispWorks!

Don your favorite wig and shake your thing at the Wig Party on Saturday, March 21 at 7 pm in the welding shop at TwispWorks.

Popular local bands Wild Mountain Nation and Shakedownia will help legions of wig-wearing merrymakers shake off the winter blahs and sow the seeds of a great season to come.

DATE: Sat, Mar 21, 7pm. Suggested \$10 donation at door. Beer and wine. The event is for ages 21 and over. LOCATION: The Welding Shop at TwispWorks. CONTACT: info@twispworks.org, 509.997.3300. Volunteers needed.

Steve Hirsch and Noah Ashford strike a pose.

CALL FOR METHOW STYLE

D*signs gallery and sign shop is seeking locally designed and fabricated furnishings and accessories. Actual objects or ideas for fabrication welcome.

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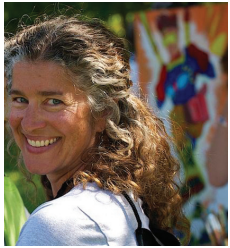
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An oratorio by Lynette Westendorf



art EDUCATION INSIDER

Arts education spotlight by Ashley Lodato,
Arts Ed Director @ Methow Arts Alliance

MARGARET KINGSTON PAINTS HER MOMENT

Step into the Winthrop Gallery or the gallery at Sun Mountain Lodge and you will see some oil paintings that you might mistake for photographs. Featuring snowy basins, backcountry skiers, and white-capped peaks, the paintings capture a startlingly realistic representation of the snow's texture, the shadows, and the sunlight of the scenes. "Just step closer," though, says artist Margaret Kingston, and you'll see that the canvases are indeed a painter's interpretation of a particular moment.



Prior to her move to the Methow Valley from New England, Kingston, a state-certified K-12 visual arts teacher, had been teaching at a public school in New Hampshire and had developed a curriculum of National Standards based visual arts lessons. Now Kingston pulls from that curriculum in her work as a teaching artist for Methow Arts' Artist-in-Residence program.

Kingston was lucky enough to have regular art instruction in school once a week from

kindergarten through eighth grade—something that most of today's public elementary school children do not enjoy access to. Kingston filled her high school schedule with art electives and in college decided to become an art teacher. "I am very passionate about the importance of art education for the unique skills that are built, ways of thinking, and also for the relief that it provides some students in their day."

Kingston was surprised to learn that even in a community as supportive of the arts as the Methow Valley, public school children do not receive regular, formal arts instruction until sixth grade, and why she feels so strongly about the importance of the art residencies and classes offered by Methow Arts and Confluence. "People are creative by nature and they will benefit from learning an artistic vocabulary and techniques at a young age," says Kingston. "Most importantly, they need to learn that they CAN make art. It's not about talent, it's about practice, knowledge, and finding the materials that interest you."

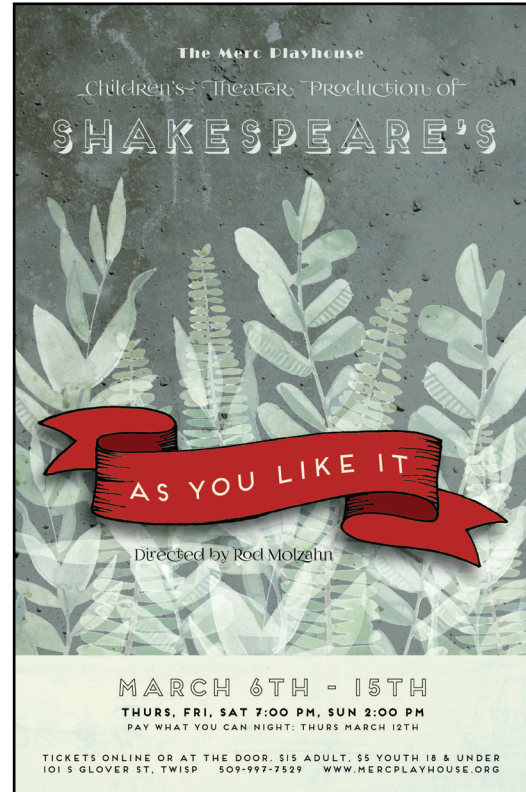
Read full interview online @ methowarts.org/hot-topics

509.997.4004, info@methowartsalliance.org, www.methowarts.org

[THE MERC PLAYHOUSE]

CHILDREN'S THEATER PRODUCTION:

SHAKESPEARE'S AS YOU LIKE IT



Directed by Rod Molzahn
As You Like It considers the age old question of whether there is more good in city life or country life. Duke Frederick banishes his older brother, Duke Senior, to the Forest of Arden (Robin Hood's old forest) along with the old Duke's daughter, Rosalind and the young Orlando, son of another enemy. They are followed to the forest by Rosalind's friend, Celia, and Touchstone the clown. Add servants from the court, women disguised as men, shepherds, a country wench and mistaken identity and you have one of Shakespeare's most loved comedies.

Director Rod Molzahn has been bringing Will Shakespeare to life for audiences throughout the United States

and Canada since 1986. He performs regularly in theatres, schools, universities, faires, and festivals. His CD recording of "A Visit with Will" has received Awards of Excellence for Writing and Creative Concept and for Characterization in the performance of Will Shakespeare from The Communicator Awards.

With headlining support from the Winthrop Kiwanis, Methow Valley children ages 8 to 14 perform onstage at The Merc Playhouse, March 6th through March 15th. The Thursday, Friday, and Saturday shows starts at 7pm, and Sunday show at 2pm. Doors open thirty minutes prior to show time. Enjoy "Nickel Shakespeare" scenes before the show and during intermission.

DATES: March 6-15, Thurs, Fri and Sat, 7pm and Sun, 2pm. "Pay What You Can Night" is Thursday, March 12 at 7pm. TICKETS: \$15/adults, \$5/children. Available at the door or online at mercplayhouse.org LOCATION: Merc Playhouse, 101 South Glover Street, Twisp.

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REFLECTED LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

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Keyboard Confections continues its annual tradition on March 21. Shown above are Glandson and Acheson at the piano. Photo by Marcy Stamper.

[CASCADIA]

KEYBOARD CONFECTIONS 2015

TALENT FROM MANY QUARTERS

This year's March 21st Keyboard Confections event will showcase pianists from both the Methow and Okanogan Valleys in an evening of diverse musical offerings. Continuing with a fine tradition, a delectable array of desserts will complement the musical program at intermission, accompanied by the Hottell Ragtime Band.

Master of Ceremonies, Michael Brady will play a selection and will introduce Methow Valley soloists Nancy Acheson, Alice Glandon, Linda Mendro and Dick Volckmann. Duet partners Liv Aspholm and Ian DeLong, Lynette Westendorf and Maggie Coon will also take the stage. We are delighted to welcome Mariliz Romano and Doug Wilson from Tonasket and Kathleen Christensen from Omak to round out what promises to be a memorable evening.

Keyboard Confections is sponsored by Cascadia. Community primary sponsors also include Twisp River Suites, the Law Offices of Michael Brady, KTRT Radio, John and Lyn Roth and Ann Henry.

DATE: Mar 21, 7pm. TICKETS: \$15. LOCATION: The Merc Playhouse, 101 South Glover Street, Twisp. CONTACT: Cascadia, 509.997.0222.



Door No. 3's 2015 Calendar titled Wildness 2015: A fire ecology calendar shows how "living in balance of a fire-adapted landscape is a hopeful and risky venture." info: doorno.3twisp@gmail.com

WILDNESS 2015

EXCERPTS FROM DOOR NO. 3'S FIRE ECOLOGY CALENDAR

Door No. 3's 2015 calendar for the months of March, April and May emphasizes how signs of renewal are heartening after wild fires move through our region last summer.

MARCH

After the fire, Douglas fir stands shed their needles creating carpets of gold. A tree ring diagram shows fire scars. Through dendrochronology scientists can chronicle environmental change through characteristic patterns of annual growth rings.

APRIL

Many mushroom varieties, including the Morel, feature spore dispersal triggered by fire. Due to the large amount of land touched by fire, foraging will be plentiful.

MAY

Arrowleaf Balsam Root flowers turn Methow hillsides yellow each spring. After fires erupted last July '14 land owners witnessed unseasonal blooms of surviving Balsam Root plants.



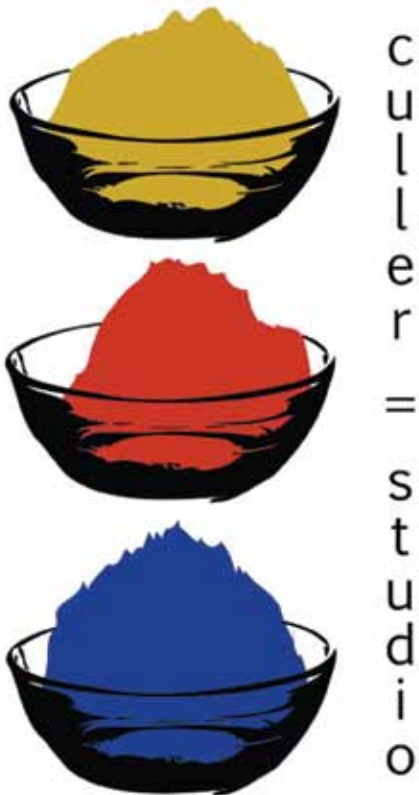
Lindsey Ashford at the 2014 Trashion Show.

TRASHION SHOW 2015

SAT, APR 25th, 7-10pm

Designer Entry Forms are available at the Confluence Gallery so get those creative ideas flowing! This is your chance to create an entirely unique piece of art and watch as it makes its way down the runway, hundreds of spectators applauding your design.

www.confluencegallery.com, 509.997.2787, info@confluencegallery.com. @ the Methow Valley Community Center, Twisp, WA.



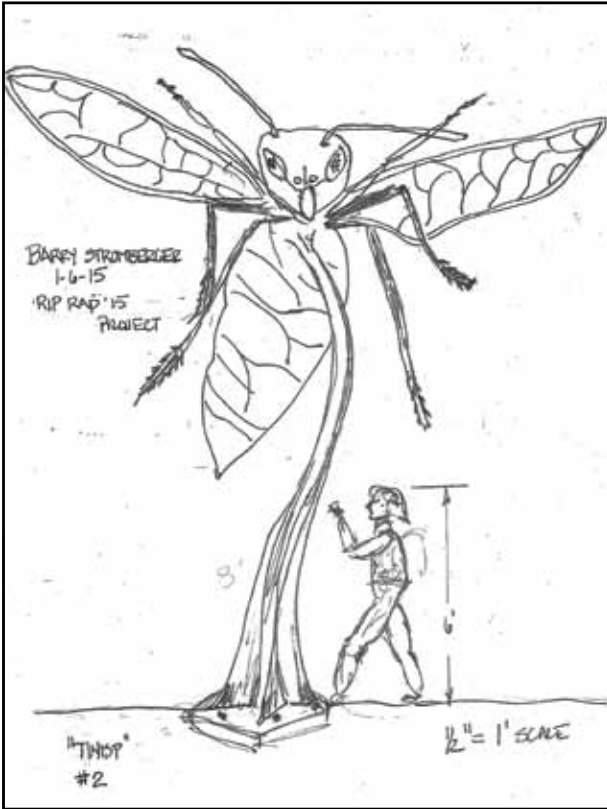
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[METHOW ARTS & METHOW SALMON RECOVERY FOUNDATION]

BARRY STROMBERGER'S GIANT YELLOW JACKET

SELECTED IN 1ST ROUND OF RIP RAP '15 - PUBLIC ART PROJECT



With a wing span of 12-15 feet and a body of 8-10 feet, this public art piece will stand tall above viewers this summer. Barry Stromberger's piece was selected out of several proposals in round one of Rip Rap '15, which asked artists to design a public art piece out of cars or 'detroit rip rap' which will be pulled from the Methow River. The location of this giant Yellow Jacket is a surprise and will be announced in the coming months!

Stromberger's sculpture will be made from salvaged structural and sheet steel from the Methow River cars and from his own personal inventory. Among many talents, Stromberger is known for his steel sculptures and his savvy skills in transforming both new and salvaged steel into works of art.

"I have wanted to do a large sculpture of our valley's and my town's most common resident - the Yellow Jacket Wasp for several years," says Stromberger. "Such a project has been smoldering in the recesses of my imagination and creative juices for many years. I view the River Car Project as the perfect venue to finally do something big and funky."



CALL TO ARTISTS SECOND ROUND

A second Call to Artists will be made soon inviting local artists to submit innovative designs made from salvaged river cars. Site walks and car material viewing will be scheduled in March. To get on Methow Arts' list serve for public art updates, contact us at info@methowartsalliance.org, 509.997.4004 or stay posted online: @ www.methowarts.org/RipRap15.

ART, FOOD, THEATRE & MUSIC

Engage in Twisp 2015

In case you didn't already have a reason to visit Twisp, Washington, now you can plan your travel around five key weekends this year and experience art, local food, all-season recreation, public artwork and compelling performance. Plan to visit Twisp this spring for Memorial Day Weekend on Sat, May 23rd and engage in Art Walk in downtown Twisp featuring artist receptions, local food, open shops, live music and open interactive artist studios. Then visit Twisp for the 4th of July which lands on a Saturday this year and engage an array of activities including a parade, Methow Arts Fest in Twisp River Park (now featuring a new beer garden, day-long performance from the stage, local art vendors, hands-on art making for all ages, local food and adult art classes.) Find out more @ twispinfo.com and methowarts.org

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