



Guest Artist - Priscilla Wong

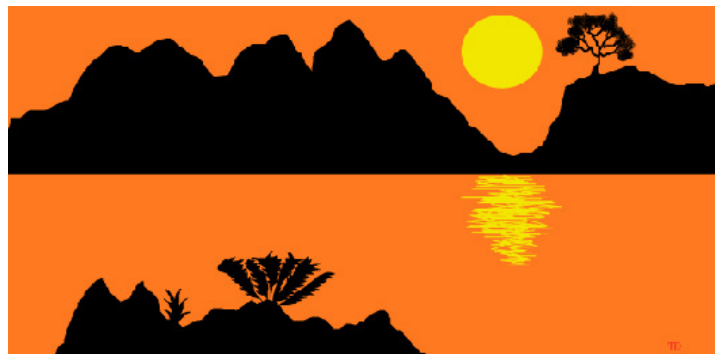
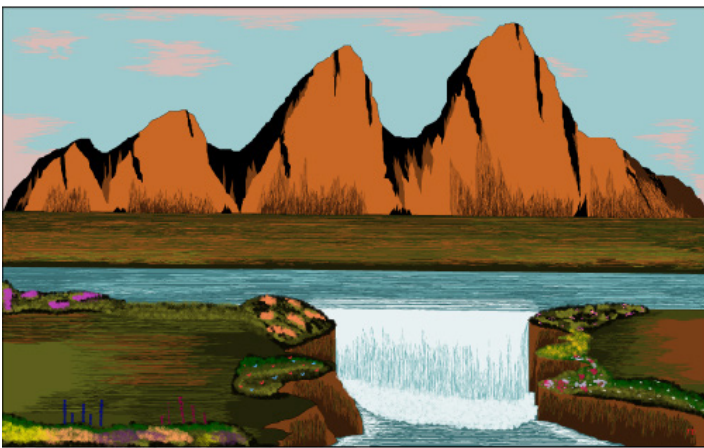
Second Saturday - January 9

reception 2-5 pm - on view till February 6

Priscilla Wong could be seen as a young woman with a paralyzing disease who paints on a computer she operates with her tongue and a toe. But her paintings reveal the talent and soul of an artist dedicated to conveying, in her words, “the beauty of the life we lead and the magnificence of all that surrounds us.”

Accustomed to a wheelchair and connected to a ventilator before reaching her teens, she remained determined to succeed in the world - insisting on replacement of “home-schooling” with graduation from public high school in Sacramento. Without revealing her situation, she applied to college, then commuted to UC Davis, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in 2012. With a major in Women’s Studies, plus minors in Religious Studies and Middle East/South Asia studies, Priscilla’s first career goal was to work on behalf of “underserved communities,” perhaps in the

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Titles of photos (left to right, top to bottom):
Lost, Christmas Peace, Be Still, Mountain Dusk.

New Members of ACGallery

Nichole Lauren Fry

Nichole Lauren Fry is an abstract artist located in Sacramento, California. When she was a young girl she attended The National Museum of Art in Washington D.C. She fell in love with the works of Mark Rothko. The simplicity and depth



of his work spoke volumes to her. She steadily grew to love the arts. She studied art history and business at California State University, Sacramento and has been an active participant in local art shows and exhibits since 2007. She recently had the honor to host her first solo show at the Tim Collom Gallery where she was then offered a permanent artist position. She paints with the sole intention of accenting a room, whether it be a home, corporate environment, hotel or restaurant.

Heather Murdock is a Sacramento based artist who has been spreading glitter, attempting to hide paint spots on carpet, and leaving yarn scraps in her wake since she was old enough to say "crayon." She has a passion to create, and to keep busy making pretty things. It wasn't until she got her hands on a hammer and some wire that she really found her artistic voice. Jewelry making suits her need for variety, in that there is always more to learn and the design possibilities are limitless. She loves color and is influenced by nature, by God's artwork. The color combination where the landscape meets the sky, a flower peeking out

Heather Murdock



from beneath the moss on a hike, or the rainbow of river rocks, sparkling as the water trickles over them. Her jewelry is described as having a unique, bohemian flair and is suitable for all occasions, dressy or casual. Heather believes that we are all Made to Love, and her jewelry is made just for that purpose.

ACG Artists in the Community

Sandy Lindblad

Sandy Lindblad is in three shows:

- Sacramento Fine Arts Center's *Animal House* - Jan. 5-30, reception Jan. 9, 5:30-8:30 - http://www.sacfinearts.org/pdf/Animal-House_2015.pdf

- KVIE gallery's *Animal Kingdom* - Nov. 16-Jan. 12 - <http://www.kvie.org/gallery>

- Sutter Auburn Faith Foundation Hospital's *Art Can Heal* - <http://www.sutterauburnfaith.org>



Known for impressionistic portraits of individual animals, Sandy also portrays relationships, as in "Expectations" of deer in her backyard.

Louise Thompson Schiele

Louise Thompson Schiele has three fabric collages in *By Hand* - a National Biennial Fine Craft Competition and Exhibition presented by the Creative Arts League of Sacramento at Blue Line Arts in Roseville - Jan. 15 - Feb. 7 (reception 6-9, Jan. 16) - <http://www.bluelinearts.org/exhibits/by-hand>. Appearing

to be "family," but actually unrelated, "Fathers & Sons" and "Mothers & Daughters" are combined with "The Big Catch." Based on a photo of her grandfather, she "stretches the truth" by picturing the largest fish being caught by a woman.



Rufus Chalmers

KVIE's *ART Showcase* featured Rufus Chalmers on November 24 - <http://vids.kvie.org/video/2365615821> - Specializing in pastel portraits of famous American Jazz musicians, Chalmers says, "I want my viewers to be able to actually feel the atmosphere and sound of the music." And KVIE agrees that he succeeds: "Each viewer of this series receives a front row seat to a jazz performance they will never forget."

“Beautiful Imperfections”

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law or with writing, as she did for the school newspaper.

But when Nemaline Myopathy eroded her ability to move her limbs, and artificial respiration periodically defined her world as her bed, she began to focus on art as her main way to communicate – and to contribute.

Just last April, Priscilla says she “started messing around with software” – specifically, Microsoft “Paint.” Recalling her one visual class in college - Mexican American Art – she started to experiment, based on her own love of “bright colors” – obvious in the vivid decoration of her room.

Most importantly, she connected with her imagination. Barred from high altitudes with “thin air” – Priscilla has never actually been to real mountains. But the main image that emerged in her art is of towering peaks – soaring into the sky – as her spirit reached out for new heights to climb.

One title - “Mountain Dusk” - could describe the natural world. But most titles reveal her inner spirit – as in two detailed “mountain-scapes” - “Lost” and “Be Still.”

While UC Davis Women’s Studies Professor Maxine Craig remembers her mostly as “a feminist and a good writer,” Priscilla now sees herself primarily as an “artist.”

Acknowledging inspiration from Frida Khalo – also confined to bed for much of her life, after an accident injured her back – Priscilla values books on the Mexican artist, relates to knowing that

“a lot of her work is what she was going through – feeling isolated and alone” - and fondly recalls her own trip to a Kahlo exhibition in San Francisco.

Now Priscilla, like Frida, works steadily - “usually a few hours a day, when I just listen to music and paint.”

Honing her craft, she experiments with options available on Microsoft “Paint” – navigating the site with a wand in her mouth, then using her toe like a “mouse” to “click” on her next selection. For example, “Let’s say I want to do this,” she says, moving the wand with her tongue, “I have to zoom in on the part that I want.” Now there is a choice of “a bunch of different brushes - watercolor, oil, color pencil, spraypaint, crayon, marker - and I select that.” Then she selects a color, “or if you want to make your own color, you have to play with different palettes.” Generally, she starts with

a base color, then layers on top of it with different brushes – depending on the effect she wants to achieve.

Sometimes, she thinks of trying other software – but worries about the cost of investing in something that might not work out. When asked about contact with similar artists, she says she has not been able to find any to relate to so far, but continues to search.

“21st Century” in her use of computer software, Priscilla also accesses the Internet regularly – maintaining her *Facebook* page “Tongue Depictions” and responding to e-mail almost immediately.

One of Priscilla’s favorite paintings is of butterflies – called “Beautiful Imperfections” because no two are alike. For most of the world, “imperfections” have negative connotations. But for this artist, they are beautiful.

from essay by Priscilla Wong

“... My work focuses on showing typical everyday scenes in nature and life and enhancing their beauty through an array of colors. I love the vast spectrum of colors in the world and want my paintings to reflect that love of color. Aside from bringing a bit of cheeriness to people through my use of bright colors, I hope that the community will find a bit of inspiration through my work. It has always been my firm belief that nothing is impossible despite the various limitations that each of us face, and it is my utmost desire to convey the message that something wonderful can come out of a dark period in one’s life.”

“My goal is to make our world a little more happy and beautiful through my creations. It is an honor to create something that can be admired for years to come.”