

Denmark

Finland

Iceland

Norway

Sweden

April 2009

spring membership meeting

Saturday, May 9, 2009, 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

On the Agenda Exhibitions in 2009 and 2010
Program Bring one of your new works
Hosted by Maj-Britt Mobrand
 2350 Spaulding Ave, Berkeley, CA 94703
RSVP 510-549-0326, mmobrand@yahoo.com

For the pot luck brunch, please bring a dish or a beverage to the meeting.

update minutes, fall meeting

The fall meeting, October 11, 2008, was attended by Ellen Faris (hostess), Maj-Britt Mobrand, Margaretha Miglo, Colette Crutcher, Patricia Bengtson, Anne Inger Oseberg, Elizabeth Stokkebye, Pam Fingado, Margareta Bergman, Jason Engelund, Maj-Britt Hilstrom, Olivia Eielson, Dorothy McCall, Helene Sobol, Debra Jewell (new member) and Joan Heikkila-Keyes (guest). Each artist introduced themselves and talked about their current and upcoming exhibitions.

EXHIBITIONS **Pat Bengtson**, who had made tentative arrangements for an exhibition starting Sept. 9, 2009, at the Eddie Rhodes Gallery, Contra Costa College, received an OK by the membership to proceed with plans for a show. She proposed hiring a juror and the members agreed to offer a fee of \$100 to be paid by Nordic 5 Arts. The participants would pay for PR, announcements and a catalog. Pat presented suggestions for a show title and the members were in favor of "Going North". Pat's committee consists of Maj-Britt Hilstrom and Loren Rehbock; later, she will request assistance with PR, installation, reception, etc. **Pam Fingado**, who opened the Fingado Art Gallery in El Cerrito in July, offered a two month exhibition, starting in

April 2009. She will be contacting each of the members directly regarding submission requirements. The gallery will retain 40% of sales. **Helene Sobol** has arranged for a show for our group, starting in February 2009. Helene and **Colette Crutcher** will curate the show entitled "Nordic Moods."

LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEES Helene, who will have served for three years as President in 2009, expressed her wish to pass it on to another member. She appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of **Jason Engelund, Pam Fingado and Elizabeth Stokkebye**. Their mission will be to propose candidates for President and officers for Committees at the next meeting in April 2009.

TREASURER **Olivia Eielson**, our Treasurer during the past 2 ½ years, relinquished her duties and **Maj-Britt Mobrand** graciously accepted to take over the duties as Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP **Debra Jewell** was accepted as a new member. Membership renewal forms for 2009 were passed out.

MANY THANKS to **Ellen Faris** whose home provided a lovely and comfortable setting for our meeting (see photo of hostess on back page).



dean gustafson



Of Swedish descent, Dean Gustafson lives in San Francisco and has been an active artist in the Bay Area since 1986. He grew up in Minneapolis, MN, where he became interested in art through a family of artists and the excellent fine art museums there. He received his BFA in Painting & Drawing in 1990 from the Academy of Art College in San Francisco and has maintained a creative life ever since.

Dean's main medium is oil on canvas and he states "My work stems from the imagination and from life, combined with an interest in exploring compositions, and a love for the rich color and textures that can be made with the time honored tradition of oil painting."

Web site: <http://deangustafson.net>

Norse Ship at Night, Oil on canvas, 57.5" x 42"

welcoming new members

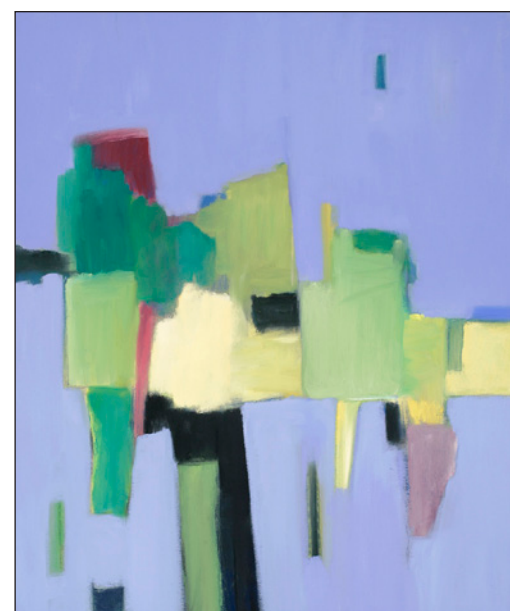
marc ellen hamel

Of Swedish heritage, Marc Ellen Hamel received her BS in English from UC Berkeley. She lives in San Francisco and has a studio at the Hunters Point Shipyard where she works as an abstract painter and printmaker.

Marc Ellen states "I am interested in the interaction of color and the physical feel and look of paint. As I apply color, make strokes, clarify areas, an internalized landscape surfaces and I work with that, going back and forth between the immediate physicality of the process and my own place-memory. I bring out the world of the subconscious; it is at once a world I am making and one I am revisiting."

Web site: www.MarcEllenHamel.net

Urban Mirage, Oil on canvas, 36" x 30", 2007
 Photo credit, portrait: Kirk Brooks



welcoming new members

A native Californian of Swedish descent, **Debra Jewell** received undergraduate and graduate degrees in Landscape Architecture at UC Berkeley. After her graduation, she lived and worked in Scotland and traveled in Scandinavia where she was drawn to the Northern landscape.

Debra states "Painting and printmaking are for me an exercise in the contemplation of nature and an exploration of inner experience. I work with images from the natural environment as well as those from memory... We live in a world where true meaning can often only be found at the interstices between perceived reality and something more fundamental, between the conscious and the unconscious. My monotype work inhabits this space, exploring the aspects of our environment where the visible becomes metaphor."

Web site: DebraJewell.com

Invershin #1, Monotype, chine collé, 11" x 7"



debra jewell



joan heikkila-keyes



Joan Heikkila-Keyes was born in Hancock, MI, the only town in the United States where road signs are in English and Finnish. Her grandparents settled in this northernmost city of Michigan because it looked "just like Finland." Joan's art training began at Michigan State University; she received a drawing and painting degree in Southern California and studied painting at UC Berkeley. She has studied with Christopher Brown, Joan Brown and Robert Hartmann and cites J. Thomas Soltesz, a Marin landscape painter, as providing inspiration and influence. Joan's studio is in the "Iron Triangle" of Richmond.

Joan states "My paintings are a study of line, color and shape. The appeal of the visual world is the inspiration for my paintings. I work in three traditional genres of painting – landscape, still life and portraiture... Typically, I use a different, but limited palette for each painting genre."

Tulips on Blue, Oil on linen, 37" x 42"

news... events and exhibitions

PAT BENGTON-JONES July 18 – September 27, Triton Museum of Art, 1505 Warburton Ave, Santa Clara, CA. **KATI CASIDA** is working on a video presentation of her research on Piazzas in Rome. **JASON ENGELUND** May 7 - 9, Modernbook Gallery, Affordable Art Fair, New York, NY. **MARK ERICKSON** April 20 – May 27, "Mark Erickson: Post Modern Baroque – Painting Under the Influence", Robert Green Fine Arts, 154 Throckmorton Ave, Mill Valley, CA; Published in Austria, Spring 2009: "The Book of Titles – Splashed Against a Black Wall," A Handbook for Painters, Playwriters, Songwriters, Filmmakers, Writers & Poets (Phrases you can steal, alter, manipulate, appropriate & mismanage). By Mark Erickson & Katy Eartl; foreword by Phil Matier, San Francisco Chronicle. **ELLEN FARIS, ANNE INGER OSEBERG and HELENE SOBOL** May 2-3, "Norway in Our Heart", Norway Day Festival, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA. **NORMA ANDERSEN FOX** April 3 - May 28, "The Year of the Natural Fibers," Solo exhibit, Dimond Library, 3565 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland, CA; May 7 - June 15, "Bay Area Basket Makers," Adobe Art Center, 20395 San Miguel Ave, Castro Valley, CA; June 2 - 30, "Summer Show - East Bay Women Artists," Orinda Library, 24 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA; Ongoing exhibit of viscosity etchings, Mercy Retirement & Care Center, 3411 Foothill Blvd, Oakland, CA. **JOAN HEIKKILA-KEYES** April 6 – May 6, Florals, City Hall, El Cerrito, 10890 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito, CA. **HELENE SOBOL** April 9 - August 31, "Think Green", Planning Department, Berkeley, CA. **HELENA TIAINEN** May 8 – June 20, ALL GURLZ, Eclectix Gallery, 10082 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito, CA.



NORDIC MOODS January 11 – March 15, 2009
Norwegian Seamen's Church, 2454 Hyde St., San Francisco
An exhibition of paintings, prints, photography, textiles and ceramics by nine member artists: Pat Bengtson-Jones, Colette Crutcher, Liselotte Dyhrberg, Maj-Britt Hilstrom, Maj-Britt Moberand, Anne-Inger Oseberg, Diane Rusnak, Helene Sobol and Barbara Stevens-Strauss.

Official Opening of the exhibition by the Consul General of Norway Sten Arne Rosnes; Curated by Helene Sobol and Colette Crutcher; Installed by Trond Gilberg and Jeff Sobol.

Photo, left to right: Trond Gilberg, Pat Bengtson-Jones, Barbara Stevens-Strauss, Liselotte Dyhrberg, Colette Crutcher, Maj-Britt Hilstrom and Consul General Sten Arne Rosnes.

GOING NORTH August 14 – October 30, 2009
Reception and lectures by artists, August 27, 5-8PM
Eddie Rhodes Gallery, Contra Costa College,
2600 Mission Bell Dr., San Pablo, CA 94806

Juror: Claudia Chaplin, Gallery Owner, Writer
Curator: Pat Bengtson-Jones, Co-Curator: Maj-Britt Hilstrom
Exhibiting Artists: Pat Bengtson-Jones, Kati Casida, Chuck Clanton, Colette Crutcher, Olivia Eielson, Jason Engelund, Mark Erickson, Ellen Faris, Pam Fingado, Norma Andersen Fox, Marc Ellen Hamel, Russell Herrman, Maj-Britt Hilstrom, Debra Jewell, Maj-Britt Moberand, Dorothy Nissen, Susan Peterson, Loren Rehbock, Diane Rusnak, Helene Sobol, Elizabeth Stokkebye, Barbara Stevens-Strauss, Helena Tiainen.
Photo: Juror Claudia Chaplin reviewing submissions



Ellen Faris, who hosted our Fall Meeting, with a new painting for her solo show in Heggedal, Norway, that opened February 14.

CONTEMPORARY NORDIC ART

March 13 – April 23, 2009
Fingado Art Gallery,
7025 Stockton Ave, El Cerrito, CA

A juried exhibition by Nordic 5 Arts featuring paintings, sculpture, photography, weaving, ceramics, basketry and jewelry and handbags in titanium.

Artists: Colette Crutcher, Lotte Dyhrberg, Jason Engelund, Ashley Eriksmoen, Ellen Faris, Norma Andersen Fox, Maj-Britt Hilstrom, Maj-Britt Moberand, Loren Rehbock, Helene Sobol, Barbara Stevens-Strauss and Helena Tiainen

Photo: Gallery Owner Pam Fingado with a basket by Norma Andersen Fox



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