



RAINBOW ARTISTS

WWW.RAINBOWARTISTS.COM

WOMEN MAKING ART SINCE 1990

July 2020 Newsletter

Rainbow Artists Monthly Meeting Sunday, July 19, 2 pm on ZOOM Janine Wilson will facilitate

We recommend you download Zoom and get familiar with it before the meeting, although that's not necessary; you can simply follow the link when it is sent out.



June bank balance was \$3,233.50.

Paintings can stay at Organic Books and 5G Bistro.

The shows at Special Collections Library and St Michaels Gallery have been cancelled for now.



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2020 Dues are due NOW:

Please mail your \$25 to:

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Looking back at our 20th

I wasn't around for the birth of Rainbow Artists and only have newsletters back to about 2002, but I have several for 2010 when Rainbow celebrated its 20th anniversary. Here are a few highlights:

- **January:** 20th Anniversary Reception was held at OFFCenter. Founders were recognized with flowers and we remembered Rainbow's Bravos Award from the Albuquerque Arts Alliance, a Keep the Dream Alive award from the Martin Luther King Multicultural Council and recognition from the Mexican Consulate for our Dia de los Muertos altars. *Most of all it was an evening to honor the magic of our friendships, of the mending of our disagreements and the contributions of time and talent that has carried us onward.*
- **March:** Michelle Melendez talked to us about the plight of families brought to the US and then expected to be self-supporting. The Women's Design Collective is a cause we have supported. It is teaching entrepreneur skills to women where they can employ their traditional handicraft skills.
- **April:** We met at the home of Peggy Randolph who had just published her novel Josephine's Incredible Shoe & Black Pearls, based on an incident in Peggy's family history. Great story.
- **May:** Marian Berg made a presentation about her trip to Haiti to assist in healthcare for the many injured in the earthquake.
- **September:** We realized we were missing the goodwill, the spark and enthusiasm that drew us to Rainbow. Ideas discussed included rotating new members into the exhibition committee, asking what we were willing to give the organization and how to increase positive support of each other.
- **November:** Artist and teacher Caryl McHarney traveled to many places, most recently Egypt, with camera and sketchbook in hand. Preferring to go it alone, she lived in the moment and at times the moment was marvelous and other times it might have been her last. She shared her ideas on how to make the first happen more often and the last not at all.
- **December:** We held our Holiday potluck and gathering at the home of Thora Guinn.



ARTportunities

If you would like a show at the Juan Tabo Library, contact Alima Jimenez ajimenez@cabq.gov or call her at 291-6260. There is room for 24 16x20 paintings.

far flung poetry pop-up project

Bill Waters and Miriam Sagan of the blog Miriam's Well invite you to this fun project. Pick a site in any location you can access. This is essentially guerrilla art as they aren't installing as a group with permission from some place cool like a sculpture garden. Figure out how you want to place the poem at the site—tied to a tree, hidden in a box, written in earth or sand, attached to yarn bombing ... the options are endless. Be respectful of the site—don't litter or obstruct anything. Take some photos, type up the poem and send it in. They will create an on-line way of showcasing the work. Some pieces may be documented and come down immediately. Some work is meant to weather away. Some is meant to be pocketed by a passer-by. Figure out how long you want to keep the poem "up". Are you rewriting it in the sand every day? Or not?

I find no expiration or due date for this—so inquire.

Contact Miriam at msagan1035@aol.com or Bill at poetryinpublicspacesproject@gmail.com

New Mexico Art League will be offering juried exhibitions online for now in order to give artists an opportunity to continue to exhibit their work.

Stormy Weather: New Mexico artists' unique interpretations of the startling beauty of storms in the New Mexico sky.

September 1—October 10, 2020

Deadline—July 25

Just a Moment—The Still Life: interpretations of this classic genre by artists living and working in NM

October 20—November 21

Deadline—September 12

Share

Share our [Facebook](#) page with your friends. The more traffic we get, the more exposure your art has.

The art of Miksang

A traditional art form has been greatly facilitated by the advent of the digital camera. The art of Miksang was begun as a meditational tool by Shambhala Buddhists, but it has implications for painters and other creative people. The idea is to find joy and awareness by attending to the minor and seemingly insignificant — the colours, patterns and textures that exist in the close-up world. Miksang is a Tibetan word that means "good eye." Shambhalas think widespread use might lead to more compassionate, enlightened societies.

Artists have been going in this direction for centuries. Leonardo recommended seeing beauty and finding motifs in the texture of walls. These days Buddhist instructors in several countries are handing digital cameras to kids. Children seem to take to it faster than adults and, according to some, get better results. Part of the Miksang philosophy is that subjects must be found and collected "as is" and not moved or adjusted to improve composition. Subjects can be man-made or from the natural world.

What value does Miksang have for creative folks? Obviously, Miksang makes for pause, reflection and quiet centering. By increasing awareness, one builds a feeling of wonder and kinship with the overlooked. But its real value is in seeing design and the subtlety of color. To the discriminating eye the macro world is a minor symphony. Looking through a viewfinder and making decisions hone the ability to find the larger compositions. It's all about the acquired skills of looking and seeing. Buddhist or not, this art can be performed at any time and any place.

There are currently 30,459 miksang images on [Flickr](#).

Taken from The Painter's Keys
(painterskeys.com)



ARTspiration

As we shelter in place, artists often retreat into their studios and kitchens where they find peace and inspiration. What have some Rainbows been doing?

Janine Wilson tried a new technique for *The Bridge* (at right) which is acrylic that is then lifted with 90% alcohol.

Joan Fenicle reports that Wild hearts Gallery in Placitas has reopened with limited hours and her show *Time Travels* at the gallery has been rescheduled for July 28-Sept. 27 with 10 new oil paintings and some kind of reception on Saturday, Sept. 12, 1-4 pm. Scheduling events is hit and miss these days, so it may be live, may be virtual or some combination of the two. She also has one painting, *Echinacea Dream*, in Sumner & Dene's July Garden Show and has been invited to the September show at New Mexico Cancer Center.

Marian Berg has been working on a new mural commission in Albuquerque. After she posted her backyard mural on Facebook, she got a request for a 6x40 foot mural. She bought a 10x10 foot tent to protect her from the unrelenting sun and heat and got to work. She also had a painting accepted into the 2020 Taos Plein Air juried online members exhibition (image at right). And, on top of all that, she is still working as a nurse (see back page—thank you Marian).

Eliza Schmid can be found exhibiting around town despite the pandemic:

- * Matrix Gallery, 3912 Central SE, Mother Daughter show *Beautiful Women*. Gallery open Th-Sat 11am-5pm
- * Buffalo Exchange, 3005 Central NE, several egg tempera paintings.
- * Artichoke Cafe, Central and Edith, Restaurant open after 4pm.



The Bridge, Janine Wilson



Glowing Mesas, Marian Berg



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Movies in the Parking Lot

Bernalillo County’s popular Movies in the Park series has been extended through August 1. All movies are shown in the parking lot of the Isleta Amphitheater at 5601 University Blvd., south of Rio Bravo.

- July 11—Spiderman: Far From Home
- July 18—Frozen 2
- July 25—Lion King (2018)
- Aug. 1—Cars

Free of charge; first-come, first-served. Gates open at 7pm. Moviegoers allowed to sit outside but only directly in front of their cars, in their assigned space. Social distancing will be enforced by security. Outside food and drink permitted, but alcohol is not. Food trucks will be on site. Attendees must wear a mask when venturing away from their vehicle for food or restrooms. Dogs permitted on a leash and you must scoop their poop.

Information at 505.314.0477 or bernco.gov/mitp

Mission Statement

Rainbow Artists, an award winning women’s collective established in Albuquerque in 1990, supports, promotes, and encourages women artists.

- * We embrace ethnic and artistic diversity.
- * We strive to grow in our art and our association with each other.
- * We share our talents and enrich our creativity and our community through collaborative exhibits and projects.

Rainbow Artists

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Newsletter deadline is the 1st of each month.

