

ASTORIA — Downtown merchants and galleries will hold Astoria's Second Saturday Art Walk from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 9. Meet artists and mingle with fellow art lovers while enjoying refreshments and new exhibits.

ART BUSINESSES

1. Imogen Gallery 240 11th St.

Jennifer Mercede brings a collection of fresh paintings, a combo of bold floral paintings and wildly expressive abstracts. Working small to large, each finished painting expresses a quality of joie de vivre; exaggerated use of color and brilliant brush stroke jump from surface, as if trying to escape containment. She has illustrated and published a children's book, been a featured artist on OPB's ArtBeat program, and created a two-story-tall mural on the façade of the Grand Rapids Children's Museum.

2. Old Town Framing Company

1287 Commercial St.

Work by Jeff Donnelly is back at Old Town. Donnelly has experimented with many different styles but is continually drawn to the landscapes. His great sense of lighting captures you.

3. RiverSea Gallery 1160 Commercial St.

Oregon artist Leslie Lee shows "Metaphor to Magic." This collection presents some of her oldest paintings with many of her newest to document her journey as a painter. Lee was recognized for 30 years for her figurative clay sculpture, then spent a decade painting figurative subjects cloaked in metaphor. She has recently transitioned to a loose and playful abstract style. Exhibiting in the Alcove is Portland artist Gia Whitlock with her mixed-media painting show "Tender Age in Bloom." These lushly rendered, fanciful interpretations of nature are close-up landscapes of flowers and foliage layered with intriguing biomorphic forms in a jumble of soft colors.

4. Tempo Gallery

1271 Commercial St. Tempo will feature artist Phyllis Taylor, who has taken a break from flowers to do a painting of the Astoria Trolley. Her husband, Kent, a trolley motorman, spent hours repainting the trolley this winter. Taylor is a member of the Peninsula Artist Association, Bloomington Watercolor Society and the Astoria Society of Artists. Refreshments will be served.

5. Ratz & Company 260 10th St.

Showcasing the artwork and illustrations of owner Dave McMacken, the gallery will feature McMacken's paintings and his early work in the rock 'n' roll biz, which garnered him a place in the Album Cover Hall of Fame.

6. Laughing Duck Digital Pond 120 10th St., Suite. 3

7. Astoria Art Loft 106 Third St.

The Astoria Art Loft will host its grand opening from 3 to 6 p.m. Enjoy music by Peter Hinsbeeck and Scott Warren as well as wine and goodies. Many resident artists will show their work, including acrylic artist Elizabeth Bonn Zimmerman, oil painter John Wecker, mixed-media artist Bonnie Wolgamot, and acrylic, ceramic and mixed-media artist Barbara Odems. Owner-artists Jo Pomeroy-Crockett, Jeannette Davis and Ellen Zimet have several new pieces. Visit AstoriaArtLoft.com for more information.

ALSO FEATURING ORIGINAL ART

8. Winnifred Byrne Luminari Arts

1133 Commercial St.

Local artist Terrie Remington's vision is to capture the essence of a subject. "I need to get to the passion of it — the emotional fire — the driving force," she says. The tactile quality of her sculptural paintings provides depth and energy; the colors speak in a more ethereal realm. Remington developed the sculpture painting technique during her 11year residency in Spain and first introduced it in 1967 at her Barcelona gallery, Refugi d'Art. Paintings are sculpted on canvas-covered board. The multi-media sculptures can be a combination of clay with natural fibers, marbleized for durability, then painted in acrylics and oils. She also adds driftwood, shells, ground marble and feathers.

9. Forsythea Home & Garden Arts 1124 Commercial St.

This month, Forsythea highlights the new work of several regional artists. There are handmade baskets by Connie Ford, watercolor paintings by Dian Schroeder, hand-carved emu eggs by Garri Linardos, wearable ceramic mosaic pendants by Renee' O'Connor and oneof-a-kind jewelry boxes by Christine Trexel.

10. Pier 11 77 11th St.

Find multi-media art, jewelry, paintings and more by local artists at the Pier 11 Mall.

11. Sea Gypsy Gifts 1001 Commercial St.

Check out new items; all handmade jewelry is on sale. See original artwork, handmade bath and body products, candles, glass garden flowers, whimsical bottle lamps, garden decor, furniture and more. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

12. Street 14 Coffee 1410 Commercial St.

13. Astoria Visual Arts' Artist in Residence

1170 Commercial St.

Astoria Visual Arts' artist-in-resident Sarah Hendrickson will share her works and studio with the public. With her studio space, Hendrickson is doing something she's wanted to do for years:



See a painting of the Astoria Trolley by Phyllis Taylor at Tempo Gallery.

weave a magic carpet. "I've always been a painter, and love it, but have been increasingly fascinated by the shapes and color choices in rugs and tapestries," she says. "It requires a totally different way of thinking to produce an image." Hendrickson built an 8-by-8-foot tapestry loom from scratch. "It's the most running-around-physical project l've ever done: hoisting this, shoving that, running circles around the room," she says. The studio location above Commercial Street lends itself to the spirit of the project. "While I'm up there I like to open the windows wide and watch and listen to the goings-on of town while I'm working. This is a bonus I didn't expect, as I feel like I'm weaving the town, day and night, right into the tapestry," she says. "In the past, I've struggled and even taken breaks from making art because it can feel so lonely, but this situation is the best of all worlds."

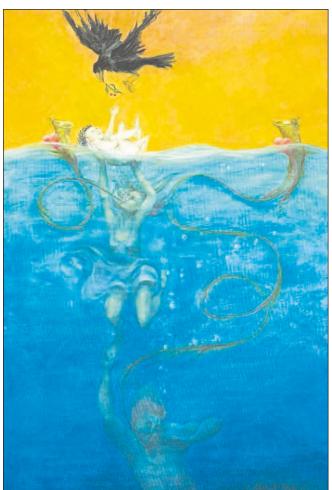
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"Triple Trouble," a watercolor by Ellen Zimet at Astoria Art Loft.



"Blue Stuff" by Agnes Barton-Sabo, also known as Betty Turbo, at Frite & Scoop.



"Save the Children," an oil painting by Leslie Lee at RiverSea Gallery.



A painting by Jennifer Mercede at Imogen Gallery.