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His book, "The Contemporary Shot Glass," traces the history of the shot glass and contains photos of more than 70 shot glasses created by 40 artists.

His ideas for his shot glasses – often decorated with lifelike eyes – and other glass creations in the shape of sea creatures originate from a variety of sources.

"I often dream when I am awake," Mazet said. "My ideas come from the constant race in my head, an addiction that is compulsive and taken from the world around me: painters, potters, tattoo artists, Mother Nature, sci-fi and so on."

Painter Josef Kote also pays attention to the random impressions he absorbs.

"I am inspired by visuals and sounds that linger in my mind long enough to acknowledge," said Kote, who paints cities, portraits and marine life. "Something very simple, like the way the light of dusk falls on an object or a face can trigger that."

"Particularly in nature there is a lot to pull from so far as color and the nuances of energy and vibes in a landscape or city," he said. "Working as a full-time artist, I can't wait for inspiration to find me; I have to seek it out."

He seeks to capture everyday life, wheth-

er it is in his paintings of the city or in the marine art that will be displayed at Modern Villa Gallery. This is Kote's first Spring Unveiling.

"The mundane and the extraordinary can be both a source of beauty and inspiration; it all depends on how you see it," Kote said. "Sometimes ideas about how to express something I have seen or felt will sit with me for awhile, and other times they will emerge almost immediately."

ANIMAL EXPRESSION

Cowboy artist Tolley Marney calls that inner whisper "compulsion."

"I have to do it," said Marney, whose horse sculptures are available at Northwest By Northwest Gallery. "The compulsion is fed by my need to communicate and express myself through what I can make with my hands."

"Instead of words forming themselves in my mouth, I am more at ease with the shapes and colors around me forming themselves into something that transmutes through my hands into the shapes and colors of steel and wood."

The biggest challenge to his art, he said, is fear that he won't be able to complete the sculpture that he started or that "what I see in my mind won't come out through my

hands the way I want it to happen."

A former blacksmith, Marney has developed a lifelong relationship with horses.

"Every time I build a piece, I'm explaining life to myself. In a way, I'm looking for belonging and connection and the meaning of life as I create," he said.

"It doesn't matter how many pieces I make, when I'm done with a piece, no matter how much I love it, I feel like I am lacking, like I have more questions. As though the piece I just finished created new questions in me that compel me to sculpt again to seek those new answers."

For Brin Levinson, whose acrylic and oil paintings of urban scenes often contain incongruous birds or wild animals, the small details – the "cracks and moss" – he captures in photographs form the impetus for his dreamlike work.

"I started painting the city, but I wasn't interested in telling the story of people," Levinson said. "I added animals to the scenes so there could be a narrative and an interesting juxtaposition."

"The animals are curious about where they are, it's a foreign place that needs to be figured out. They're innocent and relatable. The urban landscape is a contrived system and a labyrinth of obstacles that animals don't understand. They point out the absur-

dity and impermanence of the reality that we exist in."

This is Levinson's first time showing at Spring Unveiling, where he will be represented at Archimedes Gallery. He will show some medium-sized pieces that remind him of the water, wind and the coastal air.

'THE SMILES OF LIFE'

Hazel Schlesinger's original inspiration came from Seaside School District art teachers Carla Babbey and Linda Campbell. The painter was born and grew up in the Cannon Beach area.

"They pointed the way for me," she said about her teachers. "I have painted with several master artists from around the world, but Linda and Carla were the two that inspired my direction. Schlesinger's oil painting, "NW Squall" at Northwest By Northwest Gallery, was created following a "stormy April walk on the beach," she said.

"I paint images or scenes of thoughtful places. Places one might want to visit or be in at the moment to ponder to stay awhile or to just be," she added. "I would like to think I paint the enjoyment, the beauty and the smiles of life and not the negatives that can ever so frequently be found in our world."



"Crimson Jewel" by Melissa Cooper.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

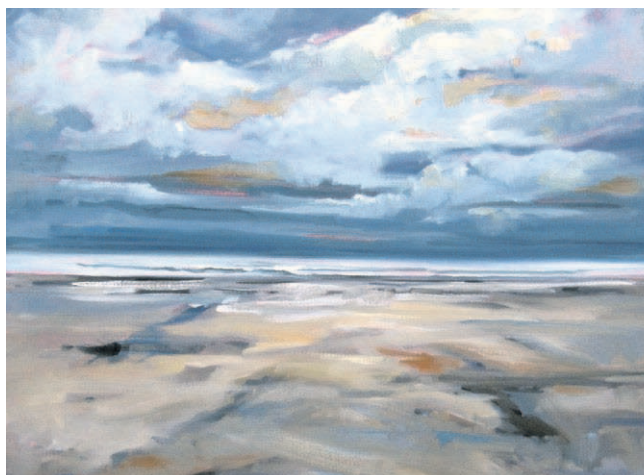
What: Spring Unveiling

When: Friday, May 5, through Sunday, May 7

Where: Galleries and restaurants throughout Cannon Beach

Who: Fifty artists will unveil new works in 11 galleries. Thirty chefs will create menu items to pair with a specific artwork.

Events: Artist demonstrations run from 10:30 a.m. Friday to 3 p.m. Sunday. Gallery receptions and coffees run throughout the weekend; 30-year anniversaries are being celebrated by Northwest By Northwest Gallery 5 to 8 p.m. Friday and 10:40 a.m. Saturday, and by Jeffrey Hull Gallery 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday.



"NW Squall" by Hazel Schlesinger.



"Spring Abundance" by Ann Cavanaugh, soon to be on display in DragonFire Gallery.



Joanne Shellan's painting "Kitchen Dance" is being used in Spring Unveiling's Chef's Table promotional material.