



Polly Jones

THE CENTER
FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS



JANUARY 2010

220 CYPRESS STREET | ABILENE, TEXAS 79601 | 325.677.8389 | center-arts.com



ARTWALK

ArtWalk is a free monthly celebration of the arts in downtown Abilene, involving the cultural and business community. Everyone enjoys free exhibits, street performances and live entertainment during ArtWalk. Each month brings a new offering of art and entertainment that attracts a broad cross section of the community. The Center coordinates and underwrites the expenses for the ArtWalk activities. As an added bonus, ArtWalk provides performance opportunities for visual and performing artists in the area. This monthly mini-festival has received statewide accolades and even national recognition, but it is the participation by the citizens of Abilene that makes this program so extraordinary.

The coming Spring and Summer ArtWalks will bring all types of themes ranging from aviation, international students, cars, to pet friendly. Come join the Center, Artists, community members, the local art venues and shops the second Thursday of every month starting at 5 p.m.! Interested in displaying your work along the street? Want to vend your art work/handmade jewelry/shirts/candles? Want to become a sponsor of ArtWalk? Contact Nicole at nicole@center-arts.com today to find out how!

- Nicole Coddington, Marketing and ArtWalk Coordinator

UPCOMING ARTWALK DATES:

February 11 • March 11 • April 8 • May 13 • June 10 • July 8 • August 12



UPCOMING DATES:

March 19 - Luke McMillian and Band
April 23 - Charlie Wood and Third Steam
May 28 - Los Jazz Vatos Quartet

8 p.m. at the Center for Contemporary Arts, must be 21 or older to attend
\$15 per ticket, \$35 per series ticket (on sale now!)



Anthony Brown

EXHIBITS

With the start of the new decade the Center is adding a new dimension to the exhibition schedule. Gallery 3 has become the 3-D Gallery and will feature three dimensional works by both member and guest artists.

To launch this effort, Joe Barrington, widely recognized as one of Texas foremost sculptors, is featured as the 3-D Gallery artist for January and February. Recognized throughout the region as the creator of the Pink Flamingo, The Antlers, Desert Mule Deer Skull and 4 Ravens, Joe will be exhibiting smaller work including Brontosaurus, Jack Rabbits, Crocodile Pumps, and Armadillos. This exhibit is a prelude to another exciting exhibit happening!

2010-2011 marks the 30th year anniversary for the Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition in Abilene. So to fast forward a bit, during the months of September and October of this year the Center will host an exhibition honoring many of the outdoor sculpture

artists who have exhibited in the past Outdoor Sculpture Exhibitions. Each participating artist will submit a sculpture to our new 3D Gallery for a combined show featuring smaller works from the artists! If that isn't exciting enough, another widely recognized sculptor, James Surls has kindly agreed to curate and participate in the show! The show will be installed prior to the outdoor exhibit opening and will correlate with a few other happenings in the area to honor these amazing artists.

Currently, local artist and Signature Member Anthony Brown fills the main Breed gallery with his brightly colored, mixed media paintings inspired by the views, vistas and history of the western landscapes. Stop by to see how Tony's unique vision and use of color has transformed the gallery!

Also on exhibit in Gallery 4, T.M. Gand brings a taste of Italy to Texas. The inspiration for her show *The Essence of Venice Italy, The Trip I Didn't Take* is based solely on beautifully re-mastered images taken from the Venetian world.



T.M. Gand



Joe Barrington



Kathie Walker-Millar

EXHIBITS (cont.)

Last but not least, featured in the photography gallery are works from the Texas Photographic Society's (TPS) National Juried Competition. TPS is a non-profit organization of professional and amateur photographers whose purpose is to support contemporary photography as a means for creative expression and cultural insight. This show will be up through the end of the month of January, so hurry in to get a taste of what the international photography culture has to offer!

Another new initiative for 2010 is the collaboration with the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council (ACAC) on the Art at City Hall Exhibition. City officials worked with the Center and the ACAC staff to select work appropriate and inspiring for City Hall. Audria Hammond, City Secretary commented, "The

addition of the artwork at City Hall caused us to realize how art can enhance the work environment!" With the tremendous support the arts receive from the city, it seemed appropriate that art should have a strong presence in this facility.

With many great exhibits and projects in store for 2010 we hope to see you all soon!

Best Wishes for a New Year filled with Art and Inspiration,

- Paris Barnett, Gallery Manager



For more information on any of the Center's exhibits, upcoming shows, or exhibiting artists' biographies and exhibit statements, please visit the exhibits homepage on our website, center-arts.com/exhibits.

ARTREACH

Good things are happening at the Center!

2010 presents challenges and opportunities, and we are taking both in stride through our education programs. Some of the programs we have offered in the past are being duplicated by other institutions, so we have decided to take this opportunity to try some "edgier" forms of education. Currently in the works is our *Expedition to the Edge*...an educational roadtrip to a well-kept secret studio and gallery in Granbury, followed by a guided tour through the Andy Warhol exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in Fort Worth for our Artist Members. Also, we will soon launch a monthly "Movie Night" geared to university art students and interested Artist Members. Our mission with this program is to make the Center a place the students become comfortable with, and meet and interact with artist members.

An art film will be shown in Gallery 2 each month (we are looking at the fourth Thursday) complete with popcorn, drinks, and an educator to lead what we expect will be dynamic discussions about the film afterward.

Stay tuned for more news about our exciting new programs.

- Bird Thomas, Education Coordinator

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

It has been a pleasure serving as the executive director of the Center for Contemporary Arts during the 20th Anniversary Year. As we enter a new decade, I can't help but ponder the progress the Center for Contemporary Arts has made over the past twenty years and the evolution this great organization will make in the future.

October 1, 2009 marked the beginning of the fiscal year and with it brought several new and exciting additions to the board of trustees, artist membership, and staff. The board of trustees welcomed three new members Jodie Brown, Mike Hernandez, and Jim Pizzorno who provide the board with new ideas and direction to our already diverse group. We also had two board members leave the board after completing six years of dedicated service to the Center. Shelia Fox and Barton Cromeens were both instrumental in creating programming and securing funds needed for the ArtReach Program. The ArtReach Program continues to be rated as one of the best art education programs in the State of Texas.

The Center's artist membership has been very active collaborating on new exhibits for the year with the next group exhibit *Take Five* scheduled to open in April of 2010. Three new artists have recently been accepted

into the artist membership which brings our membership to over seventy.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to some newer additions to the Center's staff. Paris Barnett joined the staff in the fall of 2009 as the gallery manager. Her eye for aesthetics and sunny personality make her a wonderful fit for the gallery manager position.

Paris is a graduate from Texas Christian University with a BFA in Art Education and specialization in three dimensional art.

Burgess "Bird" Thomas began duties as the education coordinator this past December and has quickly jumped into her new role with enthusiasm and creativity. She is the newly elected vice president of the artist membership and a former board of trustee at the Center for Contemporary Arts.

Bird is a graduate from the University of Texas at Austin with a BS in Interior Design (Art and Architecture).

Please stop by the Center for Contemporary Arts to visit with Paris and Bird to find out more about the Center's exhibit and education programs.

- Jessica Dulle, Executive Director

THE CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS IS SUPPORTED BY:

The Abilene Cultural Affairs Council, the City of Abilene, Taylor County, and the Downtown Revitalization Program of the TIF District, the Abilene Reporter-News and Scripps Howard Foundation, the Campbell Foundation, the Greathouse Foundation, the Shelton Family Foundation, the Junior League of Abilene - Community Connection, the Dian Graves Owen Foundation, the Community Foundation of Abilene: T&T Family Foundation, Mr. Jimmy Tittle, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wright, Community Foundation Discretionary Funds, the SBC Foundation, the Dodge Jones Foundation, the Clint Hamilton Foundation, GAP Radio, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.



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