

50|50 Show at Sanchez Art Center, August 26–September 18, 2016

The *50|50 Show* is almost here! Can you feel the momentum building? The white-hot frenzy of artists working overtime to finish their last few pieces? The pride and satisfaction of completion? The August 26 opening date marks the 8th annual *50|50 Show* at Sanchez Art Center in Pacifica. Local art lovers have learned to save their pennies all year long in anticipation of this event, for which selected artists have tackled the gargantuan task of creating one artwork each day for a span of 50 days. The result is an exhibit of over 3,000 small, affordable, wonderful works of art.

Artists from all over California applied for the chance to go through this grueling but rewarding process. Our juror, Brian Gross of Brian Gross Fine Art in San Francisco, selected 69 artists from an applicant pool of 145. The lucky 69 have been hard at work, producing one work after another, fixing problems as they arise, figuring out how they will arrange their wall displays. "Creating the 50 pieces for the Sanchez Art Center *50|50 Show* was one of the most rewarding, challenging, and enjoyable art-making processes I have ever participated in," says artist Shannon Amidon. "It was a wonderful and sometimes painful process."

This year's postcard and poster were designed by Sanchez Art Center studio artist Janet Arline Barker to highlight the journey that *50|50* artists embark on. June 6 was the start of this special journey. Each artist experienced the journey on their own, and drew different kinds of learning from it. Hanna Perrine Mode decided to paint places that hold special meaning for her, creating her own spiritual map of landmarks that help her understand her past, her present, and possible new directions. Kerith Lisi found that producing the work in such a limited time taught her to work in a different way. "[It] completely stripped me of the luxury of time and forced me to just jump right in and start. It is a completely different way of working." Lisi also noted the community created among the artists: "Knowing that I was in the company of a group of artists facing the same challenge gave me confidence that I belonged to a team, rather than the feeling that I was on my own." Another artist, Jennifer Alpaugh experienced a deep connection with history (her medium is cyanotype, invented by Sir John Herschel in 1842), as well with her botanical materials. Says Alpaugh, "My close observation of the life cycle of plants reminds me that each phase of life is beautiful and unique."

The *50|50 Show* opens with a Preview Fundraiser from 6 to 8 pm on Friday, August 26. Proceeds from the Preview Fundraiser support Sanchez Art Center's programs year-round, and are especially welcome as we begin celebrating our 20th year of creating community through art. The *50|50 Show* is unique in that you take purchased artworks with you starting at 7:30 pm opening night, so attending the Preview is the only way to see this show in its entirety. Preview tickets are available for \$25 at Eventbrite.com. Any tickets left on opening night can be purchased for \$30 at the door, but securing tickets in advance is highly recommended. (Last year this event sold out, and this year tickets are selling at a fast pace!) The show is then open to the public from 8 pm till the evening's festivities end at 9:30 pm.

Come experience this exciting extravaganza of art and artists! Sanchez Art Center is located at 1220 Linda Mar Blvd in Pacifica, about a mile east of Highway 1. Following opening night, the galleries are open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1–5 pm, and by appointment, through September 18. For more information call 650.355.1894 or visit www.SanchezArtCenter.org