



Umpqua Valley Arts Association

1624 W Harvard Ave.

Roseburg, OR 97471

(541) 672-2532 | uvarts.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Sandee McGee, Gallery Director

Phone: 541-672-2532

Email: sandee@uvarts.com

PRESS RELEASE

February 3, 2017

UVAA Galleries - New Art Exhibits opening at UVAA

Beginning Friday, March 17, 2017 through April 28, 2017, the Umpqua Valley Arts Association (UVAA) is proud to announce five new exhibits. The opening reception will take place Friday, March 17, 2017 from 5 - 7 PM.

Featured in the **Hallie Brown Ford Gallery** is *SPELLS*. Featuring photographs by Sophia Borazanian, Sara Lafleur-Vetter, Shaena Mallett, Peter Earl McCollough and Colleen Plumb. *Spells* is a collaboration between five photographers and fiction writer Peter Rock. Rock wrote the pieces of this fragmentary novel in increments, over years, responding to images he selected from a larger pool. *Spells* gleans details from each photograph in order to construct various moments in the lives of three young friends and other seemingly disparate individuals, all of whom are brought together by mystical circumstances. While this narrative does have a chronology, it can be experienced in any order, and any small sampling will suggest the whole. To listen to the stories while viewing the prints on display at UVAA viewers can scan a QR code or visit spellsproject.com/#audio using a smart phone with headphones. Peter Rock received a fellowship in 2014 from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation to continue work on this project. *Spells* is also supported by a Creative Heights Grant from the Oregon Community Foundation. The audio/video components were made possible by the generous in-kind support of Steve Rauner and NORTH.

Gallery II features *Presence* the work of Elaine Balderston, an Oregon artist and educator whose abstract works are inspired by nature and the unknown. Balderston engages a variety of techniques. She uses flat surfaces as well as sculptural forms as a way of searching and understanding the great mysteries of life.

UVAA's **Corridor Gallery** features *Graphic Content* by the Anvil Collective (Anvil Graphic Design). Shunning the notion that the only real art is "fine art", this small group of designers tackle their work the same way the Lusty Lady might advertise a peep show: lewd eye candy



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with a dash of light reading. Often called kitsch, lowbrow, or shlock, this collection embraces the beauty of urban decay through print, typography, and graffiti. From the deconstruction of punk rock posters, to the coffee-stained smut of Seattle's skid row, the Anvil Collective sees art and design as an inward look into who we are: an inky layered mass of desperate communication.

In the **Red Gallery** we're proud to present the work of artist Holly Wilson (Werner) in an exhibit titled *Spring Collection*. Wilson (Werner) has had a relationship with flowers beginning as a child at her Grandmother's side in the garden. Her affinity for flowers has acted as a conduit linking the phases of her artistic career. Beginning at 16 in the flower business, Holly was taught floral design by national award winning floral artist, Wally Crook. After studying business at the University of Oregon, Holly purchased Fisher's Flowers in 1983, using flowers as her medium to express art. In 2008 she created a Fine Art Gallery within Fisher's, adding Galleria to her cache of artistic endeavors. Teaching color & composition in floral design herself, Holly has also taken instruction from world renowned pastel masters including Wolf Kahn, Albert Handell and Dawn Emerson. Holly has been featured artist in a number of solo regional exhibits and as partner of the collaborative team Leach~Werner Studio. Wilson (Werner) recently launched a collection of wearables featuring images of her art digitally reproduced onto fabric, available internationally. These wearables will also be on display and for sale at the Umpqua Valley Arts Center!

The **Student Gallery** will feature: *In Search of Im(Possibilities)*, works by Roseburg High School Students (grades 9-12) The work in this show is a collection of unique expressions by these incredibly creative high schoolers!

Exhibition Dates for All Galleries: March 17 – April 28, 2017

Reception for All Galleries: Friday, March 17, 2017 from 5-7pm

The public is invited to attend this free opening reception for the exhibit.

Exhibits at the Umpqua Valley Arts Association are always free, and are open to the public Tuesday through Friday from 10 AM - 4 PM and Saturday from 10 AM - 2 PM.

For further information, call (541) 672-2532 or visit uvarts.com.