

News Clippings From the 2011 Promotion.:



Santa Barbara Studio Artists "Open Studio Tour" This Weekend



Story Created: Aug 26, 2011 PDT

Story Updated: Aug 26, 2011 at 11:16 AM PDT

Santa Barbara - This weekend marks a local 10th annual art tour that highlights 38 leading artists here in Tri-Counties.

The Santa Barbara Studio Artists is holding their Open Studio Tour Saturday and Sunday.

It's a two day, self-guided driving tour of local studios filled with world class art. Beth Farnsworth and Ryan Carmel sat down in studio Friday morning with Linda Saccoccio, a local artist with work in the event.

The Santa Barbara Studio Artist, Open Studios Tour is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 and are available for purchase until Sunday at 2 p.m.

To purchase tickets and for maps and more information call 805-280-9178 or visit:<http://www.santabarbarastudioartists.com/tour.htm>

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Montecito Journal, 8/25

ON ART

The Santa Barbara Studio Artists Tour


by Steven Libowitz



Angel Trumpet, Oil on canvas

As might be expected in such a thriving seaside community, there are many art walks, gallery openings and museum exhibitions all around the area, but the Santa Barbara Studio Artists Tour has – pardon the expression – a leg up on the others. The annual two-day trek around town lets visitors view the original art right where it’s created – inside the artists’ studios, which are mostly located at their own private homes. The two-day, self-guided driving tour (maps are provided) will take visitors on trips through downtown and over less traveled roads, into charming neighborhoods and onto lavish estates to view and perhaps purchase work in media ranging from oil and watercolor to landscape, contemporary and figurative painting, sculpture and assemblage.

“It’s more than about just exposing people to the art,” explained Fran

	<p>Steven Libowitz has reported on the arts and entertainment for more than 30 years; he has contributed to Montecito Journal for nearly ten years.</p>
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the studio, and you can talk to them for an hour. That’s never going to happen in a gallery. This way you get much more insight into how the creative process works.”

The tour celebrates its 10th anniversary this weekend, but the display is already underway. A month-long Preview Exhibition features a single work each from the nearly 40 participating artists, whose membership in Santa Barbara Studio Artists requires jury approval, has been up at Santa Barbara Frame Shop and Gallery

Scorzelli, president of the SBSA. "You're able to go to the studio and talk to the artist in the creative environment, one on one. When you go to a gallery, it's only for two hours or so, and there are so many people around it's hard to get a conversation going. Our tour is ten hours over two days. Sometimes there's just one person in

since August's 1st Thursday event. On Friday, the artists will be in attendance for a festive soiree, and collectors and tour participants are invited to chat them up while enjoying food and wine and planning your route to the individual studios for Saturday

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ON ART (Continued from page 17)



Artist Jane Litchfield, who has lived and painted in Montecito for more than 35 years, works in a variety of media including watercolor, oil and mixed media.

and Sunday.

Among them is **Jane Litchfield**, who has lived and painted in Montecito for more than 35 years – all four of her children attended Montecito Union – working in a variety of media including watercolor, oil and mixed media. She talked about the creative process earlier this week.

Q. How did you get interested in so many different media?

A. God gave me a really wonderful gift. It's not all that unusual for creative people – which is different from being artistic; I have both sides. My mother was creative but not artistic but my uncle was very artistic too; he was the costume designer for Sonja Henie – he was the head designer for the Ice Capades right from when it started until Sonja sold it

montages from garden scenes from my own home and also some photographs I've taken elsewhere.

But I don't like plein air, which is the choice of most painters in this community. Landscape are popular too, but I get very confused with those. So I'm better at single scenes of a flower, or if I'm doing outdoor, I concentrate on a plant – just one particular subject. I've switched from outdoor to still life, and the present series is called "Bones," based on skulls of animals. If you're wondering why in the world I would go into that, I am too. It's because the bones have such hard edges, and are very structural, and that's appealing to me right now. The garden series is flowery and wavy – like conducting an orchestra – but the bones are just drawing my attention now.

started until Sonja sold it.

I was schooled here in Santa Barbara in all the different painting media that are available. Watercolor is the foundation for all color painting, as far as I'm concerned, and that's where I started. You have to get the basics down first of how the color works. Once you get the roots you can pretty much do what you want.

So the real reason why I work in so many media is I get bored. But I hate being categorized! When they asked me to be a featured artist for the Studio Tour, I had to say what type of artist I am, and I don't like that at all.

How do you decide which one to pursue? Does the inspiration dictate the media?

Just inspiration right now. I taught in public school and when I was working with children, they're so flexible I'd switch between pen-and-ink to collage to watercolors, and they'd love it. Right now, I'm primarily painting oils. But the subject matter changes. Now I'm promoting my garden series, which are actually

drawing my attention now.

How has living in Montecito had an impact on your art?

Mostly because there's so many beautiful gardens here. I've gone to Lotusland, of course, and taken many photographs up there – that in itself is quite an inspiration. If I were to die today I would be absolutely thrilled just to be sitting in the middle of a garden (when it happens).

What can people expect visiting your studio this weekend?

You will be able to see my work. Right now I'm still cleaning it up – you can't even move in the blasted thing. I'm working on a commission piece for my daughter-in-law, a triptych which is being done on gold gilding and is very ornamental in its feel. Some still lifes are available, quit a bit of the garden series, some watercolor collage.

(Ticket for the tour, which include Friday's reception, cost \$25. Call 280-9178 or visit www.santabarbarastudio-artists.com.)

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Santa Maria Times, 8/26



By
JULIA McHUGH

Studio artists' open studios

More than 35 local artists welcome guests into their studios from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday for the annual Studio Artists' Open Studios Tour. The art is wonderful – and for sale. It is also intriguing to meet the artists and visit their private workspaces.

Getting there is part of the fun – the self-guided driving map rambles through back roads and through charming neighborhoods from Carpinteria to Goleta. Tickets are \$25 and available online or at Santa Barbara Frame Shop (1324 State St., across from the Arlington Theatre).

Find out more about the artists and their works or buy tickets at www.santabarbarastudioartists.com.

*Julia McHugh can be reached at
southon101column@yahoo.com*

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Santa Barbara News-Press, Scene, Pg. 4, 8/26

scene weekend

ART/GALLERIES

Santa Barbara Studio Artists Reception: Artists will be in attendance during this soiree, with one piece of each artist's work on display. 5-8 p.m. tonight, Santa Barbara Frame Shop and Gallery, 1324 State St., Suite J. Also: Open Studios Tour: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at various locations Saturday and Sunday. The tour features original art and a view inside Santa Barbara's leading artists' private studios. Maps provided for self-guided driving tour through scenic back roads and estates. \$25, includes reception and tour and available until 2 p.m. Sunday; free to children 12 and younger. For tickets, maps and more information, call 280-9178 or visit santabarbarastudioartists.com.

previewed by Ted Mills..... 46

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Santa Barbara News-Press, Scene, Pg. 46, 8/26

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scene arts

Treasure Map

Tour offers annual chance to visit area artists' studios

BY TED MILLS
NEWS-PRESS CORRESPONDENT

The end of August means the 10th annual roll-out of the Santa Barbara Studio Artists tour, a chance for collectors, art buffs and the curious to travel from Goleta to Carpinteria to see how artists live and work. The all-important map, which is available at tonight's reception, shows locations of the 38 artist studios, with painting from photorealistic to abstract, sculpture, prints, collage and everything in-between.

In a preview, three of the 38 artists opened up their home studios for a tour, to give an idea of the breadth of this weekend. What they had in common is this: there's life after retiring from the corporate world.

Dorothy Churchill Johnson, Nance Cole and Thomas Mann all once had 9-to-5s that they haven't missed since. Mann, who sometimes paints up to three landscapes a day if the spirit takes him, jokes that he sometimes has nightmares that he's back at his desk.

progress, a tiny palette and a desk-drawer combo on wheels are the only indication that Johnson does any work here at all. "That's the Swedish DNA," she says by way of an explanation.

Johnson's large-scale paintings explore nature close up, from the heart of cacti, geraniums and agave, to her series of flowers and fruit entangled on chain-link fences. Other series include found abstractions, like her series of ripped posters on walls that reveal the accumulation of time; and her recent close-up of suits and ties.

Johnson's studio is one of the few located right off Milpas, but she's been here for decades (the recent arrival of a doggy day care as a neighbor might force her to move — there's now a lot of barking in the air.)

Nestled along Stanley Drive in the Samarkand area, Cole's house, which she shares with her husband, was built in the 1930s. But her studio out back is of more recent vintage, built in 2008. Here she works on her monotype prints, while sharing a printing press with Anna Griffin, who is also part of the tour.



Mann's house is back in the wilds of "Noleta" — that stretch between Modoc and Turnpike — and his studio looks like the atypical, crowded artist's area. Hundreds of brushes stack up in cans and a giant easel holds the current work, and stacks of canvases both thin and thick lay about. Mann once worked in aerospace, but now he prefers the landscape of Santa Barbara. He works small, and in acrylics. He once was a plein air painter, but got tired of carting around all his supplies and didn't like the feeling of passersby watching him work.

Johnson's studio is the opposite of artistic chaos. Her huge, incredibly detailed canvases cover the walls of her modern apartment, with track lighting, wood paneled floors and white as the color of choice. The one easel with its work-in-

Cole's monotypes — which are one-of-a-kind prints, not a series, hence the name — are colorful abstracts, although shapes can be discerned like houses and streams and trees. She also works in collage, but her monotypes have been her medium for 20 years.

The economy hasn't really affected the tour, as art is a luxury item. It remains a chance for collectors to discover new works — as Johnson found out when a few years ago someone bought up several paintings in one go.

"You learn something about every single person who stops by," says Cole of the tour. "And you learn that every single person has different ideas about art... Prints don't sell like hot cakes, of course. But it's fun."

Dorothy Churchill Jol
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Nance Cole has been working in monotypes for some 20 years now.



Thomas Mann works

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Montecito Messenger, 8/26

ANN ABOUT TOWN





Tour down to a fine art

With 10 years under its brush, Santa Barbara Studio Artists has its Open Studios Tour running like a well-oiled ... canvas. Well-oiled, acrylic-ed, water-colored, pastel-ed, sculpted and more.

This Saturday and Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., nearly 40 local artists will open their studios to the public during SBSA's annual self-guided tour of fine art.

The tour's opening artists' reception will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. tonight at Santa Barbara Frame Shop and Gallery, 1324 State Street, Suite J. It's here you can meet the artists, preview their work and decide which ones you want to explore further in the following two days.

"The studio artists tour gives people a real chance to visit a ton of studios," said Peggy Ferris, who has hers located around back of her Montecito home. "You really can't see all of them, but it's pretty fun. I used to go on it before I was a member, I kinda miss it. It's a great way to see lots of art."



ANN PEYRAT

Ferris studied at the Royal Academy of Art in Holland before graduating with honors from Pasadena's Art Center College of Design. She came here in 1983 as a graphic designer but quickly burnt out.

"I was looking for something else to do, and just sort of accidentally discovered painting again," she explained, of how she transitioned into her style called hard edge. "The lines, shapes, are taped and painted in solid colors, designed in advance; all have really architectural forms."

Then to loosen things up, "I start painting in a really gestural free-form mode and then I start giving the painting structure by working out the composition," which she finds relates to her graphic design background in page layout solutions.

Ferris's latest work involves more organic, versus "blocky," forms, tapping into a sort of primordial energy. "I'm pretty much abstract

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ANN

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nonrepresentational," she said of her contemporary organic style.

Her artist's process brings her back to her work about eight times over two weeks, at 2-4 hours each time.

"I start putting paint on the canvas, I may pick a color palate from there, refine, hone it, eliminate stuff, like a

sculpture, chip away everything that's not the final piece," she said. "I like beauty with a little bit of torque. There's a little grit in there that makes it just a little more interesting than just a pretty picture."

Ferris also experiments with color on a synthetic, non-porous Yupo paper, often used for watercolors. It's a product she introduced to fellow Montecitan Jane Litchfield, also on this year's open studios tour.

"[Watercolor] is a discipline that serves one well in all mediums," said Litchfield, of her primary interest. "Because you have a technique when you approach watercolor, approach oil, approach collage, pen and ink – I don't care what it is – there's always a technique and an approach ... whether it's canvas, paper, wood, you have to work at it in order to develop a technique that suits you and you're happy."

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Santa Maria Sun, 8/26

WHAT'S HAPPENING

WORTH THE DRIVE



TOUR SANTA BARBARA: The Santa Barbara Studio Artists presents the 10th anniversary Open Studios Tour featuring a preview exhibition through Aug. 28. An opening artists' reception is Aug. 26 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Santa Barbara Frame Shop and Gallery, 1324 State St., suite J, Santa Barbara. The Open Studios Tour is Aug. 27 and 28 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at various locations in Santa Barbara. Cost is \$25. More info: 280-9178 or santabarbarastudioartists.com/tour.

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Noozhawk e-bulletin, 8/26



[Santa Barbara Artists Put Best Work Forward for Studio Tour](#)

By Nick St.Oegger, Noozhawk Intern | [@NoozhawkNews](#)

This weekend marks the 10th anniversary of the Santa Barbara Studio Artists Open Studio Tour, showcasing the work of local artists who open the doors of their private studios to the public.

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Noozhawk, 8/25

Arts

Santa Barbara Artists Put Best Work Forward for Open

Studio Tour

Meet three of the 38 local artists who will showcase their art and their work spaces this weekend for the annual event

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Local

SANTA BARBARA
COUNTY NEWS



MIKE ELIASON / NEWS-PRESS PHOTOS

Above, artist Ruth Ellen Hoag, center, talks with Gretchen Miller and Dave Cole on Saturday at a Kimberly Avenue studio. Below, at a studio on Edgewater Way, artist Erin Williams works on a watercolor.



OPENLY CREATIVE

Local art studios
open to the public
for annual tour

By **BRETT LEIGH DICKS**
NEWS-PRESS CORRESPONDENT

It is not often that visitors are given the opportunity to experience the inner sanctum of an artist's work space. But across the course of this weekend, local painters, sculptors and printmakers are inviting the public into their creative hollows.

Saturday saw the start of Santa Barbara's annual Open Studios Tour. The two-day event, which continues today from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., features 38 local artists, all of whom have thrown open their doors of their studios to share their work and craft with the public.

Organized by Santa Barbara Studio Artists, a local artist-run nonprofit organization charged with the promotion of Santa Barbara area professional artists, the tour is in its 10th consecutive year.

"The studio tours have grown significantly over the years," said Ruth Ellen Hoag, one of Santa Barbara Studio Artists's founding

Please see **ART** on **A8**

Local studio artists run well-oiled tour

With 10 years under its brush, Santa Barbara Studio Artists has its Open Studios Tour running like a well-oiled ... canvas. Well-oiled, acrylic-ed, water-colored, pastel-ed, sculpted and more.

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**ANN
PEYRAT**

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out the composition," which she finds relates to her graphic design background in page layout solutions.

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ANN ABOUT TOWN

PEYRAT

FROM PAGE 5

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Since the age of 5, when her artistic talent first surfaced, Litchfield has been happy in just about every creative medium out there. "There's nothing I really don't do. Quilts, handwork, fine art, painting ... friends have said the've never seen such a versatile person in so many different mediums!" she exclaimed.

Born in Sri Lanka, Litchfield moved here when she was 8. At one time she wished to become a costume designer and was enrolled in Chouinard's School of Art in Los Angeles, but ultimately she became an art teacher, including four years on the Board of The Arts Fund in Santa Barbara, mentoring children in

watercolors. She and husband Dan, who she met in high school and has been married to for almost 50 years, have four grown children of their own.

"I have been very fortunate to study with some wonderful artists," she said, praising her art teachers at Santa Barbara High School and San Marcos High School, also citing renowned Santa Barbara artist Buck Paulson as her "fabulous teacher for years," giving him credit for nurturing her oil painting skills (which, ironically, she identifies herself doing, even though she finds it quite tedious and not spontaneous enough for her taste).

"My problem – and it is a problem, honestly – is that I get bored very quickly. I'm ready to walk away from oils right now, but I can't," she said. Her latest "Bones" series she's been working on with friends and artists Pamela Larsson-Toscher (also on the tour) and Claudia Chapman, is proof of that statement, as is her "Garden" series (inspired by her backyard, Monet-like, water lily-graced koi pond) that she'll be showcasing on the patio of her home studio this weekend.

Both Litchfield and Ferris have been featured in the tour for multiple years. Said Ferris, "It's just really fun to have people come to your studio and to talk to people. It's always a real treat for them to see an artist's studio. It's not something they get to do every day."

For more information, maps and tickets (\$25, includes the opening reception and weekend tour), call (805) 280-9178 or visit www.santabarbarastudioartists.com.

Ann Peyrat is a local journalist and former editor of Woman magazine.

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Noozhawk e-bulletin:



Arts

Santa Barbara Artists Put Best Work Forward for Open Studio Tour

Meet three of the 38 local artists who will showcase their art and their work spaces this weekend for the annual event



Artist Jane Litchfield stands next to a pond in her backyard, which she has used for influence in many of her pieces. The longtime Santa Barbara resident will be among 38 artists participating in this weekend's Santa Barbara Studio Artists Open Studio Tour. ([Nick St.Oegger](#) / Noozhawk photo)

By Nick St.Oegger, Noozhawk Intern | [@NoozhawkNews](#) | Published on 08.25.2011

This weekend marks the 10th anniversary of the [Santa Barbara Studio Artists Open Studio Tour](#). The annual event showcases the work of local artists who open the doors of their private studios to the public.



[Click here for a Noozhawk slide show](#)

Two receptions from 5 to 8 p.m. will be held Thursday and Friday, with the artists available to meet guests and talk about their work. The self-guided driving tour runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Studios from Carpinteria to Goleta, located in the foothills and along the coast, will be open for guests to explore. The tour offers a unique opportunity for art lovers to view and purchase work not currently in galleries open to the general public.

Thirty-eight artists will be opening their studios to show their work for this year's tour. The work ranges from realistic landscapes of Southern California to collages and contemporary abstract paintings. Sculptures and mosaics also will be featured, made from handmade Italian glass, ceramics, found objects, porcelain and mixed media.

Tickets for the tour and opening exhibition are \$25. [Click here to purchase tickets online](#), or buy them at the [Santa Barbara Frame Shop & Gallery](#), 1324 State St., Suite J.

Here's more information about three of the featured artists:

Thomas Mann

Originally from West Virginia, Thomas Mann has been dabbling in art since childhood. At age 16, when Mann's family moved to the Virginia coast, he began seriously exploring his talent and taking private art lessons.

He moved to San Francisco in the 1960s, taking an occasional class through the San Francisco **Academy of Art**. He has continued to take a workshop with an established artist at least once a year.

Mann's work is impressionist in style, consisting mainly of landscapes with some portraits and interior work as well. Much of his work starts as photographs he has taken, which he then translates to canvas, making changes as he sees fit. Thomas says he paints simply because he loves it, and can't imagine not doing it.

"When I get in a room and start painting, the time just flies," he said. "You get lost in it."

This marks his fourth year participating in the Santa Barbara Studio Artists Open Studio Tour.



Wayne Hoffman

Born in Memphis, Tenn., Wayne Hoffman grew up around music, which has had an influence on his painting.

Recognizing a talent for drawing in his childhood, Hoffman did not begin to fully explore his artistic side until age 30. Having worked as an oceanographic engineer, Hoffman decided to commit to art, and he moved his family to Spain for a year. There he explored painting while living in poor rural villages, free from the distractions of the modern world. He returned to the United States with his family and resumed his career in engineering while taking art classes in the evenings.

Hoffman retired from engineering in 1992 to pursue art full time and began teaching art

classes through **SBCC Continuing Education**. He has since retired from teaching to allow more time to travel.

Hoffman's work is mostly contemporary or abstract, but also includes some realistic landscapes and portraits. He enjoys exploring composition, color harmonies and shapes, and their effect on emotions.

“When you're doing realistic art you've got that umbilical cord to reality,” he said. “But in abstract art you're painting things that haven't existed, and never will.”

Hoffman has been involved in the Open Studio Tour since the beginning, having exhibited his work eight years out of the 10.

Jane Litchfield

Jane Litchfield has been a Santa Barbara resident for more than 50 years, but first discovered her talent for art while visiting her uncle's plantation in Virginia when she was 5 years old. It was there that she sketched a number of drawings of the plantation house that caught the eye of her family.

Litchfield is a naturally gifted artist who can sew, sing and play the piano as well as she can paint or draw. She has designed and created costumes professionally, including designing costumes for Santa Barbara's **Fiesta** parade.

Litchfield says she doesn't like to label her style of art, and that she is constantly thinking of new ideas that she is able to manifest.

“I'm one of those people where, if you give me an idea, I'll just take off with it,” she said.

Litchfield teaches art lessons and maintains a larger studio outside of her home, where she also works. She has taken part in the Open Studio Tour four years previously.

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Santa Barbara
Independent WHO. WHAT. NOW.

IndyInsider for Friday, August 26, 2011

Best Bets in Events
Saturday, August 27

10th Annual S.B. Studio Artists Tour

Unique self-guided driving tour to S.B. area artists' private studios, featuring landscape, contemporary, and figurative paintings, sculpture, and assemblage. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Call for a map to locations in S.B. (\$25)

Sunday, August 28

10th Annual S.B. Studio Artists Tour

Unique self-guided driving tour to S.B. area artists' private studios, featuring landscape, contemporary, and figurative paintings, sculpture, and assemblage. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Call for a map to locations in S.B. (\$25)

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