Surreal
by Stu Art

Sunday was the big day for my opening at the Bolinas Gallery. Kathleen and I were sharing the space to show recent artwork. It was an surprising amount of effort to mount the exhibition. The Gallery is tricky. It looks like a small, easy space to fill with art, but it's actually a very complicated and laborious process, with thousands of details and design decisions.

They don't call me Deadline Stu for nothing. The show's deadline gave me the energy for a flurry of art making, and I finished a number of pieces that had been languishing in my studio for years. The Heal Wheel was a collaboration with Dr. Elseon Haas, author of "Healing With The Seasons." I'd done some sketches previously, but the show gave me the determination to make a full size Heal Wheel and mount it on the wall.

I got to finish and frame the two Aphrodites that had been kicking around the studio. They were small, colorful hexagonal paintings but I could never figure out how to frame them. I vowed I would finish them if I could figure out how to cut miter corners for a hexagon. The show gave me the impetus.

The show provided an opportunity to do some new painting. I worked on a flat black ground with stencils and pearlescent pigments. "Return of Quetzalcoatl" is a series based on a crop circle design. "Bob" is a stylized portrait of Bob Marley rendered in ganja leaves, and "Peyote" is a fond remembrance of art school in Mexico.

At the opening my surreal landscape paintings were very popular. "Surreal Landscape #1" sold immediately. I took a painting I had done of Bolinas "en plein air" and added Salvador Dali and the word "Surreal." It was a nice touch that turned an ordinary landscape into a curious curio.

I had another large painting on an easel at the gallery. The painting also had Bolinas, Salvador Dali, and the word "Surreal" in it. I was in the process of adding a few limp watches sliding into the ocean.

At that moment, like a flash from the past, Sister Surreal arrived at the Gallery. Sister Surreal was a famous personage in Haight Ashbury. She strode right over to the big painting in the corner.

"I love that painting," she exclaimed. "It describes my life. Look it has everything: Salvador Dali, surreal, Bolinas, the flying egg of imagination. I want to buy that painting."

It was surreal to have someone identify so closely with a painting. But I loved the strange coincidence of Sister Surreal finding herself in my painting.

Kathleen's gorgeous paintings of landscapes and flowers were fabulous. Her masterful painting style and beautiful color sense made the subjects glow. She didn't need any Salvador Dali gimmicks.

It was a beautiful day for an opening. Sunny and warm without too much wind. Curly helped set up. Magi and Mary brought some wineglasses and we sat around enjoying friendship, sipping wine and toasting the show.

Voila!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Wednesday, June 6, 2012
LOVE POETRY
Open reading celebrating the transit of Venus, Bolinas Gallery, 5-7pm

Thursday, June 7
COAST CAFÉ CONCERT SERIES
Live music, food & drink specials at Coast Café, 6-8pm

SOFI ROX PRESENTS
Live music at Smiley's, 8:30pm, no cover

Friday, June 8
JENNIE KERR BAND
Live thumping rock at Smiley's, 9:30pm, cover

Saturday, June 9
SPRING MUSICAL FETE
Bolinas Museum party/fundraiser, fabulous food and music, Reservations; 868-8809

OMNIA GATHERING
3 minutes to express yourself, Bolinas Gallery, 3-5pm

SWOON
Live alt rock, including local musician Kater Murch at Smiley's, 9:30pm, cover.

Sunday, June 10
SUN FESTIVAL
Baby blessing, Wharf Road beach, 10am

ONE CELLO, ONE GUITAR
Free concert at Bolinas Museum, 2pm

ANTONIO VIVALDI
Cello Sonata in F-flat, Moses Sedler, cello, Bill Quist, piano & Gloria with the West Marin Chamber singers, Dance Palace, 6:30pm, $10 advance/$12 door

Friday, June 15
MAYAN PROPHECY WHEEL
Divine the future, Bolinas Gallery, 3-5pm

Saturday, June 16
PLANT A TREE, A SHRUB, A BUSH
Bring a shovel or trowel to plant in the new park downtown, 9am

HUNAB KU PRINTING WORKSHOP
Bolinas Gallery, 2-4pm

Sunday, June 17
FATHER'S DAY
Art of the necktie, Bolinas Gallery, noon-5pm

Sunday, June 24
JACKIE THOMAS MEMORIAL
Bring a favorite photo of Jackie and a dish to share, Angela's garden, 160 Evergreen, 1-5pm, more info 868-0458

Today's Hearsay brought to you by:
Stu Art Channan, editor
June McAdams, advertising
David Cattell, press
Of The Empire:

We will be known as the culture that feared death and adored power, that tried to vanquish insecurity for the few and cared little for the penury of the many. We will be known as a culture that taught and rewarded the amassing of things, that spoke little if at all about the quality of life for people (other people), for dogs, for rivers. All commodity. And they will say that this structure was held together politically, which it was, and they will say also that our politics was no more than an apparatus to accommodate the feelings of the heart, and that the heart, in those days, was small, and hard, and full of meanness.

- Mary Oliver

In Wednesday, (May 30th's) Hearsay News, Steve Helig quoted Herb Caen's words about Bolinas: "Elitist, snobbish, unfriendly, & not the world's greatest place for food..."

It's obvious that Herb was never invited to a Bolinas potluck! The best, freshest, organic, Gourmet food on the planet!

M.B.

Faith is healthy, it is an affirmation of human worth and continuity. Fortunate are those of us who have both strong faith and good judgement. Belief in the essential goodness of our fellows and in the basic rightness of our world can renew our vitality and remind us to treat others with the respect due their humanity. In turn, others will respect our belief in them.

Not All Is Lost

We've not all lost it--not all some children sing, an older child--I am in song often.

This morning in early light song burst from me--

and my heart which is really the heart of the world sang forward from a tribe

I am one with ancestry one with mystery one with Divine companions whom All sing every single day

- Shelly Monte

Bolinas Song! Bolinas Music!

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Bolinas Museum
Spring Party/Fundraiser
Saturday June 9
The Bolinas Museum Spring Musical Fete will be a delightful social event and fundraiser for the Museum. Fabulous food by acclaimed Bay Area chef Anne Gingrass-Palik and The Lunch Box of Stinson Beach with Navarro Vineyards wine and Lagunitas Brewing Company's Ale. Live music by Release the Sunbird with Zach Rogue with acoustic guitars and sweet harmonies. $75 member, $100 non members. (includes membership) 50% tax deductible. Reservations: 868-8809

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LETTER OF THE DAY
A colorful way to promote more political transparency

Here’s a great idea: All congressional leaders and candidates for public office should be made to wear NASCAR-type uniforms so that we know who their corporate sponsors are.

CORT Veeselman, Hutchinson

Former NASCAR driver Richard Petty, in a driving suit with sponsor logos. One knows who pays the bills.

Dale & I just got back from Minnesota. I found this “letter of the day” in the Star Tribune, the Minneapolis daily.

-Judy Molynneux

Bloomsday Planting for Posterity

Winning Ticket

Bring this ticket with you after noon on Saturday, June 16 to the new downtown park and give it to Zoe Gardner, John Glavis, or Angela Vernon to claim a tree, a shrub, or a bush to plant in the hole you intend to dig with the shovel you brought with you. Or, send your gardener to do it for you, so you can tell your grandchildren, “See that apple tree? I had my gardener plant it for me there, in your honor, way back on Bloomsday, 2012, before everything went to hell.”

S a v e t h e D a t e
Saturday, June 16, 2012
Bring a shovel or trowel. Meet at the new park. Plant a tree, a shrub, a bush — for posterity. Trees, shrubs and bushes will be provided.

Bolinas Bay Performing Arts proudly presents

Antonio Vivaldi

Cello Sonata No. 6
in B-flat
Moses Seller, Cello
Bill Quisi, Piano

&
Gloria
With the West Marin Chamber Singers
Molly Maguire, Conductor
Accompanied by Bill Quisi

A Community Concert
At the Dance Palace
Sunday, June 10, 2012 6:30 p.m.
$10 advance / $12 door
call 868-2004 for information
RHIANNON—MOUTH MAGIC
Eighteen singers from around the planet join Rhiannon for an evening of vocal improvisation and song. These singers are part of a year-long course called “All The Way In,” moving from Hawaii to Point Reyes to Montreal with teaching and performance in each spot. Because Rhiannon was a resident of Inverness and Point Reyes for 20 years, she loves to return and bring singers with her to experience the community and creativity of West Marin. Join her for this musical event with local guests and singing for all.
$16 general, $14 seniors, $8 youth
Friday, June 22, 8 PM

EAC ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING AND POTLUCK
The Environmental Action Committee of West Marin’s annual potluck dinner, general meeting, wine tasting, and gab fest has become a renowned summer celebration for West Marin’s principal grassroots environmental organization. This year’s event promises to uphold the tradition, featuring the fare of West Marin’s best chefs, the latest news from the eco-front, and the presentation of EAC’s Peter Behr Steward of the Land Award.
Reservations essential at 663-9312 or eacadmin@sbn.net
$5 donation requested
Saturday, June 23, 6 PM

TRIO GARUFA: TANGO SHOW AND WORKSHOP
Trío Garufa is an international ensemble dedicated to performing authentic Argentine music. They have performed across Argentina, Canada and the US including a recent performance in Chicago Symphony Hall. Trío Garufa performs classic Argentine tangos from the golden era (1920s–1950s) as well as Argentine Folklore Music (Chacarera, Zamba, Guarania, Gato, and Chamamé) and modern tangos from Piazzolla as well as original compositions and electro-tango. They are the only tango ensemble based in the US to have performed extensively in the Milongas (tango dance clubs) of Buenos Aires. Trío Garufa will offer a one-hour workshop in tango before the show for $5 more. The tango trio includes Guillermo Garcia (Argentina), Sascha Jacobsen (USA), and Adrian Jost (Switzerland).
$17 general, $15 seniors, $8 youth ($5 more for workshop)
Saturday, June 30, 7 PM Workshop, 8 PM Show

June Gallery Events
Transit of Venus Love Poetry: Wed., June 6, 5–7pm
Omnium Gatherum: Sat., June 9, 3–5pm
Mayan Prophecy Wheel: Fri., June 15, 3–5pm
Hunab Ku Printing Workshop: Sat., June 16, 2–4pm
Father’s Day Art of the Necktie: Sun., June 17
Summer Solstice Song: Wed., June 20, sunset
Home Sweet Bobo Street Opera: Sat., June 23, high noon

In Remembrance of my dear friend, Jackie Thomas
Jackie will be horribly missed by all of those who called her our friend. When I lived in Bolinas, Jackie and I became very close and I found her like all others did, to be a kind and gentle soul. Fortunately, she and I had a lengthy conversation about 3 weeks ago and I’m truly glad I had the opportunity to tell her how much I’ve always loved her. Bolinas has truly lost one of the most kind-hearted women. I know we will all keep Jackie in our hearts forever.

Leslie Steiner
Santa Cruz
QUILTS & THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY

By Robin Bradford

During the years between the American Revolution and the end of the Civil War, it is estimated that as many as 100,000 people escaped slavery with the help of Abolitionists. The idea of enslaving human beings was unacceptable to many people and the Underground Railroad came into being. A network of safe houses established at strategic points along escape routes to Canada and Ohio and were absolutely crucial. Those who guided the escapees were known as “Conductors,” the houses were “Stations,” and the runaways were called “Passengers.” Reaching a station meant food, clothing and a bed for the night, or longer, if necessary.

Slaves were forbidden from learning to read and write, so the Abolitionists created clever ways to communicate directions and warnings. This is why some quilt patterns were originally designed. Quilts could be hung on lines or out open windows without arousing suspicion. The colorful fabric looked innocent, as though bedding was being aired. Slaves learned the meanings of the quilt patterns and looked for them as guide points along their dangerous journeys. If every quilt tells a story, a quilt pattern is an entire library! Here are some of the most popular patterns devised during this unique time in American history:

JACOB’S LADDER has an alternating pattern of dark and light and was used to show direction. The Slaves knew which way to go by the angle at which the quilt was placed outside the home of an Abolitionist.

The MONKEY WRENCH is a heavy metal tool used by blacksmiths. Blacksmiths were often the most skilled person on a plantation and were called Monkey Wrenches. The Monkey Wrench was trusted and able to travel away from the plantation to gather supplies and tools. He was the person who got things moving. When this quilt was displayed outside a home, it meant that tools needed on the journey north to freedom could be obtained from the inhabitants.

The WAGON WHEEL was symbolic for a “chariot to carry me home.” Wagons with hidden compartments were a primary means of transport for runaways. The quilt was a message to pack provisions as if packing a wagon, taking only the most essential items.

The CARPENTER’S WHEEL was a secondary code pattern. To slaves, the master carpenter was Jesus. They would sing “Swing Low Sweet Chariot,” which was interpreted as a song about Heaven, but actually was a message to follow a path west northwest, to Ohio.

The BEAR PAW signified that runaways follow an actual trail of bear footprints. Most escapes took place in the spring, and with spring rains, it was possible to follow a bear’s footprints to food and safety.

The BASKET symbolized that provisions were available for the long journey. Feeding oneself along the way was a difficult and dangerous task. The escapees took what could be carried, then had to depend on the kindness of friends met along the route. Abolitionists would pack baskets of food along with tools such as flints and compasses. A basket quilt hanging outside a house meant provisions could be had there.

The CROSSROADS pattern signified a city where one could find refuge and protection. Once a slave made it safely through the Appalachian Mountains, they were to travel to the “crossroads,” the main one being Cleveland, Ohio. There were some half dozen overland trails connected to Cleveland, and numerous waterways which crossed Lake Erie into Canada and freedom.

The LOG CABIN had two distinct meanings. Hanging outside a house, it signified that the residence was a safe house. The other meaning was a direction to the runaway to build a shelter to weather out the winter. Typically, the center color of the block was red, representing the hearth of a cabin. If the center color was black, it indicated that particular home was safe. If the center block was yellow, it was a signal to watch for a light or lantern.
The SHOO FLY represented an individual who would help escapees by helping find a safe place to stay. Often, the slaves hid in churches, caves, or graveyards, especially if on the outskirts of town or near a river.

A BOW TIE quilt signified that unconventional dress would be noticed and thus, dangerous. When slaves made the arduous journey north, their clothing would become dirty and tattered. A bow tie quilt meant clean clothing was available within. Being able to blend into an area was crucial as escapees walked through a city on their way to ships waiting to take them across the Great Lakes to freedom.

BIRDS IN THE AIR was symbolic of flight or migration. The quilter would make one block with one color dominant so it gave the direction in which to travel, depending on how the quilt was positioned.

DRUNKARD’S PATH is one of the most beguiling patterns of all time. Its meaning was that the escapee should travel in a staggered manner, never staying on one particular road. This would confuse anyone in pursuit.

The SAILBOAT pattern symbolized safe water passage to freedom. Free black sailors and ship owners helped many slaves escape by hiding them onboard ships headed for Canada.

The NORTH STAR is also known as the Drinking Gourd or Big Dipper. It was a joyous sight, for when it was displayed, it meant the slave had successfully navigated the most difficult parts of the journey and would soon find a safe harbor.

Robin Bradford is a self-described Textile Junkie and has been collecting quilts for more than 30 years. Many pieces from her collection are available for purchase at Bolinas Bay Hardware & Mercantile.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE JACKIE THOMAS MEMORIAL
Come celebrate the life and mourn the loss of long time resident, Jackie Thomas Sunday, June 24th from 1-5PM at Angela’s garden, 160 Evergreen. Please bring a dish to share and a copy of your favorite photo of Jackie for a memorial collage.
Questions? Contact Sarah Sanders-868-0458

READ THE HEARSAY ONLINE
Tell your friends and families that they can stay connected to Bolinas even if they have to live elsewhere.
IT’S EASY: email hearsaynews@yahoo.com
and request the password and link to the site.
Michael will put you on the list and will send you reminders as new issues come out.
Keep reading The Hearsay News!

HOW TO PLACE AN AD IN THE HEARSAY
Come to the office at 270 Elm at Maple behind the BPUD office on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning 9-11am. Your ad will appear the same day! Ad forms are also available in the small mailbox next to the Hearsay Door. Fill out the form, enclose payment (please indicate you have enclosed payment in case they become separated) & drop in door slot.
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Submit articles and drawings by midnight for publication the next day. Request a link to the password-protected website. Thank you. — Michael Rafferty, Online Editor

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BOLINAS
Community Center
19th-50th - 2011

Class Schedule

Sunday
Yoga w/Trisha 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Brazilian Dance w/Anna 11:00am-noon
(once a month call 868-0697)
Ninjutsu Martial Arts w/ Martin Kids Class 5:00-5:45 pm
Adult Class 6:00-7:30 pm
(Starting May 20th Info 868-92360 Drop-ins welcome)

Monday
Pilates w/Lisa (pre-register 868-0473) 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Salsa with Mac 7pm-8pm

Tuesday
Yoga w/Trisha 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Aeriel Arts for Youth w/ Joanna 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
(For registration 868-8821)
CommUnity Nights 7:00 p.m.
w/ free movies, games or music. Call-2128 for details

Wednesday
Pilates w/Lisa 8:30-10:00 a.m.
Yoga Basics w/Trisha 5:00 - 6:15 p.m.
Biblia en Español 8:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Thursday
USDA food bank 12 noon
Congolese Dance & song w/Sandor 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Friday
Pilates Mat Class w/Lisa 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Saturday
Yoga w/ Lisa Brendel 9:00-10:30 a.m.
Creative dance for kids 3 thru 4 w/ Lisa 11:00 - 11:45 a.m. (4 week series info 868-0473)
Ballet w/EriKa Ages 7-12 11:00 – 12:00 a.m.
Ages 13-adult 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
(5-week series May 12th-June 9th) Ballet shoes or soft shoes required. For pre-registration call (209) 523-4305

Check the marquee by the Library for special events at the Community Center. For Info. 868-2128 or Bocerner.org

LOST & FOUND

DEAR WHOEVER, I FOUND ONE BRAND NEW
Teva sandal – grey/orange trim (with closed toe) in the freebox. I’ve been looking for the other shoe, without luck!!
Anyone seen it?

FOUND: SCARF ON YUCCA ROAD
About a month ago. Please call Ananda -0285

FOUND: A SILVER AND BLACK CAMERA.
Call 868-2128 to identify and claim. BCC Staff

LOST 4/$ DOWNTOWN LARGE CARABINER
with keys — reward -0412

5/25
AC4/4.

BCC3/30

AM 4/11