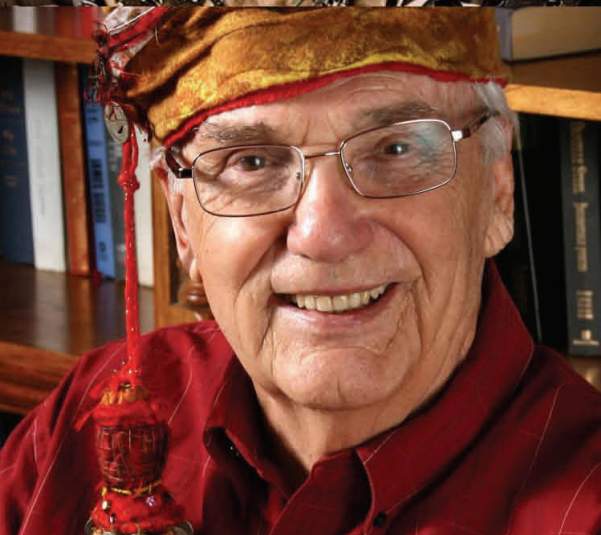


HATS OFF TO LIFE





[Hats Off to Life](#)

Exhibition Opening Reception: Thurs Feb 23, 2012 from 4:30 - 7:30 pm

Show dates: Fri. Feb 24 to Fri. May 18, Mon to Fri, 9 am to 5 pm

[Hera Hub](#), 9710 Scranton Road, #160, San Diego, CA 92121

More info: [Felena Hanson](#) 619.889.7852

Fashion Show Sat Jan 14, 2012 at 2:00 pm

[Fairwinds Ivey Ranch](#), 4490 Mesa Drive, Oceanside 92056

More info: [Denise Bonaimo Sarram](#) 760.439.8090

In our [Hats Off to Life](#) project We are honoring senior members of our community by illustrating their stories and celebrating their beauty and strength. This exhibition consists of framed photos of residents of [Fairwinds Ivey Ranch Retirement Community](#), each wearing a hat designed by an artist. The artist has interviewed the model and is relating their life story in the hat creation. A professional photo shoot and model runway show at Fairwinds has preceded a display of hats and photos at [Hera Hub](#) Workspace for Women in Sorrento Valley. This project is sponsored and produced by [San Diego Visual Arts Network](#). Donation from [Heritage Senior Care Inc.](#) and Fairwinds Ivey Ranch as well as Hera Hub has made this project possible. Our thanks go to them and to:

The Models: **Barbara Below, Anita Harris, Hildred Isakson, Roselle Martin, Joe Picard, Dorothy Rathbun, Bill Ridenour, Richard Seubert and Gloria Winship**

The Artists: [Patricia Frischer](#), [Rosemary KimBal](#), [Robin Przybysz](#), [Yumi Richards](#), **Robin Sanchez**, [Debb Solan](#), [Valentine Viannay](#), and [Pam Zimbalist](#)

The Photographers: [Melissa Au](#), [Raymond Elstad](#), and [Erika Johnson](#)

Our Goals for this project include:

- Honoring of our elderly community by celebrating their past and displaying their current beauty
- Creating opportunities for artists and photographers to showcase their skills and gain additional press for their talents
- Enabling collaborations between facilities that supply services to the elderly and the non-profits that supports the visual arts and the communities of businesswomen who will supply future support for both

We very much hope you enjoy the exhibition and catalog as much as we did putting it together for our community.

Patricia Frischer – Coordinator, [San Diego Visual Arts Network](#) info@sdvisualarts.net 760.943.0148

Denise Bonaimo Sarram: Program Supervisor: [Fairwinds Ivey Ranch](#), dSarram@leisurecare.com 760.439.8090

Felena Hanson – Director, [Hera Hub](#) workspace for women info@herahub.com 619.889.7852



Hitting the Trifecta, 2012
Photograph by Raymond Elstad
24 by 30 inches
\$800

Threads of Life, 2012
Debb Solan
Hat for Barbara Below born 1928,
Jersey City, New Jersey
Yarn, sterling silver, dichroic glass
\$250



Debb Solan about her hat for Barbara Below

In creating this piece for Barbara, I've used numerous strands of yarn to symbolize the many paths one treads in a lifetime. Their chaotic meanderings somehow create a discernable pattern. My model, Barbara has lived her life to the fullest. She is bubbly and outgoing, has a natural sense of caring for others, and a generous nature. She has a sense of adventure, following unexpected paths even at a late stage in life. Her courage has been rewarded, finding a new love whom she married at the age of 82. The antiseptic and disinfectant properties of silver have been known since Roman times. I have used sterling

silver hand knitted ribbon to remind us of the healing power of love and that many a silver lining has come out of a storm cloud. And finally the glass flowers, created in fire, their sparkling beauty, like champagne bubbles up from the background, have a fragility that belies their strength. We are reminded that all things worthy are to be earned.

[Debb Solan](mailto:debbie@fusionglassco.com) debbie@fusionglassco.com

Debb Solan is the co-founder of Fusionglass Company, a local gallery and working studio focused on promoting the arts through exhibitions and teaching

programs. Solan's love of art is life-long, self-taught and compulsive. She is originally from Dublin, Ireland and moved to San Diego in 2001 with experience that includes pottery, painting, glass making and photography. Her current work includes large-scale graphic paintings, which incorporate glass tile mosaic and broken mirror. She is motivated by the use of color and its' ability to affect mood.

[Raymond Elstad](mailto:raymond@raymondelstad.com) raymond@raymondelstad.com

Raymond Elstad was born 1946 in New York, moved to Los Angeles, did a tour of Southeast Asia with the US Marines, lived in Santa Cruz, then Portland, Oregon, did sound for a country rock band, went to cooking school, made an heir and attended The Pacific Northwest College of Art and the Oregon School of Arts and Crafts. He was influenced by his father, a Fred Archer School of Photography 1952 graduate. Elstad arrived in San Diego in 1986 and now teaches photography at Palomar College. He is showing extraordinary dance photographs at Dance Place at the NTC Promenade in Liberty Station in 2011/2012.



His Majesty, Richard the Great, 2012
Digital Color Photograph by Erika Johnson
24 by 30 inches
\$300

Richard's Cardinal Hat, 2012
Rosemary KimBal
Hat for Richard Seubert born 1934,
New York City, New York
Silkscreened felt
\$170



Rosemary KimBal about her hat for Richard Seubert

Even though Richard Seubert's favorite hat is a Fedora I think he is capable of pulling off more of a statement. Richard has such a fabulous attitude. In just the brief time that I interviewed him I knew for sure that a half FULL glass is an integral part of his personality. He is taking life in big gulps and is not afraid to dive in. I think this red felt hat suits his personality. He can handle being the King, the center of attention. Even with his diminished vision he is capable of seeing red and blue. The hat is made of red felt silk-screened with the character for "Great Idea" in blue and is stabilized with a blue felt. My seal of 'Beautiful Joy' representing my name and how I sign my Zen Paintings is also silk-screened into the felt.

Rosemary KimBal rosemary@dancingbrush.com

Rosemary KimBal works as Dancing Brush® Studios of Cardiff by the Sea, as a contemporary Zen painter and teacher. Located in northern coastal San Diego county, during the past 27 years she has offered workshops, demonstrations, seminars, consultations, paintings and art supplies in the field of oriental brush painting (Chinese brush painting and Japanese sumi-e), ceramics, watercolors, print making, journaling, Feng Shui, Chinese face reading and Tai Chi. She hopes to continue this practice.

Erika Johnson erikajohnson22@gmail.com

Erika Johnson studied photography at Grossmont College and the University of California San Diego, beginning with black and white film development and gradually shifting to digital color. She pursued studio art and museum

studies at Mesa College. She takes her camera everywhere and is

mesmerized by any subject as it appears through the lens. Most of her work focuses on portraiture and documentary production. She has developed a desire to learn about how signs are made into meanings, and how images travel and take on stories.



Anita, 2012
Photograph by Melissa Au
24 by 30 inches
\$350

Anita, 2012
Robin Przybysz
Hat for Anita Harris born 1920,
Columbia, Missouri
Waxed linen, beads, jute, metal
\$300



Robin Przybysz about her hat for Anita Harris

Grace, beauty, elegance... these are all words I would use to describe Anita Harris. Anita is a sweet, soft-spoken woman who radiates style and fashion. Although Anita was a businesswoman selling cosmetics where she gained recognition and top sales, it is speaking about her 67-year marriage, to an incredible man, her children and grand-

children that make her beam. The pill box hat show cases her natural beauty and gives her a sense of royalty .It is made from jute, waxed linen string and wire mesh with embellishments, all materials I use in my sculptures. At age 91, she exudes the same loveliness as she did years ago. I can only aspire to have the same charm and grace as she.

[Robin Przybysz robin@artintexture.com](mailto:robin@artintexture.com)

Robin Przybysz has been involved in the arts both in teaching art and in creating her own work. Although her early career was primarily involved with painting and drawing, she has expanded her art into textiles, weaving, sculptural gourds, basketry, and jewelry. She receives public and private attention with both galleries and collectors. As a professional, Przybysz has created her works primarily for herself. Her works come from her private world and become a gift to all who choose to participate in it. They speak of poetry and passions of all those private moments most of us seldom share, but always hold dear.

[Melissa Au melissa@dandeliondreamsphoto.com](mailto:melissa@dandeliondreamsphoto.com)

In business as family/child photography, Dandelion Dreams, Melissa Au strives to capture the precise moment that truth is revealed in any given scene. She uses light like paint. Au is also launching herself as a photographer of artists with a series of images of the SD Art Prize recipients and as a fashion photographer participating in the [Art Meets Fashion](#) project. She is married with two children.



Gloria, 2012
Photograph by Melissa Au
24 by 30 inches
\$350

Crystal Clear, 2012
Patricia Frischer
Hat for Gloria Winship born 1926,
Superior, Wisconsin
Sellotape, glue gun glue, magnifying lens,
beads
\$150



Patricia Frischer about her hat for Gloria Winship

Gloria Winship is indeed a glorious lady from another era, when hats were worn with gloves and husbands showered their wives with jewels. Gloria was a singer and music teacher as reflected in the musical notes that form the flowered jewel of her hat. Now having difficulty seeing on occasion, the hat brim comes complete with a magnifying lens for her added pleasure. Gloria is elegant but contemporary and as transparently genteel as the very hat she wears. Don't let the crystal clear icy Norwegian background of this lady fool you into thinking she is anything but warm and gracious.

[Patricia Frischer patricia@drawscrowd.com](mailto:patricia@drawscrowd.com)

Patricia Frischer is founder and the coordinator of the [San Diego Visual Arts Network](#), which funds the [SD Art Prize](#), directory and events calendar and [SmART Collector](#) features. She has curated the [Movers and Shakers: Who's Who in SD Visual Arts](#), [Little & Large](#) and [Art Meets Fashion](#) promotions. She is currently coordinating the [DNA of Creativity](#) project for culmination in 2013. Frischer has taken on the roles of gallerist, curator, writer, teacher, website coordinator and artist. Her many metamorphoses make her difficult to fit into any of the usual art world categories. She is author of *The Artist and the Art of Marketing* has lectured extensively on marketing for artists. Frischer is a trainer of artists' agents, art dealers, consultant and collectors (see [ArtPro.](#)) Her [own artwork \(www.drawscrowd.com\)](http://www.drawscrowd.com) has been shown internationally and includes painting and sculpture. She received her MFA California College of Art.. You are drawn in by the texture and hues of these art works that are elaborate, even decadent, flattering and unique.

[Melissa Au melissa@dandeliondreamsphoto.com](mailto:melissa@dandeliondreamsphoto.com)

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I Used to be a Brunette, 2012
 Photograph by Melissa Au
 24 by 30 inches
 \$350

Three to Tango, 2012
 Patricia Frischer
 Hat for Hildred Isakson born 1921,
 Charleston, South Carolina
 Headband, sellotape, fabric and found objects
 \$150



Patricia Frischer about her hat for Hildred Isakson
 The symbols of Hildred's hat are directly related to her full and varied life. The largest of 6 mini polka dot hats represents her secret lost love. The next three are for this intrepid woman's three marriages and the last two for her two children. Hildred was a seamstress known for her ability to match plaids and the base of the hat is a design of woven ribbons to reflect those skills. The ace of hearts is there to remind us that love life is a gamble but like the butterflies, Hildred, a ballroom dancer, was prepared to make a sampling. Finally the black and white palette symbolized her world with great highs and lows like the dips and twirls of a tango.

Patricia Frischer patricia@drawscrowd.com

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Prepare Yourself Boys...2012
Photo by Raymond Elstad
24 by 30 inches
\$800

It's an Artist's Life, 2012
Robin Sanchez
Hat for Dorothy Rathbun born 1921,
Glendale, California
Paper, felt, tulle
\$200



Robin Sanchez about her hat for Dorothy Rathbun

Dorothy is an accomplished artist and has many of her paintings on the walls of her apartment at Fairwinds Ivey Ranch. They are bright and cheery, just like Dorothy. She loves to say, "You can never have too much bling". In designing a hat for Dorothy, I took photos of her artwork and printed them onto vintage music sheets. I then made them into colorful paper flowers that I place around her hat. On the front of her hat I placed a miniature easel embellished with vintage jewelry just like the kind Dorothy wears. The easel holds a copy of one of Dorothy's paintings. I added paintbrushes with rhinestones to represent feathers and small tubes of overflowing paint. Holding all these things in place is fluffy tea dyed tulle. It reminds me of how Dorothy is always pleasant, friendly and happy.

Robin Sanchez rsanchez@leisurecare.com

Robin Sanchez's true passion is altered art and collecting vintage finds. As a child, Sanchez spent many Saturdays following her Grandfather around looking through junk at the swap meets in Orange. He sparked her passion for everything "old". Her interest in creating began early sitting next to her mom watching her make the latest craft. She taught her to sew at the age of 10 and Sanchez was hooked. These two people are the artist's inspiration and reason for her love to collect and create. Now creating is as natural as breathing to Sanchez. She has a job that she loves as a bookkeeper and administrative assistant for a large senior retirement community. Robin Sanchez lives in Vista, CA and is a mom to three grown children and two grandchildren with another on the way.

Raymond Elstad raymond@raymondelstad.com

Raymond Elstad was born 1946 in New York, moved to Los Angeles, did a tour of Southeast Asia with the US Marines, lived in Santa Cruz, then Portland, Oregon, did sound for a country rock band, went to cooking school, made an heir and attended The Pacific Northwest College of Art and the Oregon School of Arts and Crafts. He was influenced by his father, a Fred Archer School of Photography 1952 graduate. Elstad arrived in San Diego in 1986 and now teaches photography at Palomar College. He is showing extraordinary dance photographs at Dance Place at the NTC Promenade in Liberty Station in 2011/2012.



Evergreen
Digital Color Photograph by Erika Johnson
24 by 30 inches
\$300

The Outdoorsman, 2012
Pam Zimbalist
Hat for Joe Picard born 1924,
Lewiston, Maine
Mixed Media
NFS \$100

Pam Zimbalist about her hat for Joe Picard

Joe Picard's hat playfully reveals his lifelong passions. Sitting atop the hat are the bride and groom, representing his love for his wife of nearly 60 years, Georgette, and their five children and 14 grandchildren. Forest greens and the red nylon backpack symbolize the 35 years Joe dedicated to the Boy Scouts. The tool belt illustrates Joe's love of woodworking, from creating intricate cutting boards to building 43 chairs. A simple yard sale sign is dedicated to the years of Saturdays Joe spent rummaging through lawn sales searching for the unexpected find. He fondly remembers his collection of 600 hammers. Moving from his San Diego home has been a new journey for Joe, leaving behind scouting, woodworking and his collections, but still smiling with his beloved Georgette by his side.

Pam Zimbalist zimbo02@cox.net

Pam Zimbalist has been a public elementary school educator at Camp Pendleton for the past 27 years. She has had great success engaging and supporting her students in learning by integrating core subject lessons with art. Art gives all students the opportunity for individual creative expression and supports the emotional healing process for students in crisis. Using art in her classroom has been invaluable in helping her particular student population effectively deal with the stress of having their parents deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Zimbalist was a participant in the [Art Meets Fashion](#) project.

Erika Johnson erikajohnson22@gmail.com

Erika Johnson studied photography at Grossmont College and the University of

California San Diego in San Diego, beginning with black and white film development and gradually shifting to digital color. She pursued studio art and museum studies at Mesa College. She takes her camera everywhere and is mesmerized by any subject as it appears through the lens. Most of her work focuses on portraiture and documentary production. She has developed a desire to learn about how signs are made into meanings, and how images travel and take on stories.





Layered Journey, 2012
Digital Color Photograph by Erika Johnson
24 by 30 inches
\$300

Trails of Life, 2012
Valentine Viannay
Hat for Bill Ridenour born 1929,
San Bernardino County, California
Felt, silk, metal
\$600



Valentine Viannay about her hat for Bill Ridenour

I decided to create a hat that would represent Bill's countrywide passion for hiking. I worked to evoke, in a poetic sense, the trails he has experienced. First I silk-screened felt to create a texture in ochre and terracotta. My foam print represents the white wash of a wave that I sewed into horizontal wavy seams to represent the earth in different strata of colors. The tassel in red hues adds the focal point, the fashion accent that represents Bob's courage and curiosity in the world. I knew it would please Bill because of his preference for the color red! He also has a strong and tall stature, so I made something elegant to match his verve for life. Bill and his wife Lois are a healthy couple. They are actively on the trail of life and it is a delight to get to know them better.

[Valentine Viannay vviannay@gmail.com](mailto:vviannay@gmail.com)

Valentine Viannay was born and raised in Paris and London. At 19, she set out for New York to attend the Parson's School of Art and Design. She then furthered her studies in scenography at Central St. Martin's College of Art and Design in London, where she lived and worked as a set designer for the movie industry. Moving to San Diego in October 2001 for a new beginning, she founded the Painter Genie Inc., which offers commercial, and residential decorative wall finishes, artisan plaster finishes and custom fabrics design. In her paintings, she looks to convey emotion and feeling capturing the spontaneity of a particular moment. Viannay has shown at Mixture on Kettner since 2003 as well as the La Jolla Art Association and also in Long Beach, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

[Erika Johnson erikajohnson22@gmail.com](mailto:erikajohnson22@gmail.com)

Erika Johnson studied photography at Grossmont College and the University of California San Diego in San Diego, beginning with black and white film development and gradually shifting to digital color. She pursued studio art and museum studies at Mesa College. She takes her camera everywhere and is mesmerized by any subject as it appears through the lens. Most of her work focuses on portraiture and documentary production. She has developed a desire to learn about how signs are made into meanings, and how images travel and take on stories.



Oh My! 2012
Photo by Raymond Elstad
24 by 30 inches
\$800

72 Years of Love, 2012
Yumi Richards
Hat for Roselle Martin born 1915,
Los Angeles, California
Black parasisal straw, veiling, silk
NFS \$250



Yumi Richards about her hat for Roselle Martin

Roselle Martin is a very kind and generous woman of 97 years. She shared with me the kind of wisdom gained only by living a full and meaningful life. I wanted most to honor her 72 years of marriage to her loving husband Johnny by making a flower of 72 red silk petals. The silk was hand dyed and then each petal was cut by hand, machine

sewn on a piece of leather and then hand sewn to the hat. The veiling is a reminder of a trip she and Johnny took to Paris. The color and style of the hat are meant to showcase Roselle's natural beauty and elegance.

[Yumi Richards yumirichardshats@gmail.com](mailto:yumirichardshats@gmail.com)

In 1994, Yumi Richards learned the art of millinery from two talented milliners in downtown San Diego. She studied printmaking at SDSU in 1999 to 2001.

Richards worked in the corporate world in sales for seven years. At thirty-nine,

Richards finally has the confidence to start her own hat company. She is offering her 2011 fall/winter felt hat line online and is taking custom hat orders for all seasons. In the future, she will target selling wholesale to stores. She resides in Lakeside, CA and lives with her husband, three kids, one dog, two cats, and one fish. Yumi Richards created a little hat studio in a corner of her home and deserves a little place in the corner of your heart for her creations.

[Raymond Elstad. raymond@raymondelstad.com](mailto:raymond@raymondelstad.com)

Raymond Elstad was born 1946 in New York, moved to Los Angeles, did a tour of Southeast Asia with the US Marines, lived in Santa Cruz, then Portland, Oregon, did sound for a country rock band, went to cooking school, made an heir and attended The Pacific Northwest College of Art and the Oregon School of Arts and Crafts. He was influenced by his father, a Fred Archer School of Photography 1952 graduate. Elstad arrived in San Diego in 1986 and now teaches photography at Palomar College. He is showing extraordinary dance photographs at Dance Place at the NTC Promenade in Liberty Station in 2011/2012.



The San Diego Visual Arts Network (non-profit Public Charity 501 (c) 3 EIN #205910283) has a mission to improve the clarity, accuracy and sophistication of disclosure about San Diego's artistic and cultural life. We are dedicated to reinforcing the idea that the visual arts

are a necessary and vital part of the health of our city. By providing a website with a directory and events calendar and facilitating numerous collaborations on visual arts projects, we hope to not only build the confidence of those involved in the arts, but disseminate information throughout San Diego thus raising the bar on the writing, production and appreciation of the visual arts in our region. SDVAN list 1700 visual arts resources, has 4,000-5,000 unique visitors to our website per month and get over one million hits a year.

We have approx 3,500 on our opt-in mailing list. SDVAN exhibition resume includes: [Little & Large](#), [Movers and Shakers](#), [SD Art Prize](#), [New Contemporaries](#), [Art Meets Fashion](#) and [DNA of Creativity](#) info@sdvisualarts.net 760.943.0148



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Fairwinds Ivey Ranch Retirement Community located in the Ivey Ranch area of Oceanside, California, offers luxurious apartment homes in a fun and active retirement community. Fairwinds is managed by Leisure Care, who, for over 30 years, has led the industry in the development and management of elegant retirement communities that are all about *Five-Star Fun*. Highly-trained staff is available 24 hours a day and every apartment is equipped with an emergency communication system. 4490 Mesa Drive, Oceanside 92056 dSarram@leisurecare.com 760.439.8090



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Swank Salon for Hair styling [Trista Taylor](#) 760.480.9002 (26 North Kalmia Ste A Escondido 92025)