

## East Bay Open Studios 2004 Preview Exhibition: April 28 - June 13 Studios Open: June 5, 6, 12 & 13



The largest arts program in the region—Pro Arts' *East Bay Open Studios 2004*—is now in its 23rd year! The *East Bay Open Studios Preview Exhibition* is the inaugural exhibit in Pro Arts' new home, 550 Second Street in Jack London Square (left).

Free and open to the public and with new gallery hours, Wednesday through Saturday, 12 - 6PM and Sunday, 12 - 5PM, the gallery opens its doors Wednesday, April 28. The exhibition, featuring small artworks from over 500 participating artists is hung salon-style and functions as a "living catalog" for visitors to plan their self-guided tour of artists studios.

*East Bay Open Studios 2004* spans fourteen cities from Point Richmond to San Leandro. The annual publication, *EBOS'04 Map & Directory*, contains names, locations, and media information for each artist. *Map &*

*Directories* are available beginning April 21st at Pro Arts gallery and other locations throughout the Bay Area, and inserted into the East Bay Express newspaper on June 3, just before artists open their studio doors to the public.

Artists will be celebrating their open studios with a reception on *Thursday, June 3, 7 - 9 PM*. Please join us for music, fare and fun with the Bay Area's best artists!

*East Bay Open Studios 2004* is sponsored by the East Bay Express, the City of Oakland, MesArt.com and Pro Arts. Special thanks to SunDesign Studios and MesArt.com.



### For EBOS Participating Artists

The **EBOS'04 Meet & Greets**... Meet other artists in your area!

To encourage meaningful communication among studio artists, Pro Arts is sponsoring neighborhood gatherings for artists to meet their EBOS'04 colleagues and forge connections for promotions. As most of us will be studio-sitting during EBOS'04, the *Meet & Greet* gatherings present a casual opportunity to get to know artists in surrounding areas before the event. Join your neighborhood, or any other neighborhood!

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 27 6-7PM

Map A Point Richmond  
Map B El Sobrante & Pinole  
Map C Richmond, North El Cerrito  
Map D South El Cerrito, Albany, Kensington

**7-8PM**  
Map H Rockridge & North Oakland  
Map I Montclair

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 6-7PM

Map E West Berkeley

**7-8PM**  
Map F Central Berkeley  
Map G Emeryville

*Meet & Greet will take place at Pro Arts Gallery, 550 Second Street, Oakland. 510/763-4361*

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 29 6-7PM

Map J West Oakland  
Map K Downtown Oakland, Jack London Square & Lake Merritt

**7-8PM**  
Map L Alameda  
Map M East Oakland

## Art Speak: Glad to Know Pro Arts by Randolph Belle

I am glad I know Pro Arts. Pro Arts has been very good to me. I don't quite remember when I first crossed through the portals of this venerable East Bay arts institution, but it had to be somewhere around 1991 when I hit the shores of Oakland. I came from a far away place called San Francisco. Coming to Pro Arts, I saw things I had never seen before. There were people of all persuasions doing really cool things; everyone smiling and generally getting along. I found a place at Pro Arts. I facilitated art camps with kids for several years, was an exhibiting artist, and volunteer. I learned more about art and talked to more interesting people while gallery-sitting at the front desk. Eventually I was asked to serve on the Board of Directors. Pro Arts supported me when I served on the Oakland Art Commission and after four years on the Board, kicked me up to President. As an artist, community-person, and entrepreneur, the busy life caught up with me. It hurt, but I had to step down. It was someone else's turn to be king -- or queen.

Pro Arts is a constant. It's good to have constants in your life. To know you can walk into a place during working hours and feed your soul is a wonderful thing. You always know that the standard of art is high, regardless of marketability. That is creative expression. I learned this fact when I came to know some of the people that started Pro Arts (formerly the Alameda County Neighborhood Arts Program) back in 1974. From John Krieglger to Jan Hart-Schuyers, Lauren

Alwan, Betty Kano, Dream, me, everyone in between and since, we all tried to make something real happen at Pro Arts. Pro Arts has always been a place where people make art happen.

Thirty years later, things are still happening. I am so proud and elated to see the dawn of a new decade and the christening of a new space. There's no doubt you'll find me there at the snack table, catching up with good folks and taking in some good art. Remember it's a constant. I'm constantly reminded of how much I love Pro Arts.

Happy Anniversary and see you at the party,

Randolph Belle  
*Executive Director*  
SOA Village Housing  
(and the SOA stands for Support Oakland Artists)

*"Art Speak" is a new addition to Pro Arts' quarterly newsletter, and features immediate concerns, observations, and perspectives on the local art scene, written by a local artist. Opinions expressed in "Art Speak" do not necessarily reflect those of Pro Arts. Send submissions to: svea@proartsgallery.org or mail to 550 Second Street, Oakland, CA 94607.*

## New Visions: Introductions 2004 July 21 - August 28, 2004 Jurors: Rene di Rosa and Jack Rasmussen

Pro Arts Invites patron of the arts, Rene di Rosa and di Rosa Preserve Executive Director Jack Rasmussen to jury the upcoming *New Visions: Introductions 2004* exhibition.

Rene di Rosa, founder and Chairman of the Board of the di Rosa Preserve began to collect the works of emerging Bay Area artists in the 1950s. In 1960 he purchased land in the Carneros region of Napa where he successfully planted vineyards. He became an avid collector and arts activist, serving on the Board of Trustees of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The San Francisco Art Institute and the New York's Whitney Museum National Committee. In 1982, Rene established the Rene and Veronica di Rosa Foundation with the vision to build an environmental "art park" for the greater public.

Jack Rasmussen, Executive Director of the di Rosa Preserve since 2002, has a BA in Art from Whitman College, an MFA in Painting, an MA in Arts Management, and a PhD in Anthropology from The

American University, Washington, DC. He has 30 years professional experience in providing administrative and curatorial leadership for arts organizations, including the National Gallery of Art, Washington Project for the Arts, and the Jack Rasmussen Gallery, Washington, DC, and Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, Maryland. Most recently, Jack curated "The True Artist Is An Amazing Luminous Fountain," a traveling show of selected works from the di Rosa Preserve collection that will be on the road through 2006.

The di Rosa Preserve houses one of the largest regional art collections in the country. Amassed throughout the last forty years, the di Rosa collection represents the most extensive gathering of contemporary California Bay Area art available anywhere in the world.

Entry forms with all submission guidelines will be available in late-April at Pro Arts and on-line at [www.proartsgallery.org](http://www.proartsgallery.org).

## Pro Arts Proud: Celebrating 30 years by Executive Director Margo Dunlap

Be Pro Arts Proud! After 30 years Pro Arts pays homage to the community of artists and supporters in the Bay Area that relentlessly pursues empowerment through art, celebrates creativity, and makes art a way of life.

Thank you for enabling Pro Arts to serve this community. This year marks the 30th Anniversary for Pro Arts and we are kicking up our heels! We launch our celebration with the Pro Arts 30th Anniversary Gala on Saturday May 8th in our new gallery at Jack London Square. The Gala is a benefit for Pro Arts. The organization is facing critical cuts in funding due to constraints on government and foundational support; yet, Pro Arts is unyielding in its determination to provide exceptional exhibitions and programs for artists and audiences. The Gala celebrates the tenacity and strength of the people behind Pro Arts. Join us for this historic milestone in community arts in the Bay Area. Tickets for the 30th Anniversary Gala are available online, by fax and phone; sponsorships are also available. Please see the ticket form in this newsletter on page 4.

In a move that strikes renewed vivacity for the organization Pro Arts announces its relocation. After fourteen years in Old Oakland Pro Arts relocates to 550 Second Street in Jack London Square, Oakland in April 2004. We expect an increased gallery audience up to 30,000 visitors and expanded gallery sales as a means for promoting member artists.

We are excited about opening the new gallery with the inaugural exhibit for *East Bay Open Studios 2004*

*Preview.* More than 500 artists are participating in this increasingly successful community-building event. *East Bay Open Studios (EBOS)* stimulates a dialogue between the public and the artists by the neighborhoods in which people live. The 30th Anniversary Gala features the *EBOS Preview Exhibition* as the backdrop for this illustrious affair.

We are gearing up for big plans at Pro Arts and I find myself among many directing change within the organization. Following the departure of our former director, Stephanie JT Russell, I joined the staff of Pro Arts as Executive Director. I am humbled by the commitment of members, volunteers and supporters that makes Pro Arts an East Bay institution. In addition to the executive transition the staff underwent a change as well. I am pleased to introduce Mica Valdez, our new Gallery Manager and send my thanks and goodwill to Maria Urbi, our former Gallery Coordinator.

In this time of celebration and change I join others in support of Pro Arts and its resolve to make heard the unheard voices, raise the bar on presenting marginalized social issues, and promoting emerging artists as the cultural force that challenges the way we live. To all who stand for art, change and life: I say,

I am Pro Arts Proud!

Margo E. Dunlap  
Executive Director

## Pro Arts Staff Welcomes New Gallery Manager, Mica Valdez



Pro Arts staff in the new gallery during construction (from left to right): Svea Lin Vezzone, Exhibition & Program Director; Byron Spicer, Business Manager; Eric Murphy, Gallery Assistant; Mica Valdez, Gallery Manager; Margo Dunlap, Executive Director.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President / Hershell West  
Vice-President / Heather MacDonald  
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Dan Fontes  
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### STAFF

Executive Director  
Margo Dunlap  
Exhibition and Program Director  
Svea Lin Vezzone  
Business Manager  
Byron Spicer  
Gallery Manager  
Mica Valdez  
Gallery Assistant  
Eric Murphy

## Acknowledgements

Pro Arts would like extend our deepest gratitude to the following people who were crucial to the success of our relocation and creation of our new gallery. We could not have done it alone!

Saul Albarez • John Casey • Rolando Castro  
Colleen Chadsey / Metrovation • Kathleen Diohep / ArtHouse • Phil Dow • Mike Fasoli / BBI Construction • Ed Fernandez • Dan Fontes  
John Glenn • Tm Gratkowski • Rachel Handler  
Cynthia Hernandez / Volunteers of America  
Julie • Woody Johnson • Darlene Kelly / CAC  
Real Estate • Brian Kendall / City of Oakland  
John Killacky / San Francisco Foundtion • Philip Klingelhofer • Doug Lennard • Tom Lopes • Heather MacDonald • Raymundo Martinez  
Susan Matthews • Elise Morris / Metrovation  
Peter Morse / Metrovation • Ortrun Niesar  
Margaret Partlow / Metrovation • Michael Perkocha / RPR Architects • Ismael Ramos  
Tom Robinson • Lisa Ruhland / CAC Real Estate  
Kate Runyan • Annie Sevelius • Merritt Sher  
Charles Splady / Splady Art Studios  
Eduardo Ortiz Villalobos • Hershell West

## Many Thanks to Our Wonderful Volunteers!

Bill Bardeen Belle Brook Barer Jasmine Baxter Kate Bean Sierra Boyd Luv Cabralles Iran Carranza Fulani Carter John Casey Mitchel Cohen Marvin Dalander Janet Denninger Jennifer Dlugosh Dutch Juliet Evans Taurean Feaster Leslie Firestone Lois Fischer Doron Fishman Raleigh Freeman Elsa Garcia Tara Gill Lisa Glicksman Gretchen Greene Jena Hirschbein	Eryn Hughes Denise Kaplan Dan Lau Marie Leure David Lippenberger Melania Magdeleno Cassidy Maione Susan Matthews Miki Mettuiges Donna Mae Montgomery Daisuke Nakabayashi Saida Hogan Nassirudin Alex Penedaruis Rita Pilione Darwin Price Cheryl Riley Kate Runyan Joyce Shon Mary Spivey Anna Mae Stanley Wade McClure Kim Webster Joshua Weeler
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PRO  
ARTS  
30  
YEARS

## Pro Arts 30th Anniversary Gala

Saturday, May 8, 2004, 5 - 9 PM  
Pro Arts - New Gallery  
550 Second Street  
Jack London Square, Oakland

Pro Arts celebrates 30 years of service to the arts community in the Bay Area. To celebrate we are hosting the Pro Arts 30th Anniversary Gala. The event highlights our beautiful new gallery at Jack London Square which will open with the inaugural exhibit *East Bay Open Studios 2004 Preview*, featuring more than 500 East Bay artists.

Please join this historic endeavor!

Tickets may be purchased online or by fax, mail, phone and at the gallery; Advance purchase only. Sponsorship Packages Available.

### 30th Anniversary Gala Ticket Order Form

Please complete and fax to:  
510-763-9470  
or mail to:

Pro Arts' 30th Anniversary Gala  
550 Second Street, Oakland, CA 94607

### 30th Anniversary Sponsorship Packages:

- \$5000 Sponsor (\$ 4,400 Tax Deductible)
- \$1000 Patron (\$550 Tax Deductible)
- \$250 Supporter (\$150 Tax Deductible)
- I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ (number) of Gala Tickets at \$125 each (\$75 Tax Deductible per ticket)  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Sorry, I cannot attend. Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ms.  Mrs.  Mr.

First Last

Street Address

City Zip

Daytime Phone

Evening Phone

Email:

Payment Type:

- Check Enclosed (Make checks payable to Pro Arts)
- Visa  Mastercard

Acct #:

Expiration Date:

Signature:

mama buzz\*  
2318 Telegraph . Oakland cafe  
www.mamabuzzcafe.com  
510.465.4073  
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# MEMBERSHIP

Support the visual arts in the East Bay! As a non-profit artist-based organization, Pro Arts relies on the support of our members. Funds are applied directly to programming costs. Join Pro Arts today!

- I want to become a New Member
- Please renew my Membership

- \$45 Artist
- \$60 Friend of the Arts
- \$20 Student
- \$20 Senior
- \$75 Family
- \$250 Patron
- \$500 Benefactor
- Please accept my donation of: \_\_\_\_\_

Ms.  Mrs.  Mr.

First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- YES!** I'm interested in volunteering at Pro Arts.

Please contact me about the following needs:

- Receptions  Bulk Mail  Gallery Sitting
- Juried Exhibitions  Data entry  Gallery Sitting
- Installations  Publicity  East Bay Open Studios Committee  Web Site Committee
- Artist Advisory Committee

Payment type:

- Check enclosed. Make checks payable to Pro Arts.
- Charge my VISA/Mastercard!

Acct # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# 2004 - 30TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Also at [www.proartsgallery.org](http://www.proartsgallery.org)

## APRIL

### LYRICAL MAYHEM

Friday, April 2, 8 PM

First Fridays of each month features great Asian American spoken word artists and open mic. Curated by Joshua Wheeler and Jason Bayani. Sign up for open mic starts at 7:30 PM. Sliding \$6-8 at the door.

### TEA PARTY LITERARY SERIES:

#### BLESSING WIND

Friday, April 16, 7:30 PM

Blessing Wind is Potawatomi/Ho-Chunk musician and storyteller Walter Johnson, who plays traditional Cedar and Cane flute, and Cherokee vocalist Jane De Cuir on percussion, rattles and bells. "Our music is a blend of spoken word and songs of and about the healing qualities of ancient music and legends. We present an Indigenous perspective of contemporary society, where we exist."



Walter "Ogi" Johnson with Bone Whistle (Potawatomi/Ho-Chunk). Walter performs at Pro Arts on April 16 (see above for details).

### EBOS EXHIBITION INSTALLATION

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 22, 23 & 24, 12-6 PM

Artists participating in East Bay Open Studios come to install their works for the 2004 Preview Exhibition.

### EBOS'04 PREVIEW EXHIBITION OPENS

Wednesday, April 28, 12 PM

Over 500 East Bay artists are featured in this signature event at our new location. Details, page 1.

## MAY

### OPEN FORUM ON HAITI

Sunday, May 2, 5 PM

Investigative reporter and host of KPFA's Flashpoint, Dennis Bernstein, will moderate with guest speakers: Marguerite Laurent, Kiilu Nyasha, Pierre Labossiere, JR, and Maria Garcia. Important points that will be discussed include: The Destabilization of Haiti; Historically-debt, dependency, foreign domination since 1806; and the human consequences of U.S./France 2004 orchestrated Coup D'etat. For more information, please call: 415-391-3844 or email [kimmac@pacbell.net](mailto:kimmac@pacbell.net). This forum is co-sponsored by PEN Oakland and Pro Arts.

### LYRICAL MAYHEM

Friday, May 7, 8 PM

Sign up for open mic starts at 7:30 PM. Sliding \$6-8 at the door.

Happy 30th Anniversary, Pro Arts!

### PRO ARTS 30TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Saturday, May 8, 5 - 9 PM

A benefit for Pro Arts! Ticket order form on page 4 or [www.proartsgallery.org](http://www.proartsgallery.org). Advance purchase only.

### THE QUARTERLY AT LATHAM SQUARE

Thursday, May 13, 9 AM

Latham Square Associates and Pro Arts are pleased to present the works of **Lydia Nakashima Degarrod**: May 13 through July 29, 2004. Join us for an artist reception on Third Thursday, May 20, 5 - 8 PM. Latham Square Office Building, at 1611 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland; M-F, 9-5 PM. Call 510/763-4361 for information on artist and sales. Curated by Svea Lin Vezzone.

### TEA PARTY LITERARY SERIES: VETERAN'S READING

Friday, May 21, 7:30 PM

Come hear Bay Area Veterans read their way to understanding and healing at: "A Time to Be: Reflective Writing, Mindfulness, and War." Curated by Sean McClain Brown, a veteran writer featured in Issue 12 of Tea Party magazine.

## JUNE

### ARTIST RECEPTION EBOS'04

Thursday, June 3, 7 - 9 PM

Pro Arts kicks off the East Bay Open Studios weekends with a celebration for the artists! Come join the party!

### LYRICAL MAYHEM

Friday, June 4, 8 PM

Curated by Joshua Wheeler and Jason Bayani. Sign up for open mic starts at 7:30 PM. Sliding \$6-8 at the door.

### EAST BAY OPEN STUDIOS - WEEKEND I

Saturday & Sunday, June 5 & 6

Studio hours: 11 - 6 PM

Artist studios in 14 East Bay cities open to the public. Map & Directories are available in the East Bay Express newspaper, Pro Arts and other locations. Plan your tour at the EBOS'04 Preview Exhibition. Gallery hours: Wed - Sat, 12 - 6 PM, Sun 12 - 5 PM. Call for details!

### EAST BAY OPEN STUDIOS - WEEKEND II

Saturday & Sunday, June 12 & 13

Studio hours: 11 - 6 PM

Last chance to visit artists' studios. Pick up a Map & Directory at Pro Arts! Gallery hours: Wed - Sat, 12 - 6 PM, Sun 12 - 5 PM.

### TEA PARTY LITERARY SERIES: SUSAN TERRIS AND STEPHANIE RUSSELL

Friday, June 18, 7:30 PM

Susan Terris and Stephanie Russell will be this evening's featured readers. Susan is the author of numerous books of poetry, among them "Eye of the Holocaust," "Poetic License" and her latest "Fire is Favorable to the Dreamer." Stephanie Russell, former executive director of Pro Arts, is the author of "Everyday Zen" and the forthcoming "One Flash of Lightning: A Samurai Code for Living Today."

### IN JULY! DROP-OFF DATE FOR... NEW VISIONS: INTRODUCTIONS 2004

Wednesday, July 7, 12 - 7 PM

Drop off original works at Pro Arts' gallery, 550 Second Street in Oakland. Juried by Rene di Rosa and Jack Rasmussen. See page 2 for more info. Submission guidelines and more information available in late-April, [www.proartsgallery.org](http://www.proartsgallery.org).

PRO  
ARTS

# a WORK in PROGRESS

the Pro Arts Quarterly ArtSheet

April • May • June 2004



It's official! Pro Arts' new location: 550 Second Street, Oakland CA 94607, opens with it's inaugural exhibition, East Bay Open Studios 2004 Preview Exhibition, April 28, 2004. New Gallery Hours: Wed - Sat., 12-6PM, Sun, 12-5PM.

PRO  
ARTS

**NEW LOCATION!**  
550 Second Street  
Oakland, CA 94607  
Gallery 510/763-4361  
Fax 510/763-9470  
info@proartsgallery.org

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[www.proartsgallery.org](http://www.proartsgallery.org)

Founded in 1974 as the Alameda County Neighborhood Arts Program, Pro Arts is a nonprofit, artist-based membership organization serving the Bay Area's diverse cultural communities through exhibitions, workshops and collaborative multidisciplinary programs.

**a WORK in PROGRESS** is published quarterly, co-produced by Svea Lin Vezzone and Margo Dunlap. Please send submissions to Attn: ArtSheet, 550 Second Street, Oakland CA 94607 or to svea@proartsgallery.org. For more information call 510/763-4361.

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Pro Arts is supported by our volunteers, more than 1000 members, the Oakland City Council, the City of Oakland's Cultural Funding Program, the San Francisco Foundation, the East Bay Community Foundation, The Alameda County Art Commission, PSAL Old Oakland, CAC Real Estate, LMI,Net and the East Bay Express. Past funders include: The Grousbeck Family Foundation, the Zellerbach Family Fund and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the City of Berkeley, the City of Emeryville, the City of Alameda, BART, the Port of Oakland and others.