

SHARON ART STUDIO

Underwater Artist: WARREN CANE



Many at the Sharon Art Studio have admired the showcase displaying Warren Cane's ceramics and watercolors of marine life. They wondered about his background. I interviewed Warren, a student in my Friday morning ceramics class, about his life and art background.

Q: Warren, please tell me a bit about yourself

A: My original love was marine sciences and biology. I studied it for 1 year in junior college as a marine science major. As a member of the coast guard, I was then on active duty for three years. After this time in the military, being married with a child, I needed a job. I took an aptitude test which said I would make a good teacher.

Upon becoming a teacher, Warren mainly taught 3rd-4th grades. He focused on science. Later he became a special education teacher, running one of the first new special education classes in the SF unified district. For several years Warren also ran all the summer schools for the district. Warren eventually became a school principal and was a principal for a total of 25 years at 3 different schools.

Q: With all that going on, did you have time for any art?

A: At that time in my life I went to museums with my family and took art classes with my children.

Q: Tell me about coming to Sharon Art Studio.

A: I began taking a glass class about 4-5 years before I retired in 2001. Glass was an appealing medium as I thought it would lend itself to underwater sciences...and it did. However, I kept wanting to draw outside the lines. This was difficult to do with glass.

Q: Were you taking any other art classes?

A: I was taking various drawing classes at the same time, including at SAS.

Q: So, how did you come to work at SAS in the ceramics studio?

A: I kept gravitating down to ceramics. It was such a welcoming environment. Many ceramics folks encouraged me to join a ceramics class. I also began taking painting in the south bay. I had two very good teachers and now I attend a watercolor open studio at the San Carlos recreation center. It is also a very supportive environment.

Q: Warren, watercolor seems like a very hard medium.

A: It is. I wanted to do the hardest medium. There is a part of me that wants to keep growing and learning. Let me mention also that in art and life most of my successes started as accidents.

Q: What else keeps you busy these days?

A: Well, besides my family of 5 kids and a number of grandkids, I love making tools to work with clay. And I just started volunteering in a special education class in Redwood City.

So Warren may be retired from his job but he is far from retired with an active schedule. Family, painting, ceramics and much more, his life gets richer and I am very happy that he is a part of the SAS community.

- Lynn Wood, SAS Staff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTER SESSION
PRE-REGISTRATION

SENIOR PRE-REGISTRATION:
FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 16
2 - 4 PM

ADULT & YOUTH
REGISTRATION:
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 17
10 - 12 PM

This is a PRE-REGISTRATION, so please bring your check books to class the week before registration (Nov. 10-16)! Remember, you can only pre-register for a class you are CURRENTLY enrolled in; for any additional classes please come to the reg on Saturday.

SEE YOU AT REG!

FOSAS
RENEWAL
TIME!

Remember: It's time to renew your membership for 2008! Look for your renewal letter in the mail, and join us again as a Friends of Sharon Art Studio member in our 2008 anniversary year. The Sharon Art Studio will be 40 years old!

FALL 07

SEPTEMBER 27-DECEMBER 10, 2007

A note from Michiko Thompson:

I would like to thank everyone here at the studio for their support of my family and I through the tragedy we suffered this summer. I received many kind words, and, I was delighted to see how many beautiful pieces were donated to my family's fund through the summer sale. The money generated from that and from other donations will be helpful in many ways. As for the remaining pieces, I may choose to put them in the winter sale, but in talking with my family, it sounds like they would prefer to have the art included in the "Give-Away" for the memorial for those who died. A give-away in Nez Perce culture is an event in which cherished items such as traditional regalia, jewelry, clothing, and household items are given away to family and the community to mark an occasion. Typically, this is a name-giving ceremony or a memorial. My family has decided to make the sad occasion of a memorial for five people a positive one by making it a name-giving ceremony for my nieces and nephews as well. This means there are going to be two "Give-Away's" next summer. I know that having the art created by many of you will be very meaningful to people and I thank you for it.

- Michiko Thompson,
FOSAS administrative assistant

ANNUAL WINTER SALE! Sunday, December 2, 2007



10am-11am
FOSAS Members Preview
11am-5pm Open to the Public

Special FOSAS member's preview 10-11am. FOSAS members will be allowed to preview and shop early as part of their membership benefits. Memberships available at the door. Join us for coffee and first dibs!

LETTER from the DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of
Sharon Art Studio members,

I hope you've been enjoying the Fall session at the Sharon Art Studio, along with the wonderful warm weather we've had this October.

We are looking forward to entering into 2008 since the Sharon Art Studio will be celebrating an exciting anniversary; our 40th! 1968 was a crazy and fruitful time for creativity in San Francisco; the Sharon Art Studio being one of many love children born that year! Since then, the organization has happily grown, matured, and is just as lively as ever. We've never had as many or as diverse classes as we hold today within our Victorian walls. In 2008, we celebrate four decades of artistic education and inspiration and look forward to the decades to come.

One of the main reasons the Studio is around today to enjoy its birthday is due to the dedicated staff and students who created the Friends of the Sharon Art Studio to supplement a lack of city funding in the late eighties and early nineties that almost led to the program's demise. It was in 1991 that the Friends of Sharon Art Studio incorporated as a non-profit in sole support of maintaining the Sharon's arts programming and its wonderful staff members.

This mission continues today, though now that politically things have fortunately calmed down, we often get the question, "Who is FOSAS and what do they do?" It's an understandable quandary considering we are now rather behind the scenes as an organization. The FOSAS employees are often out of sight in our little upstairs office banging out work on the computer, our contractual instructors are in and out on a more limited basis than the SFRP instructors, and our Board itself meets only once a month and its members are spread out amongst varying disciplines and time slots as students. But FOSAS is very much indeed a vital part of the Sharon Art Studio's health and well-being.

FOSAS Art Classes

For example, did you know that on average almost 40% of the class programming at the SAS is funded solely by the Friends of Sharon Art Studio? For this coming Winter 2008 session the following 26 classes are able to be offered to our community partially

through the support you provide as a FOSAS member:

*8 Junior Picasso classes for youth
2 Music Maker classes for youth
Youth Silver Clay Jewelry & Sculpture
Youth: Painting on
Fire for Teens (Enameling)
Mix That Media! Weekend Workshop
Fimo Workshop:
Celtic Beads Weekend Workshop
PMC Rings Weekend Workshop
PMC & Fused Glass Weekend Workshop
Freedom of Expression with Pastels
2 Chinese Brush Painting classes
with Madeline Fu
2 watercolor classes with Vesta Kirby
2 watercolor classes with Mary Harden
Pen & Ink
China Painting
Basics and Beyond -
Thursday Night Drawing*

FOSAS Bought Equipment & Supplies

For the on-going core SFR&P classes of ceramics, glass, jewelry and life drawing, as well as a bulk of the children's classes, FOSAS members just within the last year have helped purchase many new pieces of equipment and supplies:

*New Slab Roller for Ceramics
New Glass Kiln
New Furnace for Jewelry
New Kiln for Jewelry
New Drawing Boards
New Microwave for the kitchen
New Dry Rack for Watercolor
New Kiln Shelves for Ceramics
And much more...*

Please help educate those new to the studio to whom FOSAS is and what we provide and encourage them to support us by becoming a Friends of Sharon Art Studio member. This small step is a vital one, helping us in our cultivation of revenue, and increasing students' ties to the Sharon community, as well as providing some helpful perks and operational fee discounts.

Renewal time for 2008 memberships is now, so please continue your support of this important non-profit organization and invite a fellow student or friend to join as well. Together, we'll have a fantastic 40th anniversary!

Sincerely,
Lani Rovzar, FOSAS Executive Director

A fond farewell: Jean Marcy & Julia Kemp

Two of our long time and extremely dedicated FOSAS Board members and Sharon Art Studio supporters, FOSAS President Jean Marcy and FOSAS Secretary Julia Kemp, will both be stepping down when their terms are up this January. Jean and Julia have been active members of the Friends of Sharon Art Studio for over 9 years. They have been soldiers in many Sharon Art Studio political battles, fighting for the Studio back when they wanted to turn the building into a restaurant! Both have been unwavering also in their on-going volunteer efforts. Can you believe they have probably worked over 30 registrations, passing out info and helping people in the lines? These are the same two women who were flipping out crepes for the hungry masses at the 2007 fundraiser. Professionally, I will miss having these two intelligent and capable women as fellow board members and advisers. I will miss the true thought and caring Jean and Julia share in bettering the studio and its community of artist students and staff. Thank you Jean and thank you Julia, from myself, the Board, and the Studio.

- Lani Rovzar, FOSAS Executive Director

What will we do without Jean! She has been a mainstay at the Sharon Art Studio as part of our non-profit organization for so long. First, as the right hand of Robin Smith when Jean was V.P., then as our Treasurer, polishing up our financial reports and setting up CD's for our various funds like the Kitty McInerery Kiln Fund (this sounds so simple but was so difficult), and lastly, as our wonderful FOSAS President for the last five years, helping us with all our various negotiations with the new SFR&P administration. Jean has also been the main consultant to Lani Rovzar in her first two years as the Executive Director of FOSAS. We will miss her sharp business sense, insightful intellect, personal manner, and particularly, her dedication to the Friends of Sharon Art Studio. We hope Jean will continue as a student for many years to come and occasionally lend us her ear as we negotiate the waters of our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SFR&P. Thank you Jean, you are the best!

- Constance Flannery, SAS Staff & FOSAS Board Member

Jean has presided over the Friends of Sharon Art Studio board of directors since March of 2003. She started volunteering on the board in 1997. During her more than ten-year span of service, she has held the posts of Vice President, Treasurer, and Membership chair. This coming January, Jean will retire from the board. Jean, thank you for your years of service and outstanding leadership, and for your passion for and dedication to the arts. We will miss you.

- Jessica Barbieri, FOSAS Board Member

the STUDIO PROFILER



NAME: JEAN MARCY

HOW ARE YOU AFFILIATED WITH THE SHARON ART STUDIO?

(Student, instructor, volunteer, etc.): Student

NUMBER OF YEARS AT THE STUDIO: Twelve. I started in Patti McKay's ceramics class and Virginia Banta's drawing class. Now Lynn Wood is my ceramics teacher.

NUMBER OF YEARS ON THE BOARD OF THE FRIENDS OF SHARON ART STUDIO:

I joined in March of 1997, so over ten years.

WHAT POSITIONS HAVE YOU HELD ON THE BOARD? I started as membership chair, then became vice president, and then the treasurer. I've been president since Robin Smith's term ended in 2003.

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR ARTISTIC INTERESTS, TRAINING, AND BACKGROUND: I grew up in New York City and spent a lot of time in the museums, especially the Museum of Modern Art, where I also took classes as a teenager. Art history was my major at Brown. And I love old Indian baskets and Inuit sculpture.

WHO OR WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO BE CREATIVE? Since I work for the non-profit at the SF Botanical Garden, I think about shapes and colors that come from the plants there.

WHAT IS THE FIRST WORK OF ART YOU REMEMBER CREATING? I don't think of it as a work of art, but I still have the first thrown pot I made here. It's three inches wide and started from what seemed like a huge piece of clay.

WHAT WORK OF ART OR MUSEUM DO YOU MOST WANT TO SEE? The National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

NOW THAT YOU ARE RETIRING FROM THE BOARD, ANY PLANS FOR YOUR FREED TIME? I don't think the reality of extra time will sink in until I actually leave the board in January.



NAME: JULIA KEMP Julia has been on the Board of Directors of the Friends of Sharon Art Studio for about ten years and is the secretary of the board. She will retire from the board next January. Thank you, Julia, for your talents and outstanding commitment to the art studio, your years of service, and your support and love of the arts.

NUMBER OF YEARS AT THE SHARON ART STUDIO: I came to the studio as a student in 1994. I am a ceramics student, though currently “on sabbatical.”

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR ARTISTIC INTERESTS, TRAINING, AND BACKGROUND: When I was growing up, my mom was a silversmith. I loved helping her participate in local crafts shows and hanging out with the artists. I was always attracted to the ceramics booths, so I enrolled in private classes and took ceramics in high school.

WHO OR WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO BE CREATIVE? Nature inspires me in my ceramics works. I enjoy finding ways to integrate animal forms and leaves into functional pots.

WHAT IS THE FIRST WORK OF ART YOU REMEMBER CREATING? I can’t say they were my first works of art, but two of my favorite pieces are from my high school ceramics class. I made a decorated, frosted birthday cake with a slice taken out, which my mom still has. I also made a ceramic ukulele, which I only recently parted with, as it had broken one too many times.

WHAT WORK OF ART OR MUSEUM DO YOU MOST WANT TO SEE? I can’t wait for the California Academy of Sciences to reopen in Golden Gate Park. I love the new DeYoung and I especially liked the Arts and Crafts exhibit that was there about a year or two ago. I’m also interested in folk art in all of its forms.

WHAT SUBJECT OR STORY WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A MOVIE ABOUT? As I read TC Boyle’s novel “Drop City,” I thought it would make a fun movie. The story starts off in the late 60s or early 70s at a hippie commune in Sonoma County. After a series of mishaps, the group makes a hasty getaway to Alaska, where they continue to party and frolic all summer long. And then winter comes...

Community Thrift really helps us out! Help them help FOSAS (and feel good too)!

Each year Community Thrift donates hundreds of dollars to FOSAS, solely through students donating their used goods to Community Thrift and applying the donation to the FOSAS account #65! Help keep this important revenue stream flowing by donating your used items to Community Thrift. **Community Thrift is located at 623 Valencia Street (between 17th & 18th streets). Donations are accepted 10am-5pm, 7 days a week at the side receiving door on Sycamore Alley. Questions? Call Community Thrift Store at 415-861-4910.**

FRIENDS OF SHARON ART STUDIO BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jean Marcy (President); Susan Strolis (Vice President); Mei Lie Wong (Treasurer); Julia Kemp (Secretary); Lani Rovzar (Executive Director); Constance Flannery (SFRP Representative); Jessica Barbieri; Cynthia Major; Mary McCrohan; Alice Potter; Adrienne Suster.

FOSAS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: Constance Flannery, Jessica Barbieri, and Lani Rovzar with contributing authors



FRIENDS OF

Sharon Art Studio

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