

Sara Friedlander at Sanchez Art Center

Sanchez Art Center begins the new year with three very strong exhibitions, featuring mixed media artist Sara Friedlander, the Sanchez Studio Artists, and a group show by Art Guild of Pacifica. The opening reception is on Friday, January 12, from 7 to 9 pm, with music by Jamey Brzezinski.

In “American Women: Birds of im/Migration” Sara Friedlander combines her own photographs with vintage photos and paint to create compelling mixed media works that explore the lives and celebrate the valor of the brave women who left home, country, and family to carve out new lives in the United States. In the artist’s words: “Most of them spoke no English, and holding steadfast to their hopes for a brighter future, they faced daunting challenges in order to establish themselves in this new world.” The artist invites us to delve deeper into our preconceptions, reminding us that we are a nation of immigrants.

Friedlander has exhibited widely in California, as well as nationally, internationally, and online, and in 2012 was awarded first place in the 2012 Annual International Competition held by the Center for Photographic Art in Carmel. To learn more about the artist and her work, come to the Artist/Curator Talk on closing Sunday, Feb 11 at 3:30 pm.

The East Gallery presents “Earth Matters,” an exhibition of work by the 30-plus artists who create their art at Sanchez Art Center. The word “Earth” actually holds within it the word “art.” One might say that “art” is at the center of “Earth,” and this small play on words highlights the deep value we find in all the arts that nourish and inspire our spirits. The intention of the exhibition is not only to share with the public an insight into the artwork that is created here at Sanchez Art Center, and why art matters so very much, but also to highlight why protecting Earth matters for current and future generations as well as for our own souls.

Two special events will be held as part of “Earth Matters.” The public is invited to a Gallery Walk and Party, hosted by Sanchez Art Center Board of Directors, on Friday, Feb 2, 6:30–8:30 pm. Then on Sunday, Feb 11, 1–3 pm, visitors may tour studios and meet the artists.

In West Gallery, the Art Guild of Pacifica presents “(un)Finished,” an appealing theme for those of us who sometimes procrastinate. The word “unfinished” also can inspire a sense of curiosity. If a work is unfinished, how will it look once it’s done? This is indeed “(un)Finished” business, which should make for a very interesting and engaging exhibit.

Sanchez Art Center is located at 1220 Linda Mar Blvd in Pacifica, about a mile east of Highway 1. Following opening night, the galleries are open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1–5 pm, and by appointment, through Feb 12. For more information: 650.355.1894; info@SanchezArtCenter.org.

