



# WINTER 2017.18

**FEATURED ARTIST: TANIA GONZALEZ ORTEGA**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

**YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL ARTS & CULTURE IN THE METHOW VALLEY AND BEYOND. EXHIBITS, EVENTS. CLASSES. METHOW ARTS. ACCESS TO IMAGINATION.**

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# WINTER 2017



Amanda Jackson Mott  
Executive Director,  
Methow Arts Alliance

I wish all of you a vibrant Winter season. Enjoy the abundance of creative activity offered in the Methow Valley. From innovative classes to world-renowned performance, exhibits of local artwork and theatre, Art is at the forefront of life here in the Valley.

Visit our website for updates, new listings, articles, and ticket info [www.methowarts.org](http://www.methowarts.org). Enjoy -

*Amanda Mott*



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**METHOW ARTS ALLIANCE** is a non profit organization founded in 1983 that enriches the lives of our community through a variety of diverse art programs.

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**ART MAGAZINE** connects audiences with the work of our many resident and visiting artists and the organizations that provide a breadth of arts programming. Our magazine is a celebration of the vision, genius and creativity that abound in the Methow Valley and beyond. To receive this publication in the mail, please become a member of our organization and we will gladly mail you a copy quarterly. Thank you for supporting a diverse and plentiful arts community.

Published and designed by Methow Arts Alliance info@  
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### CONTRIBUTORS

FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY:  
**Tom Forker**



FEATURE ARTICLE:  
**Marcy Stamper**



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## INSPIRE YOUR GIFT-GIVING

### AT VALLEY GOODS GIFT SHOP AND HOLIDAY EMPORIUM

DECEMBER 7TH - 24TH AT TWISPPWORKS

Shopping for gifts during the holiday is a reminder of the scope and talent brought to us by the artists and artisans of the Methow Valley. This year you can see a bounty of hand-crafted, locally-made goodies by heading over to TwispWorks for Valley Goods: a holiday shop brought to you by the folks at Door No. 3 Print Studio.

With shop hours every day starting December 7 and continuing until the day before Christmas, Valley Goods will feature wares from more than thirty local vendors. Robin and Laura of Door No. 3 are also planning a series of 'Meet the Maker' events as well as art-making nights for kids of all ages.

"We're really excited to have the opportunity to host a similar event to Handmade for the Holidays," says Robin Doggett, "it's always a nice time catching up with neighbors and shopping some beautiful hand-made things - it's a big part in spreading the holiday cheer."

LOCATION/HOURS: Valley Goods is located in TwispWorks building 9, right next to Door No. 3 Print Studio and is open Dec 7-24, 10am-6pm, Monday-Friday, and 10am-3pm during the weekend. Enjoy a cup of Blue Star coffee and a treat while you shop. info@doorno3.com or 509-449-1081.

## VALLEY GOODS GIFT SHOP EVENTS

### DOOR NO.3 PRINT STUDIO

#### MEET THE MAKER: GABBY BEAUDIN OF MOLLY'S SOAP

Wed, Dec 13, 1 - 4pm: Meet the new face behind local soap brand Molly's Soap and learn a little about what it takes to make such scented delights.

#### HANDS-ON KIDS CRAFTS WITH LAURA GUNNIP

Thurs, Dec 14, 3:30 - 5:30pm, kids of all ages welcome, by donation.

#### MEET THE MAKER: SARA ASHFORD OF CULLER STUDIO

Wed, Dec 20, 1-6pm: Talk to Sara about her work with natural dyes and shop a wide selection of hand-dyed scarves and other beautiful wearable art.

#### HANDS ON KIDS CRAFTS WITH LAURA GUNNIP

Thurs, Dec 21st, 3:30 - 5:30 pm, kids of all ages welcome, by donation.



## TANIA GONZALEZ ORTEGA

Pages 10 and 11 showcase our featured artist Tania Gonzalez Ortega. In addition to the center spread, be sure to visit our website to view her photo shoot with this issue's photographer, Tom Forker, who captures her in action at her studio up the Twisp River. [www.methowarts.org/featuredartist](http://www.methowarts.org/featuredartist)

Gonzalez Ortega will be featured in a solo exhibit at the MAX Gallery in Seattle next year. Dates are not set yet.

Her art can be seen in an exhibit at Cinnamon Twisp Bakery through the end of December 2017. It is also online at [artbytego.blogspot.com](http://artbytego.blogspot.com) and [www.facebook.com/tegopaintings](http://www.facebook.com/tegopaintings).

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# WINTER ART CALENDAR

Classes/artist opportunities and events in **GREEN**, Exhibits **BLUE**.

## ONGOING CLASSES/EVENTS

**Line Dancing**  
Mondays, 6 pm, Lessons at 6:30pm  
\$4. Twisp Grange. 509.429.2064.

**Spinners and Weavers**  
Thursdays, 1pm  
Meet and spin/weave. 137 Old Twisp Hwy. 509.997.5666

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**Saturdays in Twisp**  
Saturdays  
Art studios, performance, galleries, wine tasting, local food, workshops, art classes and so much more. twispinfo.com

## DECEMBER

**Annual Christmas Bazaar**  
Sat, Dec 2, 9am  
Methow Valley Community Center. Over 65 vendors of fine arts and crafts.  
Lunch available. 509-997-2926

**Mother Courage and Her Children**  
Sat, Dec 2, 7pm.  
\$16-\$18/adults, FREE 18 and under. Tickets available online. Limited reserved seating online only. See article. The Merc Playhouse, 101 S. Glover Street, Twisp, www.mercplayhouse.org. 509-997-7529.

**Atomic Bombshells Vintage Burlesque**  
Sat, Dec 2, 7pm  
Must be 21 years or older! Tickets: brownpapertickets.com, Riverside Printing Winthrop, Methow Arts. At the Winthrop Barn. Full bar. CASH/CHECK only at event. info@methowart-salliance.org

**The Vanishing Caribou Rainforest**  
Tues, Dec 5, 6pm-8:30pm  
Holiday party (appetizers, activities & awards) at 6pm. David Moskowitz presentation for Methow Conservancy First Tuesday. At the Winthrop Barn. 509-996-2870.

**MV Community School Holiday Performance**  
Wed, Dec 6, 5pm  
Student performance, dessert auction.  
Methow Valley Community Center.  
509-997-4447

**Vision En Rouge**  
Through Jan 6  
Confluence Gallery's Holiday exhibit. See article.  
509-997-ARTS, www.confluencegallery.com

**Winthrop Gallery: Holiday Gift Show**  
Through Jan 2: Artist reception Sat, Nov 25, 5-7pm  
Crafts and gifts by local and regional artists. See article.  
At Winthrop Gallery, 237 Riverside Ave, 509.996.3925  
www.winthropgallery.com

**Dan Brown "Ski Art"**  
Through Jan 6  
Okanogan artist Dan Brown presents works using snow and water skis recycled into art and furniture. See article. Confluence Gallery and Art Center. 509-997-ARTS www.confluence-gallery.com

**Twisp Mistletoe Madness: A fun Holiday Shopping Event**  
Thurs, Dec 7, 4-8pm  
Free sleigh rides, carolers, shopping galore, Santa at Hank's, treats, drawings, Gear Up at TwispWorks and more! See article. twispinfo.com

**Valley Goods Gift Emporium**  
Thurs, Dec 7-Christmas Eve  
Featuring locally-crafted gifts, Blue Star Coffee and events. See article. At the Valley Goods Gift Shop, Door No. 3, TwispWorks Campus, info@doorno3.com or 509-449-1081

**Confluence Gallery Annual Sip and Shop**  
Thurs, Dec 7, 4-8pm  
An evening of live music with sips and snacks while you shop at Confluence Gallery. Confluence Gallery and Art Center. 509-997-ARTS www.confluencegallery.com

## EVENTS/CLASSES/EXHIBITS

**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**  
Fri, Dec 8-Sun, Dec 17  
by Barbara Robinson. See article for times and details.  
Tickets \$5-\$7/youth under 18; \$16-\$18/adults.  
Merc Playhouse, Twisp, WA. 509.997.7529, info@mercplayhouse.org

**Elephant Gun Riot**  
Sat, Dec 9, Doors open, 7pm, Music, 8pm  
Modern rock music from Spokane. At Barnyard Cinema, Winthrop, WA. www.thebarnyardcinema.com

**Prohibition Party**  
Sun, Dec 10, 8pm  
Freestone Inn & Cabins. Prohibition ended in 1933. Celebrate in Mazama. \$49. Adults only. Reservations(required): 509-996-3906.

**Poetry Out Loud**  
Mon, Dec 11, 6pm  
Annual poetry recitation competition of LBHS students. Winner goes on to further competition. Free.  
At the Merc Playhouse.

**Cascadia's Annual Holiday Concert**  
Dec 12 and 13, 7pm  
The Cascadia Chorale and Pipestone Orchestra. See article. Methow Valley Community Center.  
www.cascadiamusic.org, 509-997-0222. Tickets: brownpapertickets.com

**Meet the Maker: Gabby Beaudin of Molly's Soap**  
Wed, Dec 13, 1-4pm  
Meet the new face behind local soap brand Molly's Soap and learn a little about what it takes to make such scented delights. At the Valley Goods Gift Shop, Door No. 3, TwispWorks Campus, info@doorno3.com or 509-449-1081

**Hands-on Kids crafts with Laura Gunnip**  
Thurs, Dec 14, 3:30 - 5:30pm, kids of all ages welcome, by donation. At the Valley Goods Gift Shop, Door No. 3, TwispWorks Campus, info@doorno3.com or 509-449-1081

**Meet the Maker: Sara Ashford of Culler Studio**  
Wed, Dec 20, 1-6pm  
Talk to Sara about her work with natural dyes and shop a wide selection of hand-dyed scarves and other beautiful wearable art. See article. At the Valley Goods Gift Shop, Door No. 3, TwispWorks Campus, info@doorno3.com, 509-449-1081



(Featured artist Danbert Nobacon, ART magazine cover, 2013.)

**Hands on kids crafts with Laura Gunnip**  
Thursday, Dec 21, 3:30-5:30 pm, kids of all ages welcome, by donation. See article. Door No. 3, info@doorno3.com

**Cascadia presents Holiday Music at Sun Mountain Lodge**  
Dec 23-30  
At Sun Mountain Lodge. cascadiamusic.org, 509-997-0222

**Michael Brady Piano Concert**  
Sat, Dec 30, 1:30pm  
A benefit for Room One. See article.  
At the Merc Playhouse in Twisp. \$25 donation.  
509-996-5002, mbrady@methownet.com

## JANUARY

**Opening Reception for 3 Exhibits at Confluence**  
Jan 18, 4-8pm; Exhibit runs through Feb 24  
Join Confluence for a Reception for: 1.The Beholden Eye: Concepts of Beauty; 2. Deadly Beauty - Salyna Gracie and; 3. Robin Nelson Wicks: Artist in Residence. See articles. Confluence Gallery and Art Center. 509-997-ARTS www.confluencegallery.com

**Liberty Bell High School and The Merc Playhouse Present: ROCK N' ROLL**  
Jan 25-28, Thur-Sat 7pm, Sun 2pm  
An electrifying collision of the romantic and the revolutionary. See article. Merc Playhouse, downtown Twisp, WA. 509.997.7529, info@mercplayhouse.org

**Nancy Zahn and Laura Love with the Family Dog**  
Jan 27, 7pm  
Methow Valley Community Center. See article.  
www.cascadiamusic.org, 509-997-0222. Tickets: brownpapertickets.com

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Please mail your check to: METHOW ARTS, PO BOX 723, TWISP, WA 98856

## FEBRUARY



**Sweetheart Valentines**  
Sat, Feb 10, Noon-2pm  
This Valentine's Day spread the love by printing your own valentine cards! Get a feel for the basics of letterpress design using Door No. 3 Print Studio's vintage wood type and proofing press. \$30. See article. Door No. 3, info@doorno3.com

**SUPAMAN with Acosia Red Elk**  
Sat, Feb 10, 7pm  
Native American Hip-Hop Artist, Dancer, MTV Award-Winning Performer. Standing room only. See article page 20. \$20/adults advance purchase, \$25/door, \$10/students, limited reserved balcony seating -contact for details. See article page 20. Methowarts.org. Tickets: brownpapertickets.com, Riverside Printing (Winthrop), Methow Arts (Twisp.) info@methowartsalliance.org, 509-997-4004

**Methow Valley Chamber Music Festival: Valentine Concert**  
Sat, Feb 17, at 7pm  
Piano trio offers a Valentine of virtuoso performances. At the Merc Playhouse in Twisp, WA. \$30 and up. www.methowmusicfestival.org

**The Beholden Eye: Concepts of Beauty**  
Through Feb 24  
Artists of all mediums were invited to engage in the conversation. What is Beautiful? Confluence Gallery and Art Center. See article. 509-997-ARTS www.confluencegallery.com

**Deadly Beauty-Salyna Gracie**  
Through Feb 24  
An exploration of the artist's fascination with the power of plants and their capacity to harm or heal. Confluence Gallery and Art Center. See article. 509-997-ARTS www.confluence-gallery.com

**Artist in Residence Exhibit-Robin Nelson Wicks**  
Through Feb 24  
Confluence Gallery and Art Center. 509-997-ARTS www.confluencegallery.com



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## VISION EN ROUGE

Confluence Gallery's Annual Holiday exhibit "Vision En Rouge" is a multi-media extravaganza featuring works in the powerful, alluring, and vibrantly alive color RED. Upcycled: New Works by Dan Brown

Okanogan artist Dan Brown presents a solo exhibit in the Community Gallery. "Upcycled: New Works by Dan Brown" features works using sports equipment recycled into whimsical and functional art and furniture.

DATES: Through Jan 6. LOCATION: Confluence Gallery and Art Center, 104 Glover St, Twisp, WA. CONTACT: Salyna Gracie, 509-997-ARTS, [www.confluencegallery.com](http://www.confluencegallery.com)

(Painting by Brian Sholdt.)



## WINTHROP GALLERY: HOLIDAY GIFT SHOW

For the best in regional giftware, be sure to visit the Winthrop Gallery's annual Holiday Gift Show. Each year the gallery invites artists and crafters from throughout the region to bring their finest giftwares to this show. This year's selection of gifts includes jewelry, handmade handbags, glassware, knitted hats and scarves, and more.

DATES: Nov 15-Jan 3. LOCATION/HOURS: The Winthrop Gallery is located at 237 Riverside in downtown Winthrop. Fall Gallery hours: 10am to 5pm, Thursday through Monday. INFO: 509-996-3925, [www.winthropgallery.com](http://www.winthropgallery.com).

(Ceramic Cup by Tamera Abate; Silver Bracelet by Linda Wick; Handbags by Janet Tamar Behl.)



## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE EXHIBIT: ROBIN NELSON WICKS

January 18 – February 24, 2018; Opening reception Jan. 18, 4-8pm

In the community gallery at Confluence Gallery and Art Center. 509-997-ARTS [confluencegallery.com](http://confluencegallery.com)



[METHOW ARTS ALLIANCE]

## METHOW VALLEY STUDENT ARTWORK TO BE DISPLAYED AT THE 2017 NATIONAL CHRISTMAS TREE EXPERIENCE

For some Methow Valley students thoughts of Christmas came even earlier than usual this year, as they carved blocks and made prints to be displayed on an evergreen tree on the Ellipse in President's Park (the grounds surrounding the White House) in Washington, D.C.

Each year, the National Christmas Tree Experience features one national Christmas tree and 56 smaller trees, each representing a US state or territory. The trees are decorated with ornaments designed and created by an artist or group from that state or territory. This year, Methow Arts was selected by ArtsWA (the Washington State Arts Commission) to facilitate the creation of ornaments to represent Washington State.

Although Methow Arts works closely with professional artists to promote and support their work, the cornerstone of our mission is our arts education program in schools, so when the invitation to create ornaments came, we knew we wanted to involve students in the project.

Working through Methow Valley Elementary School's afterschool Art Club was an appealing option for a variety of reasons and the decision proved to be a good one, as the ten girls participating in Art Club in October (Lucy Collier, Ruby Culpsmith, Keira Dainwood, Hollis Johnson, Mia Libby, Teague Monahan, Layla Mortland, Audrey Roman, Camille Roman, and Gretta Schumacher) fully immersed themselves in the project, lending all the creativity and dexterity they had to bear toward their artwork.

Working under the guidance of Methow Arts teaching artist Bruce Morrison, the 3rd-5th grade artists examined real plants and sketched images of leaves, grasses, and flowers native to the Methow Valley watershed. They then learned how to carve linoleum blocks and make prints. Says Morrison about the student artists, "Going into this project, I didn't anticipate how much skill the students had. Their ability to draw and carve was quite surprising." He adds, "Some of them even had previous block printing experience, which we were able to build on."

The finished prints were encased in plastic globes (as are all the ornaments for the National Christmas Tree Experience) and shipped off to the National Park Service, which coordinates the installation. Due to the size of the globes, the project imposed fairly rigid constraints on the art. Each print needed to be 3.5" tall and 6" wide, and two successful prints needed to be made on the same piece of paper for each globe. That's a tough order in block printing, where the quality of each print is variable with the amount of ink and pressure applied. "There were intense constraints on dimensions and execution," says Morrison. "It required everyone to step up their game. And they did. I think everyone was happy with the end result."

The trees are viewed by more than 250,000 visitors each year. This year, those visitors will get a little glimpse into the natural world of the Methow Valley through the block prints of the plants that surround us and the eyes of the young artists in our midst.

Presented by the National Park Service and National Park Foundation, the National Christmas Tree Lighting is one of America's oldest holiday traditions. The first lighting took place 95 years ago on Christmas Eve in 1923, when President Calvin Coolidge lit a Christmas tree in front of 3,000 spectators. Visit [www.thenationaltree.org](http://www.thenationaltree.org) to learn more. Learn more:

INFO: To view the ceremony tune in to the Hallmark Channel which will exclusively broadcast the National Christmas Tree Lighting on December 4th. CONTACT US: Learn more about ways to sponsor our programs and make a difference in students' lives through the Arts. [methowarts.org](http://methowarts.org), [info@methowartsalliance.org](mailto:info@methowartsalliance.org), 509-997-4004.



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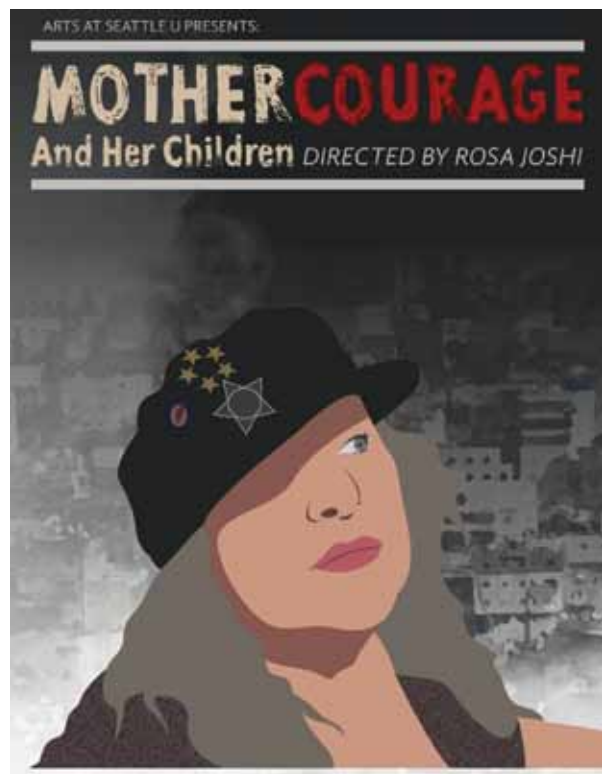
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ARTS AT SEATTLE U & THE MERC PLAYHOUSE PRESENT

### MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN

The Merc Playhouse is pleased to present Seattle University's touring production of *Mother Courage and Her Children*, by Bertold Brecht. Considered one of the greatest anti-war plays ever written and directed by Rosa Joshi, the play is set in wartime while a fierce, indomitable woman fights to make a living and keep her family alive. Ki Gottberg, The Merc's outgoing Artistic Director, long-time Seattle actor, and Chair of Performing Arts & Arts Leadership at Seattle U, is featured in the titular role of this 20th Century classic. *Mother Courage* asks the question "if you profit from what is bad for humanity, can you escape from what is bad?" Humorous, harrowing, full of song and indelibly etched characters, the story unfolds to the drums of constant war. Staged in a hyper-intimate manner, this show promises to be unlike any you have ever experienced.

Bertold Brecht, German author of such works as *Three Penny Opera* and *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, saw Theatre as a means to get at our deepest ideas of morality in a manner that has galvanized audiences since his first play *Baal*, performed in 1918. Brecht's masterpiece is funny, sad, and unrelenting as it scrutinizes the impact of war on ordinary people.

For the fifth year in a row, The Merc brings a talented cast of Theatre students from Seattle U, which also features Andrew Litsky, Artistic Director of Theatre Simple, in the part of The Cook. This evening is sure to sell out, as did last year's tour of *The Tempest*, so get your tickets early!

DATE: Sat, Dec 2, 7pm. TICKETS: Adults \$16 - \$18, FREE general admission for all students 18 and under. Tickets available online. Limited reserve seating with online purchase only. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time. CONTACT/INFO: [www.mercplayhouse.org](http://www.mercplayhouse.org), 509-997-7529.

[WINTHROP GALLERY]

### THE WINTHROP GALLERY WELCOMES SUSAN DONAHUE

Meet the Winthrop Gallery's newest co-op member, oil painter Susan Donahue.

Susan paints landscapes of the Methow Valley and other places that she visits. She also paints still lifes. "In my landscape paintings, I present a specific time and place so that the viewer can have an emotional response to the scene similar to what I experienced," says Susan. "In my still lifes, I aim to elevate objects by placing them in a formal context so the viewer can respond emotionally to the beauty of simple things that they see all the time."

Susan says her creative process involves selecting a landscape or a still life motif that moves her. "Once I've selected my subject, I think about how to arrange it—how to compose the landscape, what the dimensions of the paintings should be, or how to arrange the simple objects of a still life and how to light it for the best effect," explains Susan. "I want to recreate for the viewer the attachment and feelings I have for my subject matter. Key elements in creating a good oil painting are to paint what you love and to think about what you are doing, to observe carefully and then to let the creative process take over while you apply the paint to the canvas so that you are in that creative zone where surprising things happen. A good oil painting conveys the artist's response to the viewer and prompts a strong, emotional response in the viewer. So, ultimately the viewer is the key element of a good oil painting. I paint for the viewer's response."

LOCATION/HOURS: The Winthrop Gallery is located at 237 Riverside in downtown Winthrop. Fall Gallery hours: 10am to 5pm, Thursday through Monday. INFO: 509-996-3925, [winthropgallery.com](http://winthropgallery.com).



(Garden Shed With Icicles by Susan Donahue.)

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[CASCADIA MUSIC]

### CASCADIA MUSIC SEASON CONTINUES

After three exciting, unique and exceptional concerts to start the season, Cascadia continues bringing quality music to the Methow Valley with the ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT.

The Cascadia Chorale under the direction of Dana Stromberger and the Pipestone Orchestra conducted by Matt Armbrust join forces to celebrate the season through music. Selections from Handel's *Messiah* will be featured alongside modern swing and jazz, and old familiar carols. The concerts are December 12 and 13 at the Methow Valley Community Center beginning at 7pm. Admission is by donation. Please join us for a joyous evening of community spirit.

NANCY ZAHN AND LAURA LOVE are back by popular demand January 27, 2018 at the Methow Valley Community Center. Their performance at the Merc last year was a treat to remember as the two extraordinary vocalists connected on a level that is rare to see. They will be joined by the band Family Dog in a rousing evening of music to get your circulation flowing. Band members include Todd Eberline-drums, Phil Woras -bass, Terry Hunt -guitar, Wayne Mendro-sax, flute and clarinet, Bob Hougham-trumpet and Tom McNair-trombone. Come and dance away those winter blues listening to the sounds of jazz, soul, motown, funk and even some rock 'n roll.

AWARD WINNING PIANIST STEPHEN BEUS returns to the Merc Playhouse March 10, 2018, performing a solo concert. After his remarkable performance in November with the Kairos ensemble the audience was astonished at his technical and musical virtuosity. In the space of four months, American pianist Stephen Beus won first prize in the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, first place in the Vendome Prize International Competition (Lisbon) and was awarded the Max I. Allen Fellowship of the American Pianists Association (Indianapolis). As a result of winning the Juilliard School Concerto Competition Mr. Beus made his Carnegie Hall debut with the Juilliard Orchestra and James DePreist, playing Prokofiev's Concerto No. 3. He has also performed as guest soloist with the Gulbenkian Symphony (Lisbon), Oxford Philomusica, the Tivoli Symphony (Copenhagen), the Tbilisi National Opera Orchestra, the Northwest Sinfonietta (Seattle), the Royal Philharmonic of Morocco (Casablanca), the Vaasa Symphony Orchestra (Finland). He teaches at BYU and is a Steinway Artist. Cascadia is very pleased to bring Mr. Beus to the Methow Valley for this special performance!

[cascadiamusic.org](http://cascadiamusic.org) or call 509-997-0222. Tickets for all of our concerts are available at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).

### GATHER AT TWISPPWORKS

Not only is TwispWorks a great place to explore and shop for unique local art and goods, it's also a great place to hold your next gathering! Whether you are looking for the perfect spot for your next workshop, board meeting or office holiday party TwispWorks offers an assortment of event spaces.

From birthday parties to art classes to community meetings the Education Station is a great place for your next gathering. The Education Station comfortably seats 40 and has easy access to a kitchen, front and back decks and projector and screen.

The Gateway Conference Room is ideal for your next committee or board meeting. The room easily seats 12-16 around a large board table and a projector and screen are available for use.

Sure it's chilly right now but spring is just around the corner and TwispWorks offers a number of outdoor spaces and amenities for next year's picnic, performance or wedding rehearsal including the 14,000 square foot Plaza@TwispWorks.

INFORMATION/RESERVATIONS: Reservations and details are available on the TwispWorks website or by calling their office: 509-997-3300 extension 1.



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# TANIA GONZALEZ ORTEGA: Layers of Creativity

BY MARCY STAMPER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TOM FORKER

Tania Gonzalez Ortega is happiest when she's painting, putting down layers of vivid colors, billowing gestures, and meticulously rendered birds and flowers.

"It's a funny relationship with art," she said. "It's a blessing and a curse. If I'm not creative and expressing myself, I get into a funk. It would be a lot easier if I didn't have that need."



In contrast to the cliché of the tortured artist, Gonzalez Ortega finds endless satisfaction in art-making. In fact, she was so turned off by the pressure to make provocative, in-your-face art that she abandoned her artwork for a while.

Gonzalez Ortega studied art at UCLA in the 1990s, when Los Angeles was on the cutting edge of the contemporary art scene. She arrived at college with a portfolio of traditional still-lives and thought pretty pictures and skillful execution were what mattered.

Overall, Gonzalez Ortega loved studying art at college and savored the exposure to different disciplines. She tried photography, ceramics, and sculpture before concentrating on painting.

Looking back, she's amused by the required class in "new-genre" art, which she admits she didn't love. Gonzalez Ortega recalls her final project for the class, in which she and her boyfriend engaged in a frozen kiss for an hour on a busy corner in downtown Los Angeles while a classmate videotaped them. The pedestrians didn't seem to notice, she said.

"By the end of my senior year, I was so disenchanted by the art world as it was presented to me in Los Angeles," she said. "It was like Hollywood, where the more shocking it was, the more favor it got. There was a lot of negativity and in-your-face work."

her college professors were world-famous and extremely talented, but Gonzalez Ortega found their work dark and edgy. If that's what it took to make your way in the art world, she wasn't sure she wanted to be part of it.

"I don't want to live there. I don't want to be constantly dancing with my demons," she said.

After she graduated, although she exhibited at a few galleries, Gonzalez Ortega took refuge in environmental activism and in education, ultimately teaching at a

Waldorf school. Waldorf, where art is embedded in everything you do, suited her. Kids make their own books and everything you put on the board had to be beautiful, she said.

Between teaching and raising a son on her own, she had little time to make art. But after Gonzalez Ortega got married and moved to the Methow Valley in 2007, her husband was supportive of her setting aside time each week for her art. She started to exhibit in local galleries and to sell some of her paintings.

Even more important, though, was letting go of the notion that she had to please the critics or the art world. "Allowing myself what I wanted to paint, regardless of what others wanted – that really freed me," she said.

"I'm definitely drawn to things that are beautiful in art, that are inspiring or that uplift the viewer," she said.

Over the past decade, Gonzalez Ortega has gradually developed an approach to her art that satisfies her, both in the act of creation and in what it's done for her paintings. Some artists explore a singular style or theme, but Gonzalez Ortega relies on a process that lets her regularly try new things. "I never know what I'm going to do on a canvas," she said. "Sometimes it works, and sometimes not."

## WORKING IN LAYERS

When Gonzalez Ortega starts a new painting, she rarely has a particular image in mind. But she has her process of building up multiple layers of bright colors. "Because I know how I want it to feel when I'm done, I can get ahead of myself," she said. "It's a delicate balance, letting the painting inform you what the next step is – it's like a dialogue."

Gonzalez Ortega starts with a raw, untreated canvas and often wets it so that the paint soaks in and creates interesting patterns as it drips. She follows that base layer with loose, free-form strokes – loops and whorls in chalk or spray paint. She loves the unrestrained freedom of expressionist painting, where she can let her emotions take over.

"I may scribble with chalk and then add a wash of color," she said. In the finished piece, some of those swirls show through, adding texture and complexity to the layers.



The process of putting down layers gives her a sense for what comes next. "You get to escape from the mundane world and enter a place of endless possibility," she said.

Most of Gonzalez Ortega's paintings include detailed line drawings on the surface, which highlight an image from beneath or superimpose a new idea. The drawings are usually from nature – outlines of the petals of a tropical flower, translucent birds, or fish reminiscent of Japanese prints.

Loops and coils, kind or like exuberant graffiti, punctuate Gonzalez Ortega's canvases, an usually end up partially covered with drawings of exotic blooms. One painting features scrupulously rendered scientific illustrations of flowers, colored with red and blue washes from the layers below. In another painting, a songbird outlined in black is superimposed on a tangle of crimson and gold flowers.

Some of Gonzalez Ortega's paintings contain such elaborate layering that they almost become abstract patterns. Others feature geometric shapes, stars and teardrops.

Although Gonzalez Ortega is an extremely skilled draftsman – people often ask if she uses stencils – it's all freehand, with the detail added in colored pencil or paint. "I'm not interested in perfection – I want to show the artist's hand," she said.

Gonzalez Ortega likens the art-making process to her practice of meditation. In meditation,

her mind may be super-busy or calm and focused, and paintings can be the same way.

Some paintings are relaxed and confident, coming together smoothly. "I'll put something down and it's just right," she said.

But at other times, Gonzalez Ortega may be wrestling with herself, and every stroke

on the canvas feels wrong. Still, she often paints over an old painting that didn't work, preserving glimpses of sections she likes. "Sometimes parts of a painting are interesting," she said. "The layers, colors, and texture. It's really satisfying to salvage something."

Gonzalez Ortega does know when a painting is done. "If it makes me feel like I can take a complete breath, that gives it a sense of completion," she said.

Gonzalez Ortega enjoys doing portraits. She points to a series currently on view at the Cinnamon Twisp Bakery. One shows a child, with wilted flowers and bunny ears, while another is a Greek statue adorned with a rainbow-colored beard. "There's some edge to it, but it's not a dark edge," she said. "It's more of an aesthetic edge."

Her paintings often have a sense of whimsy. For example, she drew the Greek statues in vivid reds and greens. "They had a superhero-ish energy. But at the same time, I don't take it too seriously," she said.

In fact, many people may know Gonzalez Ortega as the creator of a weekly editorial cartoon for the Methow Valley News. She also did editorial cartoons for the school newspaper at UCLA, but today, the culture is so polarized that it feels different, she said. As a result, she looks for a perspective that will give people a way to laugh about an issue. "It keeps me mentally agile," she said.

Gonzalez Ortega has to balance her art-making with a busy life as a farmer and the mother of two boys, ages 6 and 14. She and her husband, Carl Rapp, co-own Sunny Pine Farm on the Twisp River, where they raise 150 goats for cheese.

The goats have cropped up in her art, in a series of small, boldly colored studies. She tried to paint them in realistic browns and taupes, but chafed at the restrictions of mixing the right color. So the goats are a brilliant purple, orange and green, a kind of celebration of their personalities.

And although she's currently taking a break from the day care she operated for several years, Gonzalez Ortega is teaching art to high school students at a private school in Twisp.

With these other responsibilities, Gonzalez Ortega tries to set aside a day or two each week for her art. But even when she's not in her studio, she's always incubating ideas, which usually allows her to pick up where she left off.

With more time to devote to her art and the inspiration she derives from her layering process, Gonzalez Ortega is increasingly coming into her own. She's sold paintings at local exhibits and online. Next year she'll have a solo exhibit at a gallery in Seattle. "It's exciting. Twisp has been good to me, but I want to expand," she said.

In contrast to the exhilaration of painting, daily life can seem routine and mundane. "When you're painting, there's always something you get to play with – something new, whether it's an object or color."

"My dream would be to be in the studio all day, every day. I would love to do that," she said. "Creating it is definitely a journey – I don't know where it will go or end up."

Gonzalez-Ortega will be featured in a solo exhibit at the MAX Gallery in Seattle next year. Dates are not set yet.

Her art can be seen in an exhibit at Cinnamon Twisp Bakery through the end of December 2017. It is also online at [artbytego.blogspot.com](http://artbytego.blogspot.com) and [www.facebook.com/tegopaintings](http://www.facebook.com/tegopaintings).

READ FULL ARTICLE AND SEE MORE PHOTOS ONLINE: [www.methowarts.org/featuredartist](http://www.methowarts.org/featuredartist)

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[CONFLUENCE GALLERY]

**JANUARY EXHIBITS AND ART OPENINGS**

**THE BEHOLDEN EYE: CONCEPTS OF BEAUTY**

Confluence Gallery presents The Beholden Eye: Concepts of Beauty in the main gallery. Is there a universal concept of beauty or is it truly and only in the eye of the beholder? Artists of all mediums were invited to engage in the conversation. What is Beautiful?

(Left, Remember Only The Love, Teresa Magel.)



(Peacock Flower, Salyna Gracie.)

**DEADLY BEAUTY - SALYNA GRACIE**

Salyna Gracie presents Deadly Beauty in the Community Gallery.

Deadly Beauty is an exploration of the artist's fascination with the power of plants and their capacity to harm or heal. Each leaf, petal, root and seed of these botanical studies holds a deadly secret.

DATES: Jan 18-Feb 24; Opening reception, Jan 18, 4-8pm. LOCATION: Confluence Gallery and Art Center, 104 Glover St, Twisp, WA. CONTACT: Salyna Gracie, 509-997-ARTS, www.confluencegallery.com

**SUNDAY MORNING**

BY SAM OWEN

The mule deer  
 pauses by my front door,  
 her rump frost-sparkled,  
 hoof raised in partial trust,  
 both of us just waking up  
 to the first bite and crackle  
 of late fall. I want her  
 to step closer, curious about  
 what I am, what gifts  
 I might have – alfalfa bunch,  
 orange sections. I want  
 to stroke her oversized ears,  
 yet still leave her wild,  
 want frost on my back  
 and eyelashes,  
 want to be all right  
 with just this.

[TWISPPWORKS]

**GEAR UP FOR THE HOLIDAYS AT TWISPPWORKS**

Visit the working studios of TwispWorks partners and shop for local, unique holiday gifts and Methow Made products. Get your first peek into Valley Goods - the magical holiday gift emporium brought to you by the ladies of Door No. 3. Plus, live musical performances throughout the campus, tasty treats and libations! The kiddos, and those young at heart, will want to visit Santa's workshop where they can decorate cookies, create fun crafts and make sure Santa has an updated wish list!

Gear Up is a part of Mistletoe Madness, a Twisp Chamber of Commerce Event. A free horse-drawn carriage will run from Glover Street to the TwispWorks campus and beyond so you can enjoy all the fun of Mistletoe Madness in Twisp and support your local artists, shops and businesses this holiday season. FREE!

DATE: Thurs, Dec 7, 4-7pm. LOCATION: TwispWorks, Twisp, WA. CONTACT: 509-997-3300, twispworks.org



THE LIBERTY BELL DRAMA COMPANY & THE MERC PLAYHOUSE ARE PROUD TO TEAM UP!

**ROCK N' ROLL**

The Liberty Bell Drama Company and The Merc Playhouse are proud to announce a new partnership for the Drama Company's 2018 production of Rock n' Roll. Opening The Merc's 2018 Season in January, the show is an electrifying collision of the romantic and the revolutionary. Rock n' Roll is accompanied by a sound track of the Rolling Stones and Bob Dylan and set in 1968 when the world is ablaze with rebellion. Kelly Grayum and Danbert Nobacon direct an electric cast of Liberty Bell High School thespians in this play which The Wall Street Journal calls "an intellectually challenging, intensely theatrical piece of work that is destined to be talked about wherever playgoers gather."

For the first time, The Merc and the LBHS Drama Company will team up to produce the high school production as part of The Merc's regular theater season, meaning while Grayum and Nobacon focus on directing the production, The Merc will provide support staff, facilities, and resources for them to rehearse and bring the production alive onstage. The partnership is a natural fit for both the Drama Company who will benefit from the added support, and The Merc who seeks ways to strengthen their connections to local schools and other organizations. "We are very excited to be working with the high school students. When they take over our theater to create everything from the set, to costumes, to the action onstage, the students learn more about the production process in an authentic, high-quality theater atmosphere, and their creative energy will greatly enhance our season," said Missi Smith, Executive Director at The Merc.

DATES: January 25-28, Thur - Sat 7pm, Sun 2pm. TICKETS: \$5/students; \$10/adults. Available at the mercplayhouse.org up to 75 minutes before show time or at the door 30 minutes before show time. LOCATION/CONTACT: Merc Playhouse, downtown Twisp, WA. 509.997.7529, info@mercplayhouse.org



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[THE MERC PLAYHOUSE]

## THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

BY BARBARA ROBINSON

The Merc Playhouse is pleased to present a special holiday production of The Best Christmas Pageant Ever to windup the 2017 season of live theater. Directed by Jane Orme, the show opens on Friday, December 8th and runs through Sunday, December 17th. This hilarious and heart-warming Christmas classic features a cast of local actors of all ages and we dare audiences to try NOT to sing along with the choir of adorable angels who will be belting out your favorite Christmas carols.

Meet the Herdmans: the worst kids in the history of the world who come from the wrong side of the tracks. When they attend church one Sunday for the free dessert, they decide they want to be in annual Christmas Pageant but they don't even know the story of Christmas! From there, it all goes downhill for Mrs. Bradley, who bravely attempts to direct the lying, cheating, hitting family of miscreants. After a series of insane debacles, including a church fire, Mrs. Bradley and her community watch in surprise as the same old Christmas story is rejuvenated by the creativity, energy, and unexpected sincerity of a misunderstood young family.

DATES: Fri, Dec 8- Sun, Dec 17, Thurs, Dec 14, Pay What You Can Night, 7:30pm for this night only. All other evening performances begin at 7pm, Sunday matinees begin at 2pm. CONTACT/TICKETS: Online. \$5-\$7/youth under 18; \$16-\$18/adults. www.mercplayhouse.org. Limited advance reserved seating available until 75 minutes before show time. 509.997.7529, info@mercplayhouse.org



[METHOW VALLEY CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL]

## PIANO TRIO OFFERS A VALENTINE OF VIRTUOSO PERFORMANCES

"What's exciting about piano trios is you really have three soloists," said Kevin Krentz, artistic director of the Methow Valley Chamber Music Festival.

Audiences will hear that artistry in virtuosic performances and impeccable collaboration between violin, cello, and piano in the music festival's annual Valentine concert.

Krentz is planning a diverse and compelling program. The concert features the Piano Trio No. 2 by Camille Saint-Saëns. "Saint-Saëns was an amazing organist, a prodigy who excelled in creating mind-blowing music off the cuff," said Krentz. Because Saint-Saëns was considered conservative for the late 19th century, full appreciation for his talents didn't grow until after his death.



But Krentz said, "Saint-Saëns' music is incredibly masterfully done, with super-sophisticated harmonies."

The ensemble will also play two movements – Winter and Spring – from Astor Piazzolla's "Four Seasons of Buenos Aires."

Piazzolla brought the seriousness of classical music to the tango of his native Argentina, expanding the form in exciting new directions, said Krentz. The two Piazzolla movements will let the musicians shine "in a series of wonderful, extended cadenzas with gorgeous solos for each instrument," said Krentz.

Krentz also plans a masterwork of the repertoire for piano trio by a composer such as Beethoven, Mendelssohn or Mozart, who all composed for that instrumentation.

The concert features Alexei Eremine on piano, who plays with the Moscow Piano Quartet and teaches at Lisbon's premier academy of music.

Mikhail Shmidt, who has been featured in the chamber music festival's summer series, is on violin. He also plays with the Seattle Symphony and the Seattle Chamber Players.

Eremine and Shmidt were classmates at the Moscow Conservatory decades ago and still perform often together.

Krentz fills out the trio on cello. In his 11th year as artistic director of the music festival, Krentz performs widely in genres from classical to jazz to electric cello and rock.

The Valentine concert is part of the festival's commitment to a year-round presence in the valley. Krentz promises a fun evening with components of spoken word and even door prizes.

DATE: Sat, Feb 17, at 7pm. LOCATION: The Merc Playhouse in Twisp, WA. TICKETS: Tickets start at \$30. Visit www.methowmusicfestival.org for information and to purchase tickets.



[CONFLUENCE GALLERY]

## MAKE ART WORK - SAVE THE DATE

April 7, 10-6pm

Save the date for a day-long artist professional development conference featuring workshops, panels and presentations to teach skills useful to artists practicing in all disciplines. This event will bring instructors from across the region to teach topics within their expertise to artists in Okanogan County.

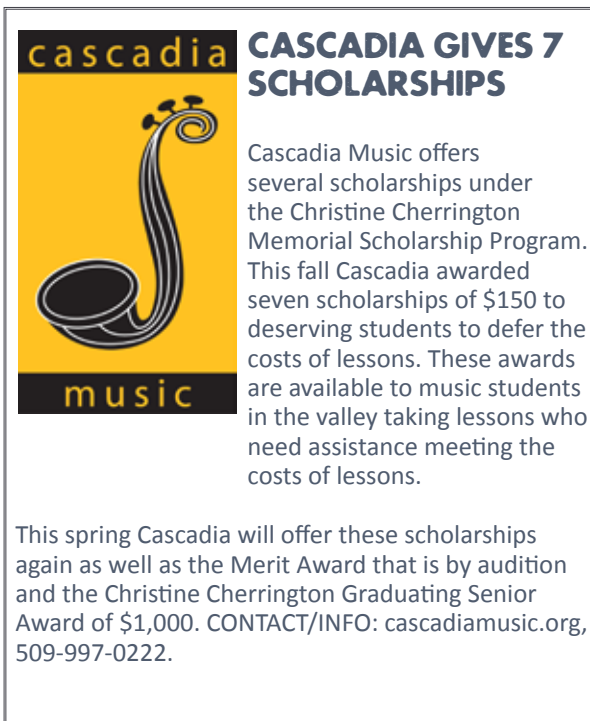
CONTACT/REGISTRATION/INFO: Sliding scale fee \$0-45; Registration at Confluence Gallery 509-997-ARTS www.confluencegallery.com



## CASCADIA GIVES 7 SCHOLARSHIPS

Cascadia Music offers several scholarships under the Christine Cherrington Memorial Scholarship Program. This fall Cascadia awarded seven scholarships of \$150 to deserving students to defer the costs of lessons. These awards are available to music students in the valley taking lessons who need assistance meeting the costs of lessons.

This spring Cascadia will offer these scholarships again as well as the Merit Award that is by audition and the Christine Cherrington Graduating Senior Award of \$1,000. CONTACT/INFO: cascadiamusic.org, 509-997-0222.



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**DOOR NO. 3 PRINT STUDIO PRESENTS:  
CALENDAR 2018**

Door No. 3 Print Studio's latest calendar bursts off the page in every color of the rainbow. Each month features a primary or complimentary color as depicted in the traditional color wheel—ranging from cool to warm as the year progresses. With more than 12 colors printed individually, this year's edition consists of nearly 4,000 impressions printed on the studio's antique letterpress, an impressive feat considering each print was powered by foot treadle.

Robin Doggett and Laura Gunnip focused on collaboration by creating a variety of hand drawn images telling the story of this place at this time. These items are akin to precious talismans for all kinds of people presented in a kaleidoscope of full color. "Colors are always seen in relationship to each other, never in isolation," asserts Laura Gunnip, "precisely why we promote the necessity to rely on each other and work together."

Hand letterpress printed in a limited edition of 150 on Strathmore impress paper with lush hand-mixed inks. Look for Door No. 3 at the Twisp and Winthrop bazaars or visit them at the Valley Goods gift shop on the TwispWorks campus, open everyday December 7-24.

CONTACT/LOCATION/HOURS: Learn more about Door No. 3 Print Studio. Visit them on the TwispWorks campus or @ www.doorno3.com. Open every day from Dec 7-24 for their Valley Goods Gift Shop at Door No. 3 Print Studios on the Twispworks campus.

[TWISPPWORKS]

**LUCID GLASSWORKS**

Samantha Carlin's passion for glass started in the early 90s with an introductory stained-glass class. She continued creating stained glass pieces and in 2003 she was introduced to blown glass. Sam then trained in a production studio practicing the "offhand" style of glassblowing as a solo blower, a style that carries over into her work today. Following her passion halfway across the country, she was finally able to build her own studio in 2011.

In the spring of 2015, Sam moved Lucid Glassworks onto the TwispWorks campus where she produces her varied line of functional and colorful glassware including her signature "dot" tumblers. Sam also offers glassblowing demonstrations in her studio (see her website for demonstration hours).

Sam welcomes you to stop by the studio, say hello and see what she is working on today. To view more of her glass art and purchase online, visit the Lucid Glassworks website - lucidglassworks.com.

LOCATION: Building 4 - The Lincoln Street Residence, Garage, TwispWorks campus. Hours of operation available at lucidglassworks.com. CONTACT: 509-341-9102



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**TWISP MISTLETOE MADNESS**

BRINGS A FUN HOLIDAY SHOPPING NIGHT TO TWISP, WA

Leave it to the artist and business community in Twisp, WA to come up with an action-packed evening focused around the celebration of our community. The event emphasizes the value of shopping locally and supporting the innovative makers of our valley. Included thus far are free sleigh rides around downtown Twisp, carolers, warming fires, Santa at Hank's Harvest Foods, "Gear Up" at TwispWorks, Valley Goods Gift Emporium at Door No. 3, Sip and Shop at Confluence Gallery, wine tasting at Glover Street Market, Delicious offerings and drawing at Cinnamon Twisp, hot cider, treats & firepit at Twisp River Suites, incredible discounts and drawings at PIC, Poppie Jo's Galleria, D\*Signs, Weagant Studio, Culler Studio, Twisp Daily Business, eqpd and The Floyd Company. More businesses are joining daily.

DATE: Thurs, Dec 7, 4-7pm. In the heart of Twisp, WA. twispinfo.com

**BENEFIT PIANO RECITAL FOR ROOM ONE WITH MICHAEL BRADY**

"THE FIFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS"

Local pianist Michael Brady presents a matinee piano recital as a benefit for local social-services organization Room One on Saturday afternoon, December 30, 2017, at 1:30pm at the Merc Playhouse in Twisp. Between running commentaries that are as entertaining as enlightening, Mr. Brady will perform Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, Debussy's Images, Book II, and Beethoven's last piano sonata, number 32 in C Minor, opus 111.

"On the fifth day of Christmas this year—Saturday, December 30—instead of five golden rings," Mr. Brady suggests, "give your true love five promenades plus the Great Gate of Kiev, an Old Castle, the Ballet of Chickens in Their Eggs, an Oxcart, a Dwarf, the witch Baba Yaga and her Hut on Hens' Legs, Catacombs, Samuel and "Schmuy!" Goldenberg, the Market at Limoges, a Tot's Tiff in the Tuilleries, as well as Bells Through Leaves, The Moon Setting over the Temple That Was, Poisson d'Or, and a Beethoven piano sonata."

The recital opens with Pictures at an Exhibition, the most famous set of musical pictures. Mussorgsky wrote these musical portraits of actual paintings by his close friend, the artist Victor Hartmann, as a memorial for the artist. Closing the program as an appropriate way to mark the transition from 2017 into a new year, Mr. Brady will perform the last of Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas. "I used to say that a lot of Beethoven's music sounds like it was written by a deaf person," according to Michael, "but this sonata, composed six years after he was completely deaf, is miraculous." Read full article online @ methowarts.org/events.

DATE: Sat, Dec 30, 1:30pm. CONTACT: Michael Brady, 509-996 5002, mbrady@methownet.com. Admission is by donation; given Room One's mission and its needs, a donation of \$25 is suggested.



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**MAKING THE MUSIC EXPERIENCE ACCESSIBLE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE DEAF**



At Brewster Elementary School, music assemblies are always bilingual, thanks to the skills of sign language interpreter Gail Brand. So whether students are deaf or hard of hearing, they can still experience the performances Methow Arts brings into the six schools in the Okanogan County Arts Education Partnership.

Brand began learning American Sign Language (ASL) in the 1970s and began working in preschool, elementary, and high school deaf programs, as well as interpreting at Western Washington University, Whatcom Community College, and Skagit College.

Brand was born in Omak and raised in Malott, so although she only moved to Brewster from the west side three years ago, it is a bit of a homecoming for her. "When I thought about living in Brewster and working with students there, I felt a little 'click' in my soul," she says.

When Brand interprets a music performance, her goal is to match the demeanor of the performer). "I strive to express the music in such a way that the deaf audience gains a soul-satisfying experience as much as the hearing audience," she says.

Watching Brand is much like watching a dancer; her style is very expressive and fluid. You get the idea that she is interpreting not only song lyrics, but also the tone and mood of the music, using expressive motions. She says, "One of the things that makes me an effective interpreter is that I am very expressive." She continues, "Music flows and its interpretation should flow along with it. Because ASL is concept-based, I try to set up the topic of the song and then describe around that topic, which provides that fluidity."

Brand finds great joy in opening doors for students who are deaf and hard of hearing. "I have interpreted many, many concerts and plays over the years, and I love to see the children—all of them—filling their minds and hearts with performance art. We have kids who might never otherwise get to see these kinds of performances, were it not for organizations like Methow Arts."

Brand says that she has "the utmost respect" for ASL and the deaf community. "Plus, signing is so much fun!" she says. She refers to signing music as "a gift," and notes that not everyone is comfortable doing it. But for the audiences—both hearing and deaf—who get to experience Brand's music interpretation, it is truly an offering given by Brands, straight from the hands, straight from the heart.

CONTACT/INFO: Methow Arts reaches students in six school districts through innovative arts education programs. Thanks to generous sponsors, these vital programs can be provided at no cost to students throughout rural Okanogan County. Methow Arts Alliance. For full article visit: [www.methowarts.org/hot-topics](http://www.methowarts.org/hot-topics)

**CONFLUENCE GALLERY EVENT: CONFLUENCE GALLERY ANNUAL SIP AND SHOP**

Join Confluence in the gallery for an evening of live music, good friends and great art. Their annual Sip and Shop is part of the Twisp-wide shopping night "Twisp Mistletoe Madness" with lots of great happenings in venues across town.

Live music performed by Stephen Kish, discount raffles and treats while you shop.

DATE: Thurs, Dec 7, 4-7pm. Confluence Gallery and Art Center. 509-997-ARTS [www.confluencegallery.com](http://www.confluencegallery.com)



[DOOR NO. 3 PRINT STUDIO]

**SWEETHEART VALENTINES**

Sat, Feb 10, Noon-2pm

This Valentine's Day spread the love by printing your own valentine cards! Get a feel for the basics of letterpress design using Door No. 3 Print Studio's vintage wood type and proofing press. \$30 includes supplies.

Art and design duo Laura Gunnip and Robin Doggett opened Door No. 3 in 2008. Each found their way to a small, remote town in the North Cascades of Washington state, where they met and discovered a shared love of print and vinyl records. In the years since, Laura and Robin have collaborated to share the magic of printmaking. An evolving, dynamic space, Door No. 3 Print Studio hosts exhibits, events, and classes and serves as the design and printing headquarters for a unique line of hand printed products.

INFO/CONTACT: SAT, FEB 10, noon-2pm. Pre-register, [info@doorno3.com](mailto:info@doorno3.com) or 509-449-1081. Door No. 3 Print Studio is located on the TwispWorks campus in downtown Twisp, WA.



[WINTHROP GALLERY]

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO IT ALONE...**

Emerging artists - you know who you are; the ones who have been working on their creations secretly and in their spare time. You have given away many of your pieces of art already. There are no more relatives left on which to bestow the next masterpiece. So you wonder, are you ready to start selling in a gallery?

Scary thought, indeed! Is it good enough to show? Friends have offered to buy a piece. One was even traded for a cord of firewood. Ask yourself these five questions to see if you might be "gallery ready":

- Have you been doing this form of art for at least a couple of years?
- Do you have a recognizable style?
- Do you work consistently in one medium?
- Can you produce a body of work or more than a handful of pieces a year?
- Are you willing to talk to people about yourself as an artist and your art?

If you answered "Yes" to these, chances are it is time to approach a gallery. A co-operative gallery has great benefits to emerging artists. With other members, you will be splitting the energy and time of keeping the gallery operational while having your art on exhibit. Typically your fellow artists will be at differing stages in their careers and can share their experiences with you, thereby shortening your learning curve in the art business. No, you don't have to go it alone and yes, it's time to start sharing your talent with the world.



Suggestions in this article are provided by Paula Christen, professional artist 20 years and member of Winthrop Co-op Gallery.

LOCATION/HOURS: The Winthrop Gallery is located at 237 Riverside in downtown Winthrop. Gallery hours: 10am to 5pm, Thursday through Monday. INFO: For more information on how to apply to become a member of the co-op, contact the Winthrop Gallery 509-996-3925, [www.winthropgallery.com](http://www.winthropgallery.com).

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METHOW ARTS PRESENTS

# SUPAMAN WITH ACOSIA RED ELK



Native American dancer and innovative hip hop artist known as 'SUPAMAN' who has dedicated his life to empowering and spreading a message of hope through culture and music.

The video for Supaman's 2015 song "Why" opens with the stunning image of blue and white ribbons swaying in the wind. Adorned in traditional Native American regalia, the rapper—who was born Christian Parrish Takes the Gun and raised on a reservation near Billings, Montana—performs the men's fancy dance alongside world champion jingle dress dancer and Umatilla tribe member Acosia Red Elk. As the two move together in the countryside, Supaman layers his signature drum loops against a prayer melody from the Native American Church (NAC), then begins rapping about economic inequality and the struggles of parenting.

A member of the Apsáalooke (or Crow) Nation, Supaman is energized by the movement for indigenous unity. He's also passionate about another culture: hip-hop. Drawn to parallels in the genre's stories of systematic oppression, Supaman was inspired by B-boying and the Rock City Crew, and began DJing in the '90s.

While he frequently inserts Native instrumentation into his beats now, it hasn't always been easy to blend those traditions with hip-hop. Throughout our conversation, Supaman reminds me that he's "old school" and has witnessed decades of change within his community.

Supaman's work—both in uplifting Native culture and his knack for melodic ingenuity—has earned him numerous accolades, including his most recent MTV Video Music Award in August, 2017, an Aboriginal Peoples Music Choice Award (for his video Why,) Native American Music Award, and seven Tunesy Awards. The well-decorated artist encourages others to learn about their history, no matter their background.

When I visit schools I get to say, 'Hey, I'm a fancy dancer. I embrace the culture and I embrace this other culture, which is hip-hop.' We have the opportunity to share our heart and tell them that it's good to stand up for these rights; it's good to be drug- and alcohol-free, and embrace culture... I want to show Native youth that it's okay to embrace other cultures, so long as you don't forget who you are and where you come from."



Supaman and Acosia Red Elk will perform eight school performances during their 8-night stay in Okanogan County. Valuable donors, business sponsors and grants make these opportunities possible. Learn how your donation can make a difference in students' lives: [methowarts.org/education](http://methowarts.org/education), [info@methowartsalliance.org](mailto:info@methowartsalliance.org), 509-997-4004

Methow Arts events are generously sponsored by Blue Star Coffee Roasters. #alwaysgood.

TICKETS AND SHOW INFO: DATE: SAT, FEB 10, 7pm. LOCATION: Winthrop Barn. TICKETS: \$20/adults advance purchase, \$25/adults door, \$10/students. Online: [supamanmethow.brownpapertickets.com](http://supamanmethow.brownpapertickets.com), Riverside Printing in Winthrop at 173 Riverside Ave, Unit 5., Methow Arts office in Twisp. Earn a free ticket. Volunteer with us. [info@methowartsalliance.org](mailto:info@methowartsalliance.org) and Methow Arts, Twisp, Wa. Beer, wine, cocktails and sodas available for purchase. Cash/Check only at event. CONTACT: [info@methowartsalliance.org](mailto:info@methowartsalliance.org), 509-997-4004, [www.MethowArts.org](http://www.MethowArts.org).



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