

NEWS RELEASE
December 6, 2000

Sunnyvale Creative Arts Center Gallery

in partnership with the
Euphrat Museum of Art

Art Exhibition:

Diana Pumpelly Bates,
Carol Turner:
Looking, Watching

Sunnyvale Creative Arts Center Gallery
550 East Remington, Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

January 12 - March 3, 2001
Tuesday and Thursday 11 - 5 pm, Wednesday and Friday 1 - 5; Saturday 10-2.
Artist Reception February 9, 6 - 8pm

The exhibition *Diana Pumpelly Bates, Carol Turner: Looking, Watching* takes viewers on visual odysseys — careful looking, and more directed watching, even witnessing. Turner is an oil painter. Bates is a sculptor, working primarily in bronze and steel.

Carol Turner paints quiet scenes which rarely have a person in them. Quite often they are spaces with one or several chairs in them. It is Turner's careful looking that transforms the mundane, creating quiet testimonials to human interactions, emotions, activities. Since many titles indicate Palo Alto or San Francisco, one could be the scene where a local start-up company starts up, or a place for meeting with an internet date. There is always this wonderful quality of light. Turner states that people gravitate toward a seat in the light — something she notices as she takes the photos that serve as jumping off points for her paintings. Included are several Silicon Valley landscapes. One gives a feeling of respite on a Baylands walk, another the presence of new vistas at Stanford. Something might happen in these places. We project people or ourselves in these familiar environments as we appreciate Turner's formal mastery.

Personal Odyssey is **Diana Pumpelly Bates's** self portrait. It is a giant eyelike form appearing to swim in a liquid. Watchful eyes are quite evident in many of her abstract, symbolic sculptures. In *Their Eyes Were Watching God, For Zora Neale Hurston*, the heads of the figures are eye shaped. These eye-shaped heads repeat in *Odun De Odun De*, a large floor sculpture. She has two works, one a public sculpture, called *Witness*. Bates's bronzes are wonderful formal creations, beautifully

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balanced. Some specifically witness injustice. *Strange Fruit* refers to the Billie Holiday song about lynching of African Americans. Other works have meaning unique to Bates. *Altar for Mo* was created for her cat who died — his way of viewing the world, his dish, “the way he would go between two stones.” Bates has been creating public sculpture for the last six years, recently at the Matilda Research Centre in Sunnyvale. In Sacramento she is a team member on a large bridge improvement project to enhance viewing of the river.

Diana Pumpelly Bates, Carol Turner was curated by the Euphrat Museum of Art.

Sponsored by City of Sunnyvale, Department of Parks and Recreation, Arts & Youth Services, in collaboration with the Euphrat Museum of Art, De Anza College, Cupertino.

Contact:

For information about the exhibition, call Euphrat Museum of Art at (408) 864-8836.

To schedule tours or for gallery information, call the Creative Arts Center Gallery at (408) 730-7731.

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