

ARTS

Five local artists selected for inaugural Monterey Biennial

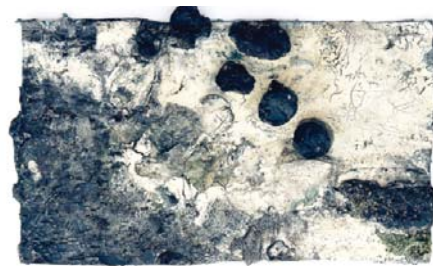
By San Benito County Arts Council

Five San Benito County artists have been selected to participate in the inaugural Monterey Biennial: Celebrating Central California Artists at the Monterey Museum of Art (MMA). The local artists, including Katherine Filice (pictured, below), Megan Gnekow, Karen Percival, Georgina Rios, and Kathleen Sheridan, were selected after a rigorous juried selection process that involved reviewing over 800 artist submissions from 7 eligible counties in Central California.



Following the theme of Resonance and Reflection, 122 artists, representing a variety of different media and artistic disciplines, were chosen for the inaugural Biennial for the ways in which their artwork resonates with cultural, social, and personal contexts to foster public dialogue about contemporary California art. The exhibition will be on view May 15 – August 31, 2025, at MMA's Pacific Street location.

MMA Executive Director Corey Madden states "We were thrilled at the response from artists submitting their work for the Monterey Biennial. This exhibition underscores the extraordinary breadth of artistic talent in Central California and provides a



"Signs Of Life" by Katherine Filice, bark, paper, ink, on buried canvas, 2024.

platform to amplify the voices of artists working in this culturally rich and ever-evolving region."

San Benito County-based artist Kathleen Sheridan states, "I am thrilled to be a part of an exhibition presented by such an important cultural institution as the Monterey Museum of Art. It's an opportunity to show the world the vibrant and sincere art community that lives and works in San Benito County and the Central Coast."

Similarly, artist Karen Percival shares that she is "especially honored to be one of those representing the creative output of San Benito County," and that "it was in large measure due to the San Benito County Art Council's adult art classes and Open Studio events that I began my watercolor journey."

The Monterey Museum of Art invites community members to the Biennial's upcoming events:

- **Opening Celebration** – Saturday, May 17, 2025
- **Juror Round Table Discussion** – Saturday, June 21, 2025
- **FREE Museum Admission** – Every Sunday through the run of the exhibition

For more information, please visit www.montereyart.org. You may also contact the Arts Council at info@sanbenitoarts.org or at 831.636.2787. ■

#Bookworms, continued

poet Omar Khayyam (5/18), Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (5/22), Margaret Wise Brown (5/23), Robert Ludlum (5/25), Rachel Carson and Tony Hillerman (5/27), Ian Fleming and Maeve Binchy (5/28), and Walt Whitman (5/31).

MILITARY LIBRARY PURGE

Pete Hegseth's office recently ordered all Army and Air Force libraries to remove books with "DEI material." Last month, 380+ books were removed from The US Naval Academy's Nimitz Library including books on the Holocaust, histories of feminism + civil rights + racism, and Maya Angelou's autobiography.

NEW ILLUSTRATED CLASSICS

Highlights of The Folio Society's Spring Collection launch include Erin Morgenstern's *The Night Circus*, Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*, and Agatha Christie's *And Then*

There Were None.

WORTHLESS WRITING?

As more agencies and authors (including Pulitzer Prize winner Andrew Sean Greer and National Book Award winner Ta-Nehisi Coates) continue to file lawsuits against Meta, newly unsealed case files reveal that the company shockingly believes that its sourcing of seven million books to train its AI constituted "fair use" and the material would have been "worthless" otherwise. Info: vanityfair.com/news/story/meta-ai-lawsuit ■

Leanne Oliveira (MLIS, MA History) is a Reference Librarian at the Watsonville Library and is on the Friends of the SBC Library Board. Contact: oldfashionedolive@gmail.com. Leanne is also an alumni of San Benito Leadership, which is recruiting! Visit <https://linktr.ee/sbleadership>.

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The Aromas Grange Presents....

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SUNDAY, MAY 18th

Doors open at 3:30 PM Show starts at 4:30 PM
Aromas Grange, corner of Rose & Bardue

TICKETS \$25 IN ADVANCE, \$30 AT THE DOOR

Premium beer & wine available for purchase.

Tickets available from Marshalls's Market (Aromas) & Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1277365116449>
concerts@aromasgrange.org for more information

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