

Around the Market

The Bead Zone is Friend-in-Need-Zone

The Bead Zone, the bead store on DownUnder's first floor, has dedicated the entire north display case to projects created by homeless and vulnerable women. The case exhibits and sells an amazing collection of handmade jewelry and accessories, many including semi-precious stones.

Craftline artist Sherry Gerich, is working in conjunction with YWCA, Noel House, the Women's Empowerment Support Group and an affiliate of the Archdiocese to organize the program.

Gerich says the positive effects are tremendous. Many of these women are disabled and/or homeless and may never be able to hold regular jobs; this is a unique outlet for them to sell things they make.

The work and accomplishment expands on their connectedness to the community and helps them on the road to self-sufficiency. The Bead Zone is generously giving all the proceeds to the women.

When you are there be sure to ask Ram and Nina about the resident little boy ghost in the Bead Zone stall or about how the space was one of the many Federal Post Offices that existed in the Market over the years (all were closed due to mail fraud).

The Life Botanic

Down-in what's being called the "Western Gulch," by some (Western Avenue below the Market), is Liza Couchman's new shop Black

Creek Botanicals, 1516 Western, between Madame Lazonga's tattoos and Sestos's Café. Her black-and-white tiled nook and studio is an oasis of calm in which she concocts all of her own purely natural body products: assorted balms, including an innovative foot balm stick. (Ask her about her beta-testing process.) All the products are made with no petroleum products, no animal fats, no synthetic fragrances, no artificial colorants and no parabens.

Couchman is happy to have found a home in the Market after doing her time on the festival circuit. Within this home she's cultivated a garden. Many of the herbs she uses are growing right there in the shop to feel and see, such as Cardamom, six kinds of lavender, sweet bay, three kinds of myrtle, curry sage, lemon balm and Stevia. (She says more people need to learn about Stevia; the leaves can be dry and ground, and used as sugar.)

In the process of cultivating her own garden she's come across implements for the modern urban gardener. She has stuff for getting dirty and stuff for getting clean. The clean is an array of bio-friendly grass sea sponges, pumice stones, versatile scrub brushes and more. And, the dirty includes British pottery trays, trowels, shears, Terre gloves and what she calls the perfect urban watering can.

Pop in to get clean, to get dirty or to learn something.

Think Pink (Door) Relief

Miss Jackie Roberts, the ever-dynamic, cutting-edge proprietor of the Pink Door, on Post Alley across from Kells, is at it again. She and her clever staff invented a new drink to help

send relief to the victims of hurricane Katrina.

The "Frankly my Dear, We Don't Give a Damn" is a charitable concoction of dark rum and orgeat Syrup, with fresh-squeezed orange and pineapple juices. Fifty percent of the \$7.50 price goes directly to the Red Cross.

Lisa Harris welcomes sculptor and painter

The Lisa Harris Gallery, 1922 Pike Place, welcomes Jerry Wingren and Ed Kamunda to a joint exhibition Oct. 6 to 29.

Jerry Wingren, an internationally recognized sculptor, combines elements of his Northwest and Scandinavian heritage with Japanese aesthetics, fostering his unique style. The exhibition draws from "Double Cedars" and "Totems," two of Wingren's key series of the last five years in Alaskan yellow cedar. Now based in Colorado, Wingren frequently travels to Alaska and Sweden for materials and inspiration.

The abstract artist Ed Kamunda presents his paintings in a poetic language of shapes and symbols to communicate the spirit and power of nature. This collection comprises 20 paintings and reflects Kamunda's knack for the small format and his tendency to approach abstraction from nature.

His compositions range from "Autumn Drawings," featuring line work and favoring a monochromatic palette, to the colorful "Skagit Songs #1" and "Autumn Quarry," simplified shapes within more pictorial landscape space. Kamunda uses a palette knife to apply oil pigments, scratching and building as needed before adding wax. The patterns and faceted surfaces add an innate compositional interest.

An artist reception starts the show Thursday, Oct. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Art Stall Gallery

This month the Art Stall Gallery, in the Economy Arcade across from the Daily Dozen Doughnuts, is featuring the watercolor art of Joan Glenn (one of ASG's three Joans). Glenn, who has been a member of the 40-year-old ASG collective since 1974, has been perfecting her craft for more than three decades, and is the recipient of countless awards.

Her featured work, displayed on the gallery's east wall, will be a random collection of her favorites. Stop by to find your favorite and see what the rest of the co-op has to show.

Art and Sculptures within Walking Distance

Monday, Oct. 3, Benaroya Hall will host a discussion on the value of Seattle's rich cultural center and linking that cultural life to a creative vibrant city. The keynote speaker is Carol Coletta, president and CEO of CEOs for Cities, who has been pioneering innovative strategies to improve cities for more than 30 years. The event will be in the Illsey Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall. Go to www.seattle.gov/dpd/planning/centercity or call 615-1486 for more information.

Larry Fossberg's Joke Corner



What happened when Frankenstein met a girl monster?

—He fell in love at first fright.

What do call a Witch Doctor mistake?

—A voodoo boo-boo

What happened when the monster ate electricity?

—It was in shock for a week.

What does a banana do when it saw ghost?

—The banana splits

Why did the sea monster eat five ships laden with potatoes?

—No one can eat just one potato ship

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