

Green Valley

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Life



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ROUNDUP

On the Cover

Mary Conway's piece Dreamscape is pictured. Conway will take part in the first ever recycled art show at the Community Performance and Arts Center.

April 2014

Re-Cycled Art

Exhibit on Display at Community Performance & Art Center

The Art of Re-Cycle on Display Through April

Exhibit demonstrates how reusing 'trash' can make for beautiful pieces and benefit the environment.

by Susan Ettl
Community contributor

Creativity abounds at the Community Performance and Art Center in both the performing and visual arts, from theater, magic, comedy, historical lectures, a variety of musical genres such as jazz, country western, classical, and pop to art exhibits and workshops. All these experiences improve the quality of life in our families and communities.

This spring, the emphasis in the visual arts will be on stretching ones imagination to create an aesthetically pleasing project from re-cycled, discarded, repurposed and/or natural found materials; that is, items considered junk and which could be found in your garage, in your waste paper basket or on a walk. The main event will be an exhibition titled The Art of Re-Cycle, Where Trash Becomes Inspiration for Creativity.

The purpose of this exhibition is to demonstrate creative ways to utilize elements that are considered junk to produce artwork by re-using supplies to help our environment and planet. Artists are being asked to produce artwork that consists of at

least 75 percent recycled, discarded, repurposed and/or found materials.

Art work for this exhibit will be displayed in both the art gallery and theater lobby at CPAC from April 2 through April 30. An opening reception is schedule for April 2 from 5 until 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

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Artwork created using objects in an entirely different purpose than its original intent is fun, can be produced by people of ages (from 4 to 100), and, most importantly, is a way to exercise one's imagination by re-using supplies to help our environment and planet.

The size of these compositions can be as small as baseball card or as large as a building. The idea for the exhibit and workshops came from observing the growing number of artists that use recycled objects to emphasize the amount of waste created by our society and to demonstrate how they can be employed to save some of our natural resources. Furthermore, these artworks are being exhibited in museums and galleries all over the world.

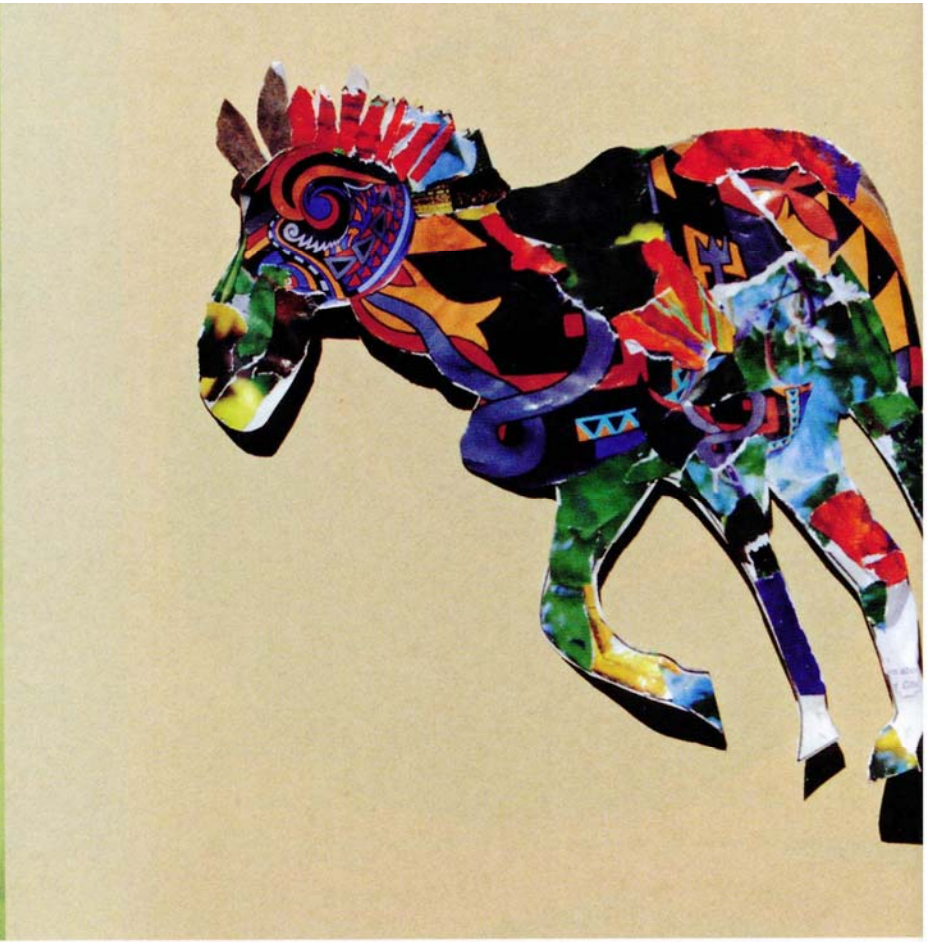
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Mary Conway will take part in The Art of Re-Cycle.
Photo courtesy of Susan Ettl



The gallery at Community Performance and Art Center will display the artists work for The Art of Re-Cycle Exhibit.
Photo courtesy of Susan Ettl



This mosaic was created using recycled materials.

Photo courtesy of Susan Ettl

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These artists usually gather their elements in one of two ways:

- They collect all sort items from their walks, flea markets, thrift stores, garage sales or even from their home or studio.
- They collect a specific type of item such as bottle caps; plastic bottles; old tires, old car, motorcycle, or electronic parts; drift wood; feathers; all types of used papers including old magazines, old photos, tickets and envelopes; etc.

Mary Conway, a Green Valley artist, frequently gives her-

Amount of recycled material used.

75%

Work in the exhibit should be comprised of mostly recycled, discarded, repurposed and/or found materials.

self a challenge of using items she finds outside in the desert in a specific-sized area outside a building in old historic towns or what she can find in her home.

She recently told me that she just picks up stuff just because she is attracted to it and she usually does not know how she is going to use it. She just takes it home and stores it until the time is right or she may build an entire collage around it.

Conway's uses cardboard corners to protect a painting, CD, wasp's nest, costume jewelry, and a photograph; gift bags with cheers sign, a pile of paint covered plastic gloves, a piece of palm bark, feathers, a paint brush, handmade paper, wrapping paper and tinsel; an old tee shirt, painted metal chandelier, and a waste paper basket containing feathers and paper scraps. Last year she created a collage that is mounted in a 12- inch- by- 12- inch-shadow box from materials she collected in a 12- foot- by 12- foot-area outside of a gallery in the neighboring town of Tubac.

She found a piece of paper from an open studio tour, a skeleton spine of a canvas, string, turquoise and violet thread, quarter- inch- to half- inch-pieces of Styrofoam, a piece of cellophane wrap, bar code on a piece of foil and a pine cone petal. She mounted them on printed mulberry paper with hand-made paper and a page of an old book which she had in her stash.

Artists that collect specific types of objects are very innovative in how they use them to create art work. For example, artist John Piccoli, constructs sculptures of life-sized animals made entirely of old wrenches, while Jane Perkins recreates famous



David Adix's Puzzle Man with Sphere is pictured.

Photo courtesy of Susan Ettl

painting (*Girl with a Pearl Earring*) or photos of celebrities (Einstein, Queen Elizabeth, and Nelson Mandela) using buttons, beads, costume jewelry parts and various colored pieces of plastic.

David Adix, who will be jurying and judging the Community Performance and Art Center April exhibit, *The Art of Re-Cycle*, constructs native figures which are sculptures based upon the human form using an armature and only one type of object.

In the past he has made figures using only computer cord, tooth brushes or old watches. He also collects all types of vintage papers to create his collages. Adix feels that these old objects and papers have an energy that connects us to the past and what is familiar, with an air of mystery. Mastery of design is depicted in his collages while his use of vintage papers evokes a link to the past.

The *Art of Re-Cycle* takes place at the Community Performance and Art Center from April 2 through 30. It is located at 1250 W Continental Rd. in Green Valley. For more information visit performingartscenter.org.