

Neighbors

SECTION B • Lake Oswego Review/West Linn Tidings

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Abby's Closet once again giving away gowns — See Page B2

Thursday, February 23, 2017



Artist George D. Green stands next to a piece entitled "Marooned in Dream: A Path of Song and Mind," which he painted in 2013.

REVIEW PHOTOS: VERN UYETAKE

PAINTING OUTSIDE THE FRAME

International artist George D. Green brings 'Visual Magic' to Lake Oswego

By KELSEY O'HALLORAN
The Review, Tidings

George D. Green's Lake Oswego grandpa once gave him a piece of advice: "Draw big — and put some action into it."

For Green, that advice would become more important

"To show the work of an internationally renowned artist of this caliber, here in Lake Oswego, is such a unique and exclusive opportunity."

— Nicole Nathan

than he ever could have imagined as a child. Today, his colorful abstract illusionism artwork has been featured in 160 national and international exhibitions and represented in 71 museums, including the Art Institute of Chicago, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Los Angeles County Museum of Modern Art and the Portland Art Museum.

"It was so unlikely, so abso-



Green stands next to his most celebrated painting, "Bark Like a Fox," painted in 1983. According to Green, the famous abstract illusionist painting appears in many art history books.

lutely magical, that this kind of a thing would happen," he says. "Life actually is a magical deal."

In March, Green — a fifth-

generation Oregonian — will showcase his work at the Arts Council of Lake Oswego's 510 Museum & ARTspace.

The exhibition, entitled "Vi-

sual Magic: Robust Exuberance to Contemplative Revelation, 1982-2016," will include pieces from Green's "exuberant 1980s and the contempla-

tive 2000s to the present." The show features his signature "trompe l'oeil illusion" style, which tricks the eye into perceiving a flat,

IF YOU GO

GEORGE D. GREEN: Visual Magic: Robust Exuberance to Contemplative Revelation, 1982-2016

WHAT: An exhibition from an international artist

WHEN: First Friday opening on March 3 from 6-8 p.m. Exhibition is open March 3-31; hours are Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and by appointment

WHERE: 510 Museum & ARTspace, 510 First St. in Lake Oswego

INFO: To learn more, visit artscouncillo.org.

painted detail as a three-dimensional object. In some of Green's recent pieces, even the "frames" and "mats" are painted illusions.

Touching art

Green honed his unique style during a 30-year tenure in New York City. While he and his family were sleeping on the floor of a tiny SoHo loft when his career began, soon he was selling his work to the director of the Guggenheim

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Green

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Museum and actor Steve Martin, among others.

Today, his pieces go for \$150,000 or more.

From his earliest pieces in 1978 to the present, Green's style has slowly evolved through some 1,000 paintings.

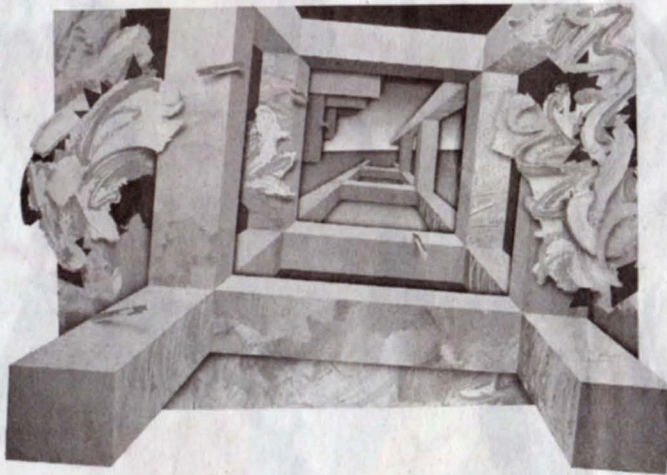
"It's interesting to think that the genesis of the current work resided unnoticed in the exuberant pictures from the past," he says on his website.

Green says his art is inspired less by ideas and more by "non-ideas."

"What happens is reacting to a circumstance and permitting things to occur," he says.

After he and his family moved to Milwaukie in 2007, he founded the George D. Green Art Institute, a non-profit organization that provides artist seminars and exhibits as well as young artist shows to encourage interactive exposure to art and the process of creating it.

"(We) let kids touch the paintings," he says. The atmosphere will be the same at his upcoming exhibit, he says; "We don't want it to be like a standard museum — we want it to be real,



George Green painted this acrylic-on-canvas piece, "At Neskowin: A Country and Western Horizon," in 1990.

SUBMITTED PHOTO: COURTESY OF GEORGE D. GREEN

where people see things and know things and do things."

The exhibition will be on display from March 3-31 at 510 Museum & ARTspace, 510 First St. in Lake Oswego. Green will attend a First Friday opening event there March 3 from 6-8 p.m.

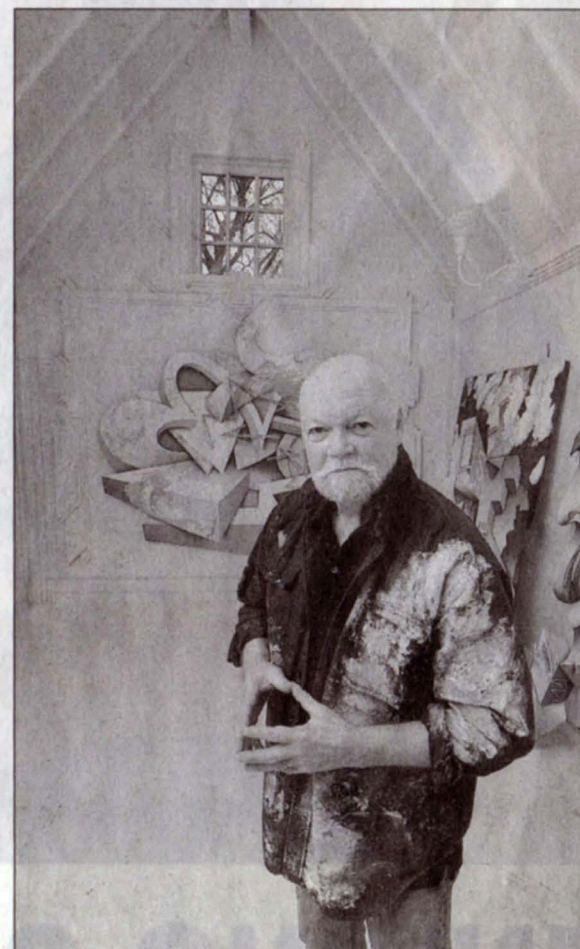
On March 29, he'll host two workshops for students ages 8-12 and 13-18. "Creating Visual Energy with Amazing Doodles," which costs \$15 to attend, will also be held at 510 Museum & ARTspace.

In a press release, Arts Council Executive Director Nicole Nathan says

she's looking forward to what Green's exhibition will bring to the community.

"To show the work of an internationally renowned artist of this caliber, here in Lake Oswego, is such a unique and exclusive opportunity," she says. "We are thrilled to introduce the work and story of George Green."

Contact Lake Oswego Review/West Linn Tidings reporter Kelsey O'Halloran at 503-636-1281 ext. 101 or kelsey@pamplinmedia.com.



Green's showroom was designed to showcase "Marooned in Dream: A Path of Song and Mind," on the end wall. If he were to sell it, he says, he would help the buyer create a similar space to house the painting.

REVIEW PHOTO: VERN UYETAKE

Youth invited to Doodle with artist George D. Green

Workshops to foster creativity offered for youth March 29

By **BARB RANDALL**
The Review, Tidings

Have an itch to do some doodling? The Arts Council of Lake Oswego will present an exhibition to bring out the doodler in every art enthusiast.

The council will present George D. Green: Visual Magic — Robust Exuberance to Contemplative Revelation, 1982 — 2016. The show is a retrospective collection of Green's work being shown for the first time. The exhibit, which is targeted at people who have never been exposed to art of this level,

el, runs through March 31. The exhibit will hang in 510 Museum and ARTspace, located next to the Art Council offices at 510 1st St. in downtown Lake Oswego.

Special Doodles with George D. Green workshops are planned for youth and teens during spring break on March 29.

Green describes his genre of painting thus: "Abstract illusionism is the most important development in abstract painting since Abstract Expressionism of the '50s. For the first time illusionistic space was used in abstract painting. It was independently invented by me and two other artists in the late '70s."

"George will teach how to get creativity to come out," said Arts Council Executive Director Nicole Nathan. "He will inspire kids to be creative

and figure out the principals of drawing. His philosophy is to 'draw big — make it count!'"

Nathan says the arts council has had a "good, long relationship" with Green, and he has a long relationship with Lake Oswego. He grew up in Corvallis, but visited his grandparents who lived in Lake Oswego often. He learned two important things from his grandfather: how to paint and how to box. He has had a long successful career as an artist, and spent most of the last 40 years painting in New York City.

Green believes it is critical to expose young people to the act of creating art, and provides opportunities where they can view the process as well as see and understand the finished product.

In that vein he will offer Doodles



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Abstract illusionist George D. Green visits with art enthusiasts at a gallery show. His art is on exhibit at 510 Museum and ARTspace during March, and he will lead a workshop for youth March 29.

with George D. Green workshops March 29 through the Arts Council of Lake Oswego. A morning session is planned from 10:30 a.m. to noon for children ages 8 - 12; teens are invited to attend a session that same day from 1-2:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person and the class size is limited. Those wishing to attend should call the Arts

Council at 503-675-3738 or visit artscouncillo.org.

"We are so lucky to bring a regional artist of this aptitude to Lake Oswego," said Nathan. "He is a big deal artist. This is a very special opportunity."

To view Green's artwork visit georgedgreenartinstitute.org.