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21 Buddhas Show at ASIF Gallery

March 26 - April 24

Opening Reception - Friday, March 26, 5-8pm

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The Artist's Studio in the Foothills is proud to present The 21 Buddhas! Picture this: 21 painters and 2D multi-media artists, each being handed a blank canvas... though not a flat or rectangular one, a low-relief sculptural casting of the face of Buddha!

Figurative sculptor Deborah Bridges has become known for her peaceful garden Buddha castings and original one of a kind works in bronze and clay. For this show, Bridges has created a grouping of Buddha face castings, in various sizes, and

has invited 21 local artists to create a composition on them, each in their very own recognizable style and pallet. A collaborative effort between painter and sculptor... 21 visions, through a single powerful icon.

As a special addition to this art event...

On the evening of the opening reception local art historian, Kristanne Heaton will lead a discussion on the history of this icon as it is used by artists. Weaving a wealth of historic knowledge through heartfelt interpretations of individual artist's works, Heaton's *Art Talks* have become an interesting, and provocative educational experience for guests of the center's specially themed shows and art events.

The 21 Buddhas Show opens just two weeks before the celebration of the birth of Buddha! On April 8, Buddhists around the world will be celebrating Prince Siddhartha Gotama's birthday, also known as Shakyamuni Buddha!

As a special fundraiser for this event...

On March 1st, during ASIF's monthly artist's salon meeting, local artists were invited to support the center's efforts with a small donation of creativity... ASIF residents offered a special sake' cup making workshop, in which artists from the community were given clay and basic instruction on how to hand-build a sake' cup!

Twenty-some artists gathered for the occasion, creating an excellent inventory of tiny handmade cups, most of which share one sameness... the image of Buddha! The cups will be offered for sale to guests, *filled with sake' of course*, at the opening reception. Proceeds from sake' cup sales go to supporting ASIF Studios!

Also in the gallery this month... New Small Works in the Smallworks Hall! Smallworks Hall shows have become a permanent side kick to the center's main gallery shows. The Smallworks Hall shows loosely follow main gallery show themes. Smallworks Hall Show artists include: Eileen Blodgett, Ruth Chase,

Heather deViveros, Flo Fahrenheit, Sarah CV Hendrickson, Jenny Long, Laura Morton, Kathryn Wronski, and several more - *to be announced!*

Mark your calendars for this very special art event!

An opening reception for the artists, celebrating both the Main Gallery/21 Buddhas, and Smallworks Hall shows, will be held on Friday, March 26th from 5-8pm. Asian inspired music, food and drink to be enjoyed by all!

21 Buddhas Show Artists Include:

Rebecca Bleau
Mieke Blees
Eileen Blodgett
Deborah Bridges
LeeAnn Brook
Liz Collins
Heather deViveros
Flo Fahrenheit
William Folden
Sarah CV Hendrickson
Lissa Herschleb
Jane Kisskadon
Judith Lowry
Jill Mahanna
Cory Norris
Amanda Paoletti
Randy Rigg
Lily Russo
Linda Savitz
Douglass Truth