

OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friend of Heartland Gallery,

As we enter into the season of the sacred calendar known as the Autumn Equinox (Sept. 23), let us celebrate along with many other cultures the blessings of the harvest and the end of summer and the journey into winter. Day and night are now equal in length. The sun and its shadows feature prominently in symbolic ritual and ceremony during this time. One such example takes place annually in the main cairn (Cairn T) of Loughcrew in County Meath, Ireland, where sunlight travels through an opening into the chamber on the equinox to illuminate prehistoric sun symbols that are carved into the stones. The cairns and passage tombs at Loughcrew form one of Ireland's largest neolithic cemeteries, dating back to at least 3000 B.C. To celebrate this unique and amazing phenomenon, I will have some of my photos and books about Loughcrew as well as info about the Autumn Equinox on display in the gallery during the month of October. Also, please take note of the following special events taking place at Heartland Gallery and elsewhere this month.

Saturday, October 1 (1-4pm) – Kalarte Gallery “Open House” featuring Indonesian art & crafts

Bernard Cesarone, proprietor of Kalarte Gallery which is housed in the back left corner of the gallery, will be hosting an afternoon opening for an exhibition of Indonesian folk art and crafts. Join us for light refreshments. Bernard will be available to answer questions about individual pieces on display. For more info, please visit www.kalarte.com. The display will continue through the end of October.

Ongoing through Saturday, October 8 – “The Adventures of Jason and the New Argonauts” by Jim Gallagher

This solo exhibition continues in popularity and has been extended through Saturday, October 8. The show features a new graphic novel by Champaign artist, Jim Gallagher, along with original watercolors of the twelve main characters. Taken from Greek mythology, each one is associated with a sign of the zodiac. Gallagher is a graphic designer with Precision Graphics in Champaign. He spent a major part of the last five years devoting his free time to the development of this project, with the help of longtime friend Tim Stiles, who inked all of Gallagher's drawings for the book. Copies of the book are available for \$12. Original watercolors and giclee prints are also available for purchase.

Friday, October 7 (7-10pm) – “First Friday” at Andersonville Galleria, 5247 N. Clark St., Chicago (Heartland Gallery's 2nd location)

The first Friday of October marks another First Friday at the Galleria, featuring free wine to help you relax as you shop in this unique and welcoming atmosphere with over 90 different shops selling art and crafts, designer clothing, fair trade items and delicious locally made food products all under one roof. I am happy to announce that I will be attending the First Friday this month and will be available to help you shop and to answer any questions you might have about my merchandise. If you happen to be in the Chicago area, there is no better way to spend your Friday evening than browsing the unique shops in the Galleria. And just to remind you, there are plenty of good places to have a tasty bite either before or after your shopping expedition. Check out one of the nearby Swedish restaurants (Svea or Ann Sather's), the brand new Irish pub across the street (Lady Gregory's), the Lebanese/Greek restaurant next door (Andie's) or the Persian restaurant just two doors away (Reza's). I have tried them all and not been disappointed.

More good news - Heartland Gallery will be moving to a new space on the main floor of the Galleria on Tuesday, October 18, just beyond the front desk and to your right as you enter the space. This will make it easier for all to find me, and particularly for those who have a difficult time with stairs.

Please call the Galleria at 773-878-8570 for more info about the First Friday event, or visit www.andersonvillegalleria.com to see a list of participating vendors.

Sunday, October 9 (8-10pm) – Donal Maguire Concert

Dean Karres of The Piper's Hut Concert Series presents Irish traditional singer and multi-instrumentalist Donal Maguire in concert for the second time here at Heartland Gallery. While primarily associated with unaccompanied singing, Maguire is also known for being an interpreter of contemporary music and a singer and player of traditional music. He is "universally recognized for playing some of the world's best Irish dance music on mandolin and tenor banjo" according to his website. Please see www.pipers-hut.com for more info. Admission will be \$20 (\$10 for students and seniors). The doors will open at 7pm. Light refreshments will be served.

Friday, October 14 (6-9pm) and Saturday, October 15 (all day) – "Second Friday" and "Heartland Gallery's 5th Anniversary Party" featuring live music & food as well as new paintings by Sharon Davie-Barrett

We are happy to announce that it has been five years since opening our doors on Main Street in downtown Urbana (our 5th anniversary actually occurs towards the end of September). We would like you to join us in celebrating this major milestone by attending our "Second Friday" anniversary party, complete with a new exhibition of paintings, live music, delectable treats and

special sales and giveaways. The celebration will continue on Saturday. We will have live music on Friday from 6:30-8:30pm (jazz vocalist/pianist **Pamela Machala** on keyboard), and on Saturday from 1-3pm (**Curiously Strong** featuring **Robin Kearton** on fiddle and **Tom Faux** on accordion/banjo).

Local artist **Sharon Davie-Barrett** has been with Heartland Gallery almost since the beginning, and we will now be featuring some of her new works, which are actually older works that have been re-worked, or rather **“Revisited”**. Sharon is known for her solo tree paintings (and everyone knows I am a huge “tree” fan). This new series is a variation on her tree paintings, but very different from her usual style. Featuring a colorful mix of muted tones, the blocked patchwork designs emote an almost gypsy-like feeling, which Sharon says fits well with her soul. The paintings, all of which are on gallery-style wood panels, will be displayed on the back wall for at least a month but can be purchased at any time. They range in price from \$50 to \$375.

During the celebration beginning on Friday evening at 6pm and continuing throughout the day on Saturday, October 15th, we will be offering 20% OFF on all of our fall knitwear, including sweaters, ruanas, caps, hats and scarves. This is a great time to stock up on holiday gifts for others as well as on clothing for yourself, now that the cooler weather is here to stay.

MORE OCTOBER EVENTS, AT OTHER LOCATIONS

Tuesday, October 11 (7:30pm) – “An Evening With The Wilders” – an old-time/bluegrass concert presented by C-U Folk and Roots at the Independent Media Center (UC-IMC) at 202 S. Broadway in downtown Urbana. Heartland Gallery is selling tickets for this event, which are \$15 in advance. They will be \$20 at the door. Please see www.folkandroots.org for more info.

Tuesday, October 18 (8pm) – “Brendan Begley & Caoimhin oRaghallaigh” – another Piper’s Hut Concert Series event featuring two well-known and highly accomplished Irish traditional musicians. Brendan plays button accordion and hails from the Dingle Peninsula in Co. Kerry, and Caoimhin is a Dublin-based fiddler. This concert will also be held at the Independent Media Center (UC-IMC) at 202 S. Broadway in downtown Urbana. Admission will be \$20 (\$10 for students and seniors). Please see www.pipers-hut.com for more info or to purchase tickets.

NEW ITEMS

New artists added to the gallery this month include Irish painter **Maura O’Rourke** based in Oldtown, Co. Dublin and **Barry and Maureen Payne** from **Wild Rose Pottery** in Dugald, Manitoba, Canada. Maura’s beautiful acrylic landscapes are reminiscent of places I have visited

and fallen in love with along the Western coast of Ireland. On my recent trip to a Celtic trade fair in the Chicago area, I met Maura and picked up one of her originals as well as one framed print on canvas and several numbered matted prints on canvas. I also had the pleasure of meeting Barry and Maureen for the first time, and was fortunate enough to win a \$300 certificate to be used toward new merchandise, courtesy of my trade organization, **The North American Celtic Trade Association**. I chose to spend it on their lovely ceramic wall pieces. Also newly received are items from **Belleek Pottery**, **Galway Crystal**, **Guinness** (caps, pint glasses, t-shirts, ornaments and bottle openers), **McHarp** (ceramic crosses), **MUNDO Images** (greeting cards), **Sea Gems** (pillboxes and bookmarks), **Shanore Jewelry**, **Silver Oasis** (sterling silver chains), and **Touchstone Pottery** (porcelain pendants). New fall knitwear is expected to arrive any day. On the local front, I have acquired a few new ceramic items by Urbana potter **Ingrid Melief**, and I am awaiting a brand new painting by **Cindy Westfall** and some new jewelry pieces by **Susan Northrup**.

As always, thanks for your patronage. It is much appreciated. I will finish by leaving you with a quotation from one of my favorite writers of Irish wit and humour,

“We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.” – Oscar Wilde

Have a great month!